



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Europe, Middle East, Africa and Northern Asia Founded 1950

Executive Committee Meeting 25-26 April 2019 Vienna, Austria

Author	PB2T
Subject	Minutes EC Meeting 2019

1 Opening

1.1 Welcome

Don Beattie, G3BJ, opened the meeting at 09h00 and welcomed the participants of the 2019 IARU Region 1 Executive Committee meeting. In order to save on travel costs the meeting was held in conjunction with the Interim meeting. He thanked OeVSV for hosting the EC meeting in Vienna.

He explained that the backdrop of the meeting is an increasingly less supportive environment for the amateur service in regulators, in RTOs and in ITU. The pressures on spectrum are such that spectrum for the amateur services is harder to justify. Additional spectrum is even harder to justify and the amount of work which has gone into preparation for WRC 2019 is just enormous.

On top of this, there are fewer radio services arguing for proper protection of the radio spectrum from EMC threats. This means that often we are the only voice – or one of a very few – putting forward the case for the radio services.

At the same time, new modes are emerging which are capturing the imagination of radio amateurs as they appeal to those in poor s/n environments . But these new modes demand less spectrum, meaning that activity is often confined to a small portion of our available bandwidth.

Add to this the ageing population of radio amateurs and the dwindling activity on many of our bands, and regulators perhaps feel they have good reason to consider that we are a short term problem, with more spectrum than we need.

This means that we need to redouble efforts to make amateur radio appeal to a new generation of radio amateurs and find ways of building our activity on all bands, and developing new modes which make full use of our available spectrum.

So Don explained that the backdrop for our meeting was not a comfortable one, meaning that our resources must be focused on the strategic priorities and not on the “nice to do” – we have to make some tough choices which starts in this meeting.

1.1.1 Present

The following persons attended the meeting:

Donald F. Beattie, G3BJ IARU Region 1 President (chairman)

Faisal Al-Ajmi, 9K2RR IARU Region 1 Vice President

Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T IARU Region 1 Secretary (secretary)
Andreas Thiemann, HB9JOE IARU Region 1 Treasurer (Thursday 25 April only)
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
Tom Kamp, DF5JL IARU Region 1 HF Manager
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 (Thursday 25 April only)
Ole Garpestad, LA2RR IARU Vice President
Reinaldo Leandro Rodriguez, YV5AM IARU Region 2 President
Mark Jones, G0MGX (Thursday 25 April only)

1.1.2 Apologies

Apologies were received from IARU Region 3

1.2 Approval of Agenda

The draft agenda doc 01 Rev3 was approved.

1.3 Minutes of 2018 EC meeting – actions arising

The minutes of the 2018 EC meeting (doc 02) held in Baunatal, Germany 16-18 February 2018 were noted.

1.3.1 Outstanding issues

- Para 2.1 ASMG observer status: A request for formal observer status was submitted. The request is awaiting approval from League of Arab States.
- Para 5.2.1 CEPT FM22: is still outstanding. EI3IO to send FM22 chairman's contact details to DJ3HW. DJ3HW to pass this info on to the IARUMS WG chairman for further action.
- Protocol on use of social media: It was decided to restart the discussion after the new website will be implemented.

1.4 Progress of membership applications

Doc 03 was noted. Applications for member societies in Saudi Arabia and Seychelles are currently in progress.

1.5 In memoriam

The following silent keys were noted: Mustapha Landulsi DL1BDF 10 September 2018, Seán Nolan EI7CD 20 September 2018, Krešimir Kovarik 9A5K 27 February 2019 and George Dobbs G3RJV 11 March 2019. The meeting observed a moment of silence in remembrance.

1.6 Future events

PB2T introduced doc 12, showing an overview of events and meetings relevant to IARU Region 1. The EC was asked to inform PB2T as soon as new information becomes available.

Action all

1.7 Recognition

Doc 19 was noted. The G2BVN Trophy, Region 1 Medal and Region 1 Award* are an encouragement and recognition for jobs well done. Our volunteers should be awarded while they are still alive. The EC was asked to identify possible candidates for the different awards, based on duration of involvement, intensity and effectiveness and notify the President.

Action all

There is a small number of Region 1 medals left. It is expected that we will run out of medals after the 2020 General Conference. IV3KKW will look into a redesign of the Region 1 Medal.

Action IV3KKW

*Standing Recommendation 32.1 indicates that the 1990 General Conference agreed on an IARU Region 1 award for humanitarian purposes. The meeting has no information about this award.

2 Budget and Finance

2.1 2018 outcome

Documents 13 (Finance matters) and 21 (audited books) were presented. As suggested by the auditor, the EC approved the financial statement over the year 2018. The outcome of the audit was noted with satisfaction.

A relatively small adverse budget variance was covered from the reserves.

3 WRC-19

G3BJ presented the status of WPT(EV) and WPT generic. This relates partly to Agenda Item 9.1.6 at WRC and ITU Question 210. Work done by IARU and others shows a real risk of harmful interference to radio services operating in the residential environment. CEPT Report 289 has been published which includes these concerns in respect of broadcasting, amateur and land fixed/mobile services (military). This despite the views being expressed by proponents of WPT that there is no problem. Work in CISPR to review the application of CISPR 16-4-4 to WPT emission limits has been unsatisfactory as the committee considering this, dominated by car manufacturers, has voted to ignore its own guidelines and propose a higher emission limit. IARU will need to consider how to challenge this. Further meetings in CEPT SE24 and ITU WP1A/B are planned for May/June/July.

EI3IO presented WRC-19 Agenda items affecting amateur service in particular AI 1.1 (50 MHz), AI 1.13 (47 GHz), AI 1.15 (spectrum above 275 GHz), AI 1.16 (5 650-5 850 MHz) and AI 10 (future Agenda Items).

3.1 AI 1.1

Currently debated in CEPT are two options: 50-52 MHz secondary and 50-52 MHz secondary with a 500 kHz primary segment. The general position in ATU and ASMG is 4 MHz primary, while the RCC position is a possible small allocation of 200 kHz.

3.2 AI 1.13

The GSM Association proposes consideration of the 47.0-47.2 MHz frequency band, while no studies on this band had been carried out. It appeared that our protection criteria are not always known. LA9QL mentions an IEC database with protection criteria.

It was agreed that the principle of building a long-term relationship with regulatory authorities applies to IARU Member Societies the same way as it applies to IARU (Region 1).

3.3 Future WRC's

For WRC-23 IARU will not actively promote the acquisition of new amateur spectrum with exception of spectrum >275 GHz, should the opportunity arise.

The European Commission is also working on long-term spectrum requirements. We need to be involved.

Action EI8BP

IARU needs core documentation for use at the different levels (e.g. updated spectrum requirements and protection criteria). We need to create a small group to do this – across IARU. An input to the AC will be made

Action: G3BJ, PB2T bring to AC.

The spectrum matters discussed in the EC meeting will be brought to the attention of the interim meeting.

4 PRC

EI8BP's report, contained in doc 10 was presented. The PRC, consisting of a small group of experts, has represented IARU in relevant European Commission forums associated with the implementation of the two core Directives affecting the Amateur Service (the RED and EMCD) and those representing the amateur services are seen as serious professional players.

PRC gave briefing papers and presentations to both the TCAM WG (RED) and the EMC WP (EMCD) to ensure they are alerted to the WPT issues and aware of the work being done by IARU on this topic in other forums.

While a few Member States doubted that this was the appropriate forum, the points made were duly noted by the Commission. This allows a return to the topic in future if necessary.

The IARU response to the EG RRS (Expert Group on Reconfigurable Radio Systems) questionnaire has been noted by TCAM.

IARU has been represented at stakeholders' meetings of RSPG, the Radio Spectrum Policy Group, a high-level advisory group that assists the European Commission in the development of radio spectrum policy.

Additionally, PRC has responded to several public consultations by RSPG

- Public consultation on RSPG Work Programme for 2018 and beyond

- Public consultation on the Draft RSPG Opinion on the ITU-R World Radiocommunication Conference
- Public consultation on the Draft RSPG Opinion on 5G implementation challenges (RSPG 3rd opinion on 5G)

PRC monitors on an ongoing basis open public consultations and matters raised in the European Parliament of relevance to amateur radio.

EI8BP stressed that IARU needs to pass the message why amateur radio matters and to identify the right people to approach.

It was agreed that the IARU presence in EC forums was aimed at establishing the amateur input as worth listening to and based on a professional assessment of the issues under discussion

5 STARS

Doc 23 was discussed. The EC recognised that faster progress was needed on STARS and considered how this could be achieved through additional resourcing. Sylvain was tasked with discussing the position with Riri and recommending a way ahead

Action F4GKR

Z32TO will make informal soundings about possible STARS projects elsewhere in the Region

Action: Z32TO

6 Future and Growth

Mark M0MGX gave an introduction and led an interactive session to review progress on the “Future and Growth” agenda which was initiated at the 2017 conference. He summarised the work done to date and suggested the direction for future work. The EC took part in short problem-solving workshops to provide additional input around the three themes of attraction (to amateur radio), promotion (of amateur radio) and retention (of those who become radio amateurs).

It was generally agreed that the outputs from the whole work programme needed to be:

- An appealing and “up-beat definition” of 21st century Amateur Radio and what it offers a potential recruit – this is the “Elevator Speech”
- Provision of quality proven modular promotional material and practical guidance for attending events
- Easier entry process to Amateur Radio and a relevant licensing structure with low entry point and progression paths
- A clear set of guidelines for how to access the potential market (including soc media etc)
- Provide practical exercises/simple kits with guidelines for promotion to different age groups
- A template for “beyond exams” – how to grow and developed after qualification as a radio amateur – highlighting the breadth of opportunities amateur radio offers

- A sense of momentum and urgency to get ahead of the problem

The meeting discussed the need to be clear on:

- How we identify support resources
- The project plan/milestones and what we can we deliver to GC2020
- The funding needed and for what

Mark Jones will now work with identified young people and others to drive the programme forward. The EC is ready to give such support as is needed.

Lisa PA2LS presented docs 14 and 14a.

A slight concern is the large number of youth activities. From an IARU Region 1 point of view the focus will be on train the trainer.

Not all MS followed the instructions to send just newcomers to YOTA 2018. For future YOTA events MS will be asked to declare that their candidates have not participated before and a check will be run.

National Youth Coordinators must be part of the TTT program. MS will be asked to report what came from their commitment to participate in YOTA South Africa. PA2LS will report to the EC what MS did not fulfil their promise.

Action PA2LS

The EC suggests that PA2LS and IV3KKW will nominate 8 or 10 active youngsters to participate at the GC-2020.

Action PA2LS, IV3KKW

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There are vacant positions in support of YOTA 2019. These positions need to be advertised

Action PA2LS, PB2T

The EC expressed its appreciation and gratitude to Lisa PA2LS for the hard work carried out by her and her working group.

7 Reports

7.1 WGs / coordinators

7.1.1 IARUMS

IARUMS reports need to be submitted to CEPT FM22. (See item 1.3.1)

Action DJ3HW

A growing number of commercial satellites has shown up in spectrum allocated to the amateur satellite service. DJ3HW will discuss if there is a role for the IARU MS.

Action: DJ3HW

7.1.2 Regulatory Affairs

Doc 20 was discussed. The introduction of a CEPT Entry Level License could not be progressed because of the lack of support by national administrations. Member Societies have been asked to discuss with their regulators and until there is adequate regulator support the issue cannot be progressed in CEPT.

Barry Lewis G4SJH was appointed as CEPT RAFG chairman. It is the first time that this forum is chaired by someone who is not from an administration.

7.1.3 Emergency Comms

Doc 15 was noted with interest. The EC thanks G0DUB for his efforts.

The question was raised if Es'hail-2 can be used for emercom.

7.1.4 ETSI

Doc 22 deals with an issue concerning the ETSI standards applying to commercial amateur radio equipment. At present not all amateur frequencies are covered by the standard. At some time in the future, the standard will be reviewed, at which time the missing ranges may be added. Meantime, SM6EAN is taking part in meetings of TGMARINE, the committee concerned.

7.2 R2 and R3 issues

7.2.1 IARU Region 2 report

The IARU Region 2 Report (doc 25) was introduced by IARU Region 2 President YV5AM. He highlighted the involvement in CITEL and ITU. The 20th IARU Region 2 General Assembly will be held 30 September – 2 October in Lima Peru.

On WRC-19 AI 1.1 Region 1 would like to see an active support first from Region 2 and 3 member societies, endorsed by administrations, rather than just “no opposition”.

7.2.2 IARU Region 3 report

The meeting noted the Region 3 report (doc 8). DF5JL will be our formal Point of Contact in the IARU Informal Band Planning Group (IIBPG) and will liaise with ON4AVJ for VHF/UHF/MW matters.

Region 1 will not attend the Region 3 Directors meeting that will be held 2-3 September 2019

8 Websites

SM6EAN presented the status of the project. The design of website is ready, while rollout is on-going. The Region 1 setup is more complex than for IS and other regions. Transfer of content will start once the R1 site is operational and the menu structure is in place. A concern is the program slippage and the availability of resources. The youth working group will be asked to support content owners with routine transfer work.

Action IV3KKW

9 General Conference 2020

The program of the 2020 General Conference in Novi Sad was discussed.

The EC discussed what the main topic for the conference would be. There is a strong preference to make the conference different from what was done in the past with a significant role for younger radio amateurs.

Suggested was that the conference should focus on the role of the Member Society and that conference topics include

- What have MS done about future of amateur radio in their country,
- What have MS done about attracting young people,
- The relation with regulator.
- The role of MS in general

We should plan to address important topics during the day and try to involve new (young) people in the general conference.

The President will contact all MS to gain support for a different format for the conference, supporting the need to refocus MS on changed priorities. We need to get the support from major MS.

Action G3BJ to write to MS

Additional efforts will be needed to bring this to the attention of the MS Board.

Possible candidates for the opening address were identified.

Doc 17 was discussed. There was agreement that we should not be bound by the list of chairs and coordinators, to attend future conferences. A conference paper will be produced for consideration by the EC initially proposing a greater degree of flexibility on who should attend at R1 expense.

Action G3BJ, PB2T

10 Succession and Resourcing

Doc 11 was presented and discussed. There needs to be more traction from MS. The new website should be used for a recruitment campaign.

11 AC meeting

Doc 4, setting out inputs to be made to the AC in September was presented and discussed and the proposed topics agreed. The following topics will be added

- MS relationships with their regulators
- Support by the International Secretariat.
- 2nd society issues

Action PB2T

12 Committee C5 issues

Several C5 items were presented and discussed. These will be further discussed in the Interim Meeting

12.1 Exploiting Es'hail

The recent QO-100 geostationary satellite stimulates the use of microwaves with easy means, and is important for the promotion of Amateur Radio. It was agreed that there should be a special session at the Interim Meeting promoting the opportunities.

12.2 Increasing VHF/UHF activity

ON4AVJ gave an introduction for the workshop that will be held on Sunday. This is a first try-out to get the discussions and commitment on a higher level. After a short introduction, some good practices in different MS will be shown, followed by a discussion.

12.3 Small satellites

Doc 28 presented by F4GKR describes some of the problems that the amateur satellite service is facing with an increasing number of non-amateur satellites seeking amateur frequency allocations. There is a general problem that many interested parties don't understand the rules they have to comply with. From an amateur point of view these include, unencrypted signals (except for telecommand), no commercial interest and IARU frequency coordination. The matter should be addressed at worldwide level. F4GKR will be invited to join the IARU Satellite Frequency Coordination Panel.

Action: PB2T

12.4 Contest Robot: to review EC position

The current robot supports most of our needs, certainly the central log collection. Before a funding decision can be taken, we need to understand what improvements are required and the longer term strategy. The C5 interim meeting will address this.

13 ARDF/HST

13.1 Doc 07 ARDF WG report

The Youth Championships in Ukraine were discussed in the WG. The WG decided that it did not wish to over-rule the decision of the ARDF WG that the 2019 Youth Championship will ~~be taken~~ place in Vinitcija as planned.

13.2 HST

No written report had been submitted.

13.3 Doc 24 ARDF and HST

This document needs to be discussed within the ARDF WG and HST WG. The EC is of the view that the IARU name/logo has to be used in all championships run by, or on behalf of, the WGs. The WG chair shall not compete, because his expertise is needed during the running of the championships. The presence of an EC member at events needs to be considered on a case by case basis and should not be a regular occurrence. Other proposals in the paper require discussion with the WGs as appropriate.

14 Any Other Business

DARC brought to our attention that postal problems exist when sending QSL packages by mail. A prenotification seems to be required together with more details of the addressee, following decisions by the UPU. The President is already in touch with consultants about the implications for the IARU QSL bureau.

We can either comply with the new rules or perhaps classify the packages as goods of no commercial value.

15 Closure

The meeting closed at 16h30 Friday with thanks to OE1MCU for providing the meeting facilities.