1 Opening

1.1 Welcome

Don Beattie, G3BJ, opened the meeting at 08h40 and welcomed the participants of the 2018 IARU Region 1 Executive Committee meeting. He explained the way the meeting would be run. Joerg Jaehrig, DJ3HW, on behalf of DARC, welcomed the delegates to the Headquarters of DARC.

1.1.1 Present

The following persons attended the meeting:
Donald F. Beattie, G3BJ (chairman) IARU Region 1 President (chairman)
Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T IARU Region 1 Secretary (secretary)
Andreas Thiemann, HB9JOE IARU Region 1 Treasurer
Alessandro Carletti, IV3KKW IARU Region 1 EC Member
Joerg Jaehrig, DJ3HW IARU Region 1 EC Member
Sylvain Azarian, F4GKR IARU Region 1 EC Member
Oliver Tabakovski, Z32TO IARU Region 1 EC Member
Mats Espling, SM6EAN IARU Region 1 EC Member
Jacques Verleijen, ON4AVJ IARU Region 1 VHF/UHF/MW Manager
Tore A. Worren, LA9QL IARU Region 1 EMC WG Chairman
Séamus McCague, EI8BP IARU Region 1 PRC Chairman
David Court, EI3IO IARU Region 1 SRLC Chairman
Lisa Leenders, PA2LS IARU Region 1 Youth WG Chairman
Ole Garpestad, LA2RR IARU Vice President
Reinaldo Leandro Rodriguez, YVSAM IARU Region 2 President

1.1.2 Apologies

Apologies were received from
Faisal Al-Ajmi, 9K2RR IARU Region 1 Vice President
Tom Kamp, DF5JL IARU Region 1 HF Manager
IARU Region 3

1.2 Approval of Agenda

The draft agenda doc 01 Rev4 was approved with minor adjustments.
1.3 In memoriam
The following silent keys were noted: I2MQP Mario Ambrosi - 6 November 2017, DJ9KR Ulrich Bihlmayer - 16 December 2017, G3LEQ Gordon Adams - 4 February 2018. The meeting observed a moment of silence in remembrance.

2 Minutes of 2017 EC meeting – actions arising
The minutes of the 2017 EC meeting (doc 02) held in Landshut, Germany 5-7 May 2017 were noted. The following editorial change was made: The meeting was held in 2017 (title).

2.1 Outstanding issues
8. ASMG observer status: A letter from G3BJ has been submitted to the ASMG. 9K2RR to follow up.
   Action: 9K2RR

41. Paper EC16_12. The VHF handbook has to be rewritten before the 2019 Interim Meeting.
   Action: ON4AVJ

64. Saudi Arabia. Documentation is still awaiting approval by the Saudi Authority. Thereafter the Society will apply for IARU membership.

3 Actions from the General Conference
The list with actions and recommendations from the 2017 General Conference was reviewed.

3.1 Constitution (Articles and Bylaws)
The IARU Region 1 Constitution and byelaws have been updated

3.2 Terms of Reference – WG and Committees
The terms of reference have been updated.

3.3 Standing Recommendations
The standing recommendations have been updated.

All three above documents will be made more readily accessible on the website
   Action: PB2T

3.4 EC Workplan
Doc 12 EC workplan was discussed and amended. The document will be distributed to the IARU Region 1 Member societies.

   Action: PB2T

3.5 Actions from C2 / C3 – for the EC
Member societies need to be reminded of Recommendation LA17_C2_Rec_02: If the number of members in the Member Societies of Region 1 does not increase significantly until 2020, the annual fee per member is going to be adjusted (which has not been done for 18 years) in order to balance the budget for IARU Region 1

   Action: G3BJ

It was decided that the abbreviation for the Spectrum and Regulatory Liaison Committee will be SRLC.

Recommendation LA17_C3_Rec_28: PB2T to contact VERON (PA3AGF) to check the status of initiatives to get Morse Code on different national lists of heritage. The IS was requested to contact UNESCO to establish Morse Code as an intangible heritage. PA3AGF to be asked to propose specific
steps for MS to take to help with this objective

Action: PB2T

Recommendation LA17_C3_Rec_30 (QR-code on QSL cards): Publicize on website and communicate directly to MS after consulting DARC.

Action: PB2T

Recommendation LA17_C3_Rec_31: ON7TK will be asked for a status report on the inventory of the current state of planning policies in countries, with the objective of creating a base-line database for further actions to encourage nation states to ease restrictions on amateur antennas.

Action: G3BJ

Recommendation LA17_C3_Rec_32: A CEPT Novice Licence survey will be sent out in March 2018

Action: EI3IO and HB9MQM

Recommendation LA17_C3_Rec_33: That the paper LA17_C3_12b Rules A of the ARDF WG be accepted.

3.6 Actions from C4, C5 and C7

Member societies need to be encouraged to inform their members on the most recent changes in HF handbook, VHF handbook, bandplans and other publications. When handbooks are complete, summary of changes to be mailed to Member Societies with request to make sure their relevant people are made aware of them and implementation actions are taken

Action: ON4AVJ/DF5JL

It was agreed that F4GKR in cooperation with the chairmen of the HF WG, VHF/UHF/MW WG and SRLC will engage with software developers of digimodes, in order to assist them finding frequencies for their applications.

Add Recommendation LA17_C5_Rec_02 to standing recommendations document that all IARU bodies and member societies use every opportunity to encourage national regulators to implement all the recommendations that protect the amateur bands to the standing recommendations.

3.7 GC 2020

doc 08 was discussed. Modifications were suggested and agreed. The modified document to be presented to SRS, the organizer of the 2020 GC.

Action: PB2T

4 Finance

4.1 2017 outcome

HB9JOE presented doc 30 Finance matters 2017 and audited books. The outcome of the audit was noted with satisfaction.

4.2 Review of budget 2018-20

The EC agreed to make minor changes to the budget for 2018-2020, resulting in a saving of CHF 4250 over three years. Affected Working Groups will be informed.

G3BJ and Z32TO will inform the ARDF and HST WGs on the changed budget for both WGs and event sponsorship and the associated conditions. Z32TO to approve expense claims for ARDF and HST.

Action: G3BJ and Z32TO
A suggestion was made that the in-person EC meeting should be reinstated in 2019. G3BJ explained that the Conference had approved a budget that would not provide funds for this and that we needed to make web-conferencing effective. Although some EC members felt an in-person meeting provided additional benefits, it was decided not to amend the budget to reflect the possibility of such a meeting in 2019. The position will be kept under review. Re-phasing support to 4U1ITU as proposed in doc 03 Rev1 was accepted. The total amount remained the same over three years.

4.3 Expense arrangements
The EC confirmed the update of the IARU Region 1 Expense Policy of November 2017.

5 Reports
5.1 EC group
5.1.1 Presidents report
G3BJ presented his report (doc 18). Much of the content would be discussed under subsequent detailed papers from him.

5.1.2 SRLC Report
See item 6

5.1.3 VHF/UHF/MW WG
ON4AVJ presented his report (doc 20). The contest sub working group has made significant progress. It is expected that Committee C5 will need less time at the next General Conference. The WG will start to work on a revised version of the VHF Handbook. The EC expressed its appreciation of the work of the Contest Sub-group – G3BJ will contact the chair to express this.  

Action: G3BJ

The VHF/UHF/MW Committee has conducted a survey on the use of the VHF and above bands in the region. The results will be used to inform future AC and EC decisions about spectrum utilisation.

The EC complimented the VHF/UHF/MW Committee on the extensive work that has been done so far

Actions:

1. To inform the IS on proposed changes to the FSC report. A brief set of amendments to the existing R1 input will be prepared
   Action: ON4AVJ
2. To inform LA2RR which bands and parts of the bands show heavy use
   Action: ON4AVJ

5.1.4 HF WG
doc 22 was presented. An updated version of the HF Managers Handbook is expected to be available in May 2018. The HF group was asked to contribute to the overview of 5 MHz status in Region 1 and to provide the IS with the outcome.

Action: DF5JL

5.1.5 PRC
EI8BP’s report (doc 26) was presented. In the European Commission, EI8BP is building the relationship with TCAM and EMC WP. The IARU view on WPT was presented at the recent EMC WP and generally well received.

It was agreed that building a long-term relationship in core EC committees should remain one of our core objectives.
5.1.6 EMC

LA9QL presented the EMC WG report (doc 28). It was noted that there was a significant shortage of capable people to work in IARU in the EMC field and LA9QL and G3BJ were taking actions to find additional suitable resources. Help from other Regions would be welcome.

EI3IO mentioned that he had been approached by ECO Copenhagen about a possible need to revise ETSI standard EN 301783 which addresses commercial amateur radio equipment. It is understood that this standard was prepared and maintained by the European offices of major amateur equipment manufacturers. It was also queried whether IARU should get involved with such standardization activities which may have an impact on equipment costs. SM6EAN agreed to address this issue. A first step would be to seek clarification from ECO as well as checking whether such work fell within IARU’s remit. SM6EAN will undertake this work.

Action: SM6EAN and LA9QL

5.2 WGs / coordinators

5.2.1 IARUMS

DJ3HW presented the IARUMS report (doc 11). The EC noted the excellent work carried out by the Region 1 IARUMS. The EC suggests that the IARUMS reports will be formally submitted as contributions to CEPT FM22. Logos from non IARU Member Society need to be removed from the monthly reports.

Action: DJ3HW to discuss with IARUMS

5.2.2 ARDF WG
doc 21 was presented and noted

5.2.3 HST
Doc 34 was presented and noted

5.2.4 satellite coordinator

G3VZV’s report in doc 24 was presented and noted. There is a growing number of small satellites using spectrum allocated to the amateur satellite service.

5.2.5 Youth WG

PA2LS presented doc 25 under Agenda Item 7

5.2.6 Emergency Comms

G0DUB’s report in doc 29 was presented. The issues raised by G0DUB were discussed and addressed.

The meeting decided to set up small group that will write a protocol on the use of social media and the relationship with groups not associated with an IARU Member Society. (action F4GKR, IV3KKW and G0DUB)

Action: F4GKR, IV3KKW

5.3 R2 and R3 issues

5.3.1 IARU Region 2 report

The IARU Region 2 Report (doc 32) was introduced by IARU Region 2 President YV5AM. Brazil has expressed interest in joining T/R 61-01. As result of a recent change in TR 61-01 it is expected that more South and Central American countries may follow.
5.3.2 IARU Region 3 report
IARU Region 3 was not represented. G3BJ gave a summary of recent developments in IARU Region 3.

5.4 AC issues
The meeting agreed that attendance at the AC should be the President and Secretary in 2019. This was agreed.

5.4.1 IARU QSL Policy
IARU Resolution 85-9 was discussed. There is evidence that for a significant decline in paper cards sent via Bureau. A number of bureaux have closed. The current Resolution is not followed by a number of Member Societies. IARU Region 1 will consider submitting a proposal to the AC to change the position. There are three options: do nothing, withdraw the resolution or make changes in the wording to reflect the appropriate situation for the 21st Century. A paper will be prepared for subsequent consideration by the Region 1 EC assessing these three options and a further discussion will take place in a web-call prior to a submission to the AC. Action: PB2T

The suggestion was made to provide detailed information on delivery policy of QSL bureaux. This will be reviewed with the IS. Action: G3BJ

6 Spectrum and Regulatory
EI3IO gave an overview of the work of the Spectrum and Regulatory Affairs Liaison Committee (SRLC) (document 09), including the work in Regional Telecommunications Organisations in Region 1.

6.1.1 WRC-19
EI3IO presented the SRLC report (document 09) and a supplement with additional regulatory information (document 09b).

CEPT has put out a questionnaire to administrations on the use of frequencies below 9 kHz. The HF Manager is requested to bring this to the attention of the Region 1 HF Managers in order that Member Societies may register an interest on current and future use of sub 9 kHz frequencies. Action: DF5JL

A change to the VHF handbook was suggested: Hamnet stations operating in 5.650-5.725 GHz as secondary users must make sure not to interfere with primary users (i.e. radars). A dialogue with the regulator could be helpful in each country to determine whether there are specific problems and frequencies to avoid in setting up further Hamnet links. Action: ON4AVJ, F4GKR

LA2RR presented the IARU matrix (doc 16) on WRC-19 Agenda Items. The roles of the various people in the Matrix were outlined.

6.1.2 Licensing issues, including Entry Level Licence (ELL)
EI3IO presented document 09a. While IARU Region 1 has a coordinating role towards CEPT, licensing initiatives need to be taken at national level. This is particularly relevant to the ELL, where CEPT is being asked to agree to the concept and produce a new recommendation and a revision to Report 89. Whether to implement is a national decision.

6.1.3 EMC – Wireless Power Transmission for Electric Vehicles, WPT(EV)
G3BJ gave an introduction to WPT. Spurious (harmonic) emissions from WPT are considered a real threat to communications on frequencies up to 10 MHz. There is a large number of parties involved
in the WPT(EV) debate. IARU will continue to make consistent and informed input to CEPT, ITU, CISPR, CENELEC and ETSI.

LA9QL explained how CISPR, in its various groups, deals with WPT.

IARU is already working with other spectrum users on the WPT(EV). It was suggested to identify allies in the health and environmental sectors.

Currently WPT requires a lot of effort from both President and EMC WG.

7  Youth programme

PA2LS presented document 25.

The YOTA summer event, to be held in South Africa, has been reshaped into a train the trainer event.

The EC decided to slightly relax the conditions for participation: Each member society will be allowed to nominate one youngster who participated before, as team leader, provided that these persons have the right leadership skills to run a youth programme in their country and there is commitment from the National Society to do so.

Sub-Regional events: At the moment two member societies (SSA and ARI) have applied to host a sub-regional event. The EC agreed to run pilot projects in both countries.

Appreciation was expressed for the work of the Youth WG.

It was suggested to make an input to the 2018 AC meeting and to approach the organizers of Jamboree on the Air (Scouting organization).  

Action: G3BJ / PA2LS

8  Future and growth agenda – progress and direction.

It was agreed that the three task groups set up at Conference each could benefit from an EC link person to support and guide the work. It was agreed that the following EC members would take these roles:

- Education: IV3KKW
- PR: DJ3HW
- Outreach: F4GKR

The EC reviewed the work plans developed by the task groups. In smaller groups the EC formulated views of the core components of a future strategy for projecting amateur radio and achieving growth in both licensing and membership in MS. The output will be input to the work being done in task groups on this work. PA2LS will inform task group leaders and EC link persons (above) will make contact and provide support in their work.

9  New website

9.1  Review of progress

G3BJ presented the status of the new IARU websites. The overall architecture is now agreed and the phase we are in now is to agree on colours, typeface, logo and how content will look.

The four domain names will remain. It has to be decided where the websites will be hosted.
The Region 1 EC agreed with the recommended layout presented. There are minor things to be fixed:

- a quick-link for Member Societies to update their member society data via the IS.
- agreement on authoring rights for the IARU global site.

After IARU AC has taken the decision on the final version the CSS will be built and the “shell” websites created.

There was general agreement that we now need to move ahead with the transition phase to the new website as quickly as possible. SM6EAN will coordinate the overall transition program, which will include revalidation of existing material and preparation of new pages. The responsibility for pages will be divided between WG Chairs/Coordinators and EC members. Work can begin shortly on preparing for the transition. 

Action: SM6EAN/G3BJ

9.2 Twitter, Facebook and other social media

The use of social media was discussed. It was recognised that a clear policy is needed with assigned responsibilities. A small group will address this item. Action: SM6EAN, F4GKR, ON4AVJ

10 Capacity building

G3BJ presented doc 19 on Capacity Building. The meeting generated ideas in a “brainstorm” session. These ideas will be put in a set of slides and these discussed at a future web meeting, to generate some specific actions. Action: PB2T

11 Member Society and associated issues

11.1 ARAT Tunisia

PB2T reported on the most recent developments. Also see doc 33 ARAT 2017 Annual-Report. The meeting noted a long list of amateur activities.

11.2 MARP Montenegro (G3BJ)

G3BJ presented doc 15. The conflicts between MARP and another society were noted with concern.

11.3 EARS Ethiopia

PB2T presented doc 04. There is an issue with the re-registration of the society. PB2T to find out what we can do to help EARS to work through the government registration issues. 

Action: PB2T

11.4 UARL Ukraine

G3BJ had a constructive meeting with UARL leadership in Warsaw. See documents 14, 14a, 14b and 14c.

11.5 ZARS Zambia

doc 23 (exchange of emails with 9J2BO) shows that there no longer seems to be a basis for a formally recognized society. The question was raised if ZARS needs to be put into suspension because it is no longer legally registered. A formal letter would be needed. An informal relationship could be an option. G3BJ and PB2T will resolve this with 9J2BO

Action: PB2T/G3BJ

11.6 EURAO

G3BJ presented document 06 and reviewed the current relationship with EURAO.
11.7 A Member Society Checklist
G3BJ presented the member society checklist (document 31). The meeting made amendments to the checklist. It was suggested to modify the order, starting with what IARU offers, followed by what are the expectations for a member society.

The next step is to review the checklist in a web meeting and to agree how it will be used in partnership with MS.

Action: G3BJ

A related action is that MS should be asked to submit their annual report (where one is already produced and received) as stated in the IARU bylaws. Submission in the local language is OK, provided it is in a format that Google Translate can accept (i.e. a text file of some sort)

Action: PB2T

12 Future events

12.1 Friedrichshafen 1-3 June 2018
PB2T presented document 27. Objectives for the IARU presence and presentation in Friedrichshafen are to provide information in general, to support our member societies and to show that by joining MS individual amateurs support the work of IARU. Besides the proposed presentation by means of mindmaps from the perspective of the individual amateur. The EC identified three critical topics being spectrum privileges, spectrum protection and future of amateur radio. These three topics need to be the eye catchers. The PR task group will be involved. Information available will be re-used on social media. An outline plan for FHN is needed by end-March

Task Group: PB2T and/or F4GKR, PA2LS, IV3KKW

12.2 IARU Region 3 Conference 10-14 September 2018, South Korea
Venue to be confirmed by IARU Region 3. PB2T and G3BJ will attend, and also the associated AC meeting.

12.3 Interim Meeting (Vienna) 2019
An IARU Region 1 Interim Meeting will be held in Vienna in April 2019. The meeting will be hosted by OeVSV and funded by Region 1. PB2T will coordinate the logistics with OeVSV and permanent committee chairs will coordinate their part of the meeting.

Action: PB2T, DFSJL, ON4AVJ and LA9QL

12.4 Kids day and WARD
It was proposed and accepted to shape this in the PR Group. For 2018 it was decided to draw Kids day on 16 June 2018 to the attention of Member Societies who may wish to arrange special events.

Action: PA2LS

The results will be used by the outreach group for World Amateur Radio Day on 18 April 2019.

13 Any Other Business

13.1 Software Defined Radio
F4GKR gave a presentation on an SDR/DSP crash course. The main difference with traditional amateur radio is that some specific mathematical/programming knowledge is required. An amateur license has a huge advantage over using licence exempt spectrum for experimentation in this area. The presentation will be made available.
The meeting considered that the project is relevant for the future of amateur radio and worth a pilot project. F4GKR was invited to proceed with a pilot project and to propose what level of funding would be helpful from IARU. This could be funded from the development fund.

14 Closure

The meeting closed at 12.00 Sunday with thanks to DARC for providing the meeting facilities at its headquarters.