



# International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 VHF - UHF - MW Newsletter

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## From the new chairman

When I was leaving Brussels on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September I did not know that I would come back as your new chairman of the C5 committee. Officially I will be in function on November 1 2014.

First of all let me thank Michael OE1MCU for his excellent work during the past 9 years. We made a lot of progress in clearing out the band planning on our different bands. I want to thank Michael especially for the great efforts he made for the development of the contest robot. I'm sure he will share his expertise with the new team to make this more powerful.

Together with Jörg, DJ3HW, our new vice-chairman, we will work on a project to defend and improve the usage of our VHF-UHF and  $\mu$ Wave bands; together with a lot of other OM. Communication about what is happening in our community is important, so I will try to have 4 Newsletters a year.

I will give you more details of what I want to achieve in the next 3 years in the next newsletter. In the meanwhile you can read my resume as an attachment.

## IARU Conference Varna-Albena, Bulgaria, 21 – 27 September 2014 - short Report C5

31 delegates were present in the C5 meetings, representing 25 member societies (and 5 proxies). The 35 proposals were grouped and the recommendations prepared by different sub working groups (contests, digital ATV, bandplanning matters, operational matters). This work resulted in 27 recommendations:

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_01**

That the current Region 1 proposal in CEPT for future WRC-18 agenda item for harmonised allocations at 1,8, 50 and 3 400 MHz be strongly supported by Member Societies and the IARU Administrative Council. It is further recommended that the changes to the WRC preparation process and pressures on spectrum that led to this proposal be noted and that we adapt the IARU approach to both WRC and Spectrum Strategy at both Regional and Administrative Council level.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_02**

The IARU Region 1 web site should include a compilation of information on various areas of amateur activity through hypertext links to relevant web pages identified by member societies. One such activity should be the provision of repeater information on the IARU Region 1 web site. National Societies should provide their information to SM6EAN.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_03**

The IARU Region 1 web site should include a hypertext link (to be inserted by the Chairman of C5) to a stable page on the South African Radio League web site, which describes the RaDAR concept.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_04**

Add a footnote concerning WSPR transmissions in chapter 2.1 of the VHF Handbook and in the band plans. The frequencies in the band plan are the centre of the transmitted frequency (not the suppressed carrier frequency or necessarily the VFO dial setting). This may also be applicable to HF WSPR usage.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_05**

To promote more flexible 'centres of activity' for data transmission amend band plans as follows:

- 6 m - 50,600 MHz – no change proposed – but review in future
- 4 m – 70,300 MHz – Delete RTTY – leave channel free for usage that is more flexible
- 2 m – 144,600 MHz - Change to 'Data centre of activity (MGM, RTTY, etc.,)' and remove footnote (n)
- 2 m – 145,300 MHz (RTTY Local) - Delete - leave channel free for more general usage
- 70 cm – 432,600 RTTY (ASK/PSK) - Delete
- 70 cm – 433,600 RTTY (AFSK/FM) - Delete

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_06**

In order to facilitate inter-Regional sharing amend band plan as follows:

Main Table: 144,000 – 144,025 MHz, 2,7 kHz Max Bandwidth, Satellite space-to-Earth (downlink) x

Footnote x: No transmission shall be made below 144,0025 MHz

Further, recommend provision of an update to IARU Regions 2 and 3, regarding the

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_07**

To take account of redundant spectrum usage:

For 144 MHz band

- Delete 144,700 MHz FAX calling
- Change 144,500 MHz from 'SSTV calling' to 'Image Modes centre (SSTV, Fax etc.,)'

For 430 MHz band

- Delete 432,700 MHz FAX (ASK)
- Delete 433,700 MHz FAX channel (FM/AFSK)

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_08**

To promote centres of activity and amend redundant usage:

- 144,300 MHz (SSB Calling) - update to SSB Centre of Activity
- 144,525 MHz (ATV SSB talk back) - Delete
- 144,660 MHz – Delete (Editorial correction) – National footnote h to be retained.

**Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_09.** The recommendation was withdrawn.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_10**

Continue to focus all 24 GHz activity in that segment of the band having primary status, and:

- Utilize 24,025 GHz as the new wideband centre of activity

- Delete the 'preferred' status of 24,125 GHz for wideband usage

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_11**

National and sub-regional activity contest rules should be complementary and activity contests should be open to all (National and International contesters) to encourage and promote activity on the VHF, UHF and SHF bands.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_12**

In order to avoid confusion and improve efficiency, the submission of contest entries shall be no later than the second Monday after the contest, which is in accordance with the rules approved by IARU Region 1. This requirement shall be implemented by all member societies without further delay.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_13**

1. That member societies encourage the use of the 70 MHz frequency band.
2. That every year an IARU Region 1 70 MHz contest shall be held on the same weekend as the 50 MHz contest.
3. The contest will be a 70 MHz all mode contest.
4. The contest shall run for 24 hours from 14:00 to 14:00 UTC.
5. Stations must exchange a signal report, serial contest number and a 6-character locator. Procedure and scoring are the same as the other IARU Region 1 contests.
6. There will be two sections. One including MGM and the other excluding MGM.
7. The rules, with the exception of the two sections mentioned above, will follow the 50 MHz IARU Region 1 contest rules
8. The rules for this contest shall be placed in the VHF Managers Hand-book.
9. The chairman of the VHF/UHF and Microwaves committee shall update the VHF Managers Handbook.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_14**

1. It is recommended that the text "Stations operated by a single operator, with no assistance of another person during the contest" should be changed to "Stations operated by a single operator, with no operational assistance of another person during the contest."
2. It is recommended that the Rover category should be removed from the contest rules.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_15**

It is recommended that the text in the VHF/UHF and Microwave managers hand-book, chapter 5.2 will be amended to read, "All QSOs including unique QSOs shall count for points even if they only appear in the log of one contest entrant. The number of unique QSOs for every contest entrant should be included in the published contest results." A disclaimer shall also be introduced into the submission process that the contester accepts that all data in the log will be published.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_16**

Recognising that the numbers of contest entries are dropping and in order *in-ter alia* to encourage members of national societies to enter contests, a 6-hour operating category for single and multi operator classes to be introduced in IARU Region 1 144 MHz and 435 MHz contests.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_17**

It is recommended that the text in the VHF/UHF and Microwave managers hand-book, chapter 5.2 will be amended to read, "Any error in the exchanged information logged by

a station is liable to result in the loss of all points for that contact for both correspondents (receiving and transmitting station); subject to review and confirmation by the contest organizer.” should be changed to “Any error in the exchanged information logged by a station is liable to result in the loss of all points for that contact; subject to review and confirmation by the contest organizer.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_18**

The 144,500 – 144,700 MHz segment which to date could also be used for some contest QSOs should not be extended after 31 December 2014,

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_19**

To add a footnote in chapter 11.1.5 saying that the picture of the transmitted sequences is an example, but the timing should be adapted to suit the MGM mode deployed.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_20**

Noting that the migration of Region 1 50 MHz beacons is progressing (with good propagation reports):

The deadline for migration the remainder shall now be 31 December 2015, noting that the default for QSY is usually + 400 kHz unless a specific request is sent to the IARU Region 1 beacon coordinator. The coordination of new beacons below 50,4 MHz shall no longer be possible, except for the members of the Synchronised Beacon Project (SBP)

For the SBP - That both VA14\_C5\_14 and VA14\_C5\_15 papers be adopted in C5  
As per VA14\_C5\_15, the Synchronised beacons will now use – ‘once every 5 minute’ slots, instead of ‘once every 4 minutes’

Member Societies are invited to participate in the pilot programme as outlined in VA14\_C5\_14 and to consider the best locations for SBP (e.g. an existing site or new strategic site)

Opportunities for a 50 MHz space-borne receiver should be sought for monitoring both standard beacons and the SBP. This will enable assessments of propagation, band usage; support for further research; and support potential future frequency allocation requests.

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_21**

C5 recommends that in order to underpin an exciting future for amateur data communications that the IARU Administrative Council considers the draft paper from Region 1 and provides support for obtaining an IPv6 allocation for global amateur radio

#### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_22**

Addition of a footnote to Chapter 4.5.2 of VHF Managers Handbook concerning the 430 – 440 MHz Band Plan. In countries without access to the full 70 cm band, the following 12,5 kHz repeater channels with a 1,6 MHz separation between uplink and downlink can be implemented:

Input Frequencies (uplink) 431,225 – 431,600 MHz

Output Frequencies (downlink) 432,825 – 433,200 MHz

It is further recommended that if such usage is likely to cause harmful interference in neighbouring countries, co-ordination shall be initiated between affected national societies.

**Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_23** - The recommendation was withdrawn.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_24**

Chapters 5.2 and 5.3 of the VHF Manager's Handbook require revision (see Annex 1). As extensive modifications have been made under time pressure, the C5 Chairman should check and review before making the necessary changes.

**Note: this will be published in the new VHF managers handbook**

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_25**

The rules for the IARU Region 1 ATV contest should be amended as proposed in Document VA14\_C5\_19.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_26**

It is recommended that the detailed recommendations provided in Annex 3 to the C5 minutes be implemented in respect of DATV issues and shall be integrated into the VHF Managers Handbook.

### **Recommendation VA14\_C5\_REC\_27**

The text of Recommendation VA14\_C4\_REC\_03 shall also be included in the VHF Managers Handbook.

That member societies endorse and promote the DX Code of Conduct for DXpeditions.

You can find the complete minutes of the C5 (and other commissions) on the IARU R1 website (documents)

## **VHF Managers Handbook 7.0**

As you could read during the Varna conference there are a lot for recommendations that have to be taken over in the VHF manager handbook. I hope to have this ready in January 2015.

## **IARU Administrative Council Plans for WRC-15**

After our Conference the AC of the IARU had their annual meeting and this is the press release:

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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29 September 2014

For immediate release

### **IARU Administrative Council Plans for WRC-15**

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual meeting on 27 & 28 September 2014 in Albena, Bulgaria. The AC is responsible for the policy and management of the IARU and consists of the three IARU international officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU regional organizations.

Here is a summary of the discussions and actions.

The Council reviewed the IARU positions on each of the WRC-15 agenda items that relate to amateur radio or may have an impact on amateur radio. The Council made a number of modifications to the paper related to justifications for the IARU positions. This information will be forwarded to all IARU member-societies.

The Council expressed support for Region 1 in its effort to obtain a CEPT proposal for post-WRC-15 conference agenda items for worldwide harmonization of 160 meters, harmonization of 6 meters and an allocation at 3.4 GHz.

The Council reviewed the participation of IARU at the upcoming WRC-15 and the President announced the members of the team who will represent IARU.

Upon the recommendation of the IARU EMC Coordinator, the Council adopted IARU Resolution 14-1 ("concerning the protection of the radio spectrum as a natural resource") dealing with EMC issues related to the radio spectrum and which encourages IARU member-societies and regional organizations to pursue implementation of this resolution as a matter of high priority, requests standard-setting bodies and regulators to fully support this objective and implores designers and manufacturers to make every reasonable effort to minimize radio spectrum pollution emanating from their products.

The Council expressed the importance of obtaining the ITU Advance Publication Information (API) numbers from administrations for satellite projects operating in the amateur and amateur satellite bands so that information about the number of operating satellites can be maintained, for frequency coordination and for resolving interference issues. IARU will work with administrations to establish protocols for satellite frequency coordination and to raise awareness of the satellite regulations.

The Council adopted the IARU Emergency Telecommunications Guide for use by the IARU member-societies to strengthen amateur radio disaster preparedness, response and mitigation.

The Council also adopted various strategies related to improving amateur radio disaster preparedness, response and mitigation and to promote the role of amateur radio in such activities to the general public and to government and non-government organizations.

The Council created the ad hoc "IARU Member-Society Relations Project Team" and adopted Terms of Reference for the project. This action arose from Minute 10.10 from the 2013 Council meeting Summary Record dealing with "Second Society Issues."

The Council adopted a system to provide more efficient remote monitoring of certain ITU meetings that may impact amateur radio.

The Plan for the Development of Support for Amateur Radio Frequency Allocations 2012-2017 was reviewed by the Council. The September, 2013 version of the IARU Spectrum Requirements which is the working document that sets out the spectrum requirements of the amateur and amateur-satellite services, was reviewed, discussed and updated.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) meetings at which IARU representation will be required for the remainder of 2014 and for 2015 were identified, and plans for representation at these meetings were reviewed.

In view of the year 2015 being the 150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union, the theme "ITU & IARU: Celebrating 150 years of Advancing the Telecommunication Art" was adopted for the next World Amateur Radio Day, April 18, 2015.

The budget for the years 2015-2017 as presented by the IS was reviewed and adopted. The budget is based upon anticipated financial contributions from the three regional organizations to defray a portion of the expenses, in accordance with previously adopted policy.

The Council received information about the Hamsphere Initiative from Martti Laine, OH2BH. The Council will review the initiative and seek further information from the project leaders.

The Council was made aware of an ATV interference incident on the 23 cm band in which the German administration prohibited operation of an ATV repeater because of interference to the Galileo GPS system.

Attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD; regional representatives Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Dennis Green, ZS4BS, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, José Arturo Molina, YS1MS, Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, Wisnu

Widjaja, YB0AZ and recording secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. Also present as observers were Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, observer from Region 2 and Don Beattie, G3BJ, observer and President-elect from Region 1.

The next scheduled in-person meeting of the AC will be held in the vicinity of Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in October, 2015 in conjunction with the IARU Region 3 Conference.

## **ATV Contest 2014**

In Vienna 2013 we agreed to have a centralized email address to send the logs to. This will be taken care off by the UBA.

Please send all the ATV logs from your country to [IARU\\_ATV@uba.be](mailto:IARU_ATV@uba.be) starting from November 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. You will receive confirmation that the logs are received.

## **International Summer Cup 2014**

To encourage activity on our VHF bands (50/70/144 MHz) the UBA started this year with this new activity contest. All members and interested contesters are encouraged to send their logs for this cup. More info at

[http://www.uba.be/sites/default/files/uploads/vhf/contests/Summervcup\\_GB.pdf](http://www.uba.be/sites/default/files/uploads/vhf/contests/Summervcup_GB.pdf)



**Jacques Verleijen - ON4AVJ**  
**Chairman C5**

**Name** Verleijen Jacques  
**Date of Birth:** March 7<sup>th</sup> 1952  
**Nationality:** Belgian

**Amateur radio experience:**

- First licensed in 1983 as ON1BUV / DA4JV
- Since 1988: ON4AVJ
- All round ham activity with special interest in VHF dx-ing (Meteor Scatter) and EmmCom
- Since 1998: member of the board of UBA
- UBA - VHF contest manager (since 2007 until now)
- UBA - VHF manager (since 2010 until now)
- Staff member of B-EARS (Belgian Emergency Amateur Radio Service)
- Responsible for project "CW as intangible heritage" for Belgium (Flanders)
- Member of the Political Relations Committee
- Participation on interim meetings C5 in 2010 and 2013 (Vienna)
- Participation IARU R1 conference in Sun City
- Participation GAREC 2013 (Zurich)

**Professional experience**

- **1977- 1990:** counselor career guidance
- **1990 – 2008** project management for different project in education
- **2008 until now:** Information Security manager for the education department of the Flemish Community and counselor about Social media in education (media literacy)

**Contact**

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