



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 VHF - UHF - μ W Newsletter

Edition 69
17 May 2016
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Interim meeting Vienna 2016

The interim meeting of the VHF-UHF- μ Wave Committee (C5) was held in Vienna from 15th to 17th of April. During this meeting we discussed 42 papers and there were 27 recommendations. You can find the minutes of this meeting in Annex. They are also published on the IARU-R1 website.

To be effective those recommendations needed to be approved by the Executive Committee from IARU R1. This was done during the EC meeting from 6 to 8 May in Brussels. You can find below the results:-

VIE16_C5_Rec_01: The usage of a controlled cloud solution for collecting and providing relevant information for MS is encouraged.

To prepare the upcoming conference in Landshut (DL) 2017 the C5 committee will make use of cloud applications. This will be implemented by OeVSV. If the test is positive we will move to the IARU-R1 servers.

VIE16_C5_Rec_02: To Update the VHF Handbook as per proposal C5_40. The chairman will also prepare a new template/model of the handbook who will consider the actual matters without the loss of historical data. (see also point 8.2). In the meanwhile the actual handbook (7.x) will be the reference.

And

VIE16_C5_Rec_25: The C5 chairman to review the VHF Managers Handbook and prepare a document for GC 2017 in accordance with all relevant Recommendations of VIE16_C5.

The chairman of C5 will rework the VHF Manager's Handbook and propose a new structure and layout. In the meanwhile the actual version (7.x) stays the reference

VIE16_C5_Rec_03: To remove footnote "III" in the VHF Managers Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_04: To remove footnote "c", 4th paragraph in the VHF Managers Handbook.

These two footnotes in the 144 MHz bandplan are obsolete or no longer necessary and the handbook will be updated.

VIE16_C5_Rec_05: Adopt paper for 144 MHz and to review the band planning in the VHF Managers Handbook and preparing a common document for the General Conference (GC) in 2017. The objective is to create more flexibility in order to provide more opportunities for future experiments (MS to prepare this by using the Wiki).

This is an invitation to make the band planning ready for the future. This will be a new item in the C5 Wiki.

VIE16_C5_Rec_06: To correct the satellite segment the table in chapter 4.9 by deleting "5790", inserting "5830" and adding the footnote: "Any wideband system shall protect narrowband applications, which have priority."

The EC added the last part of the sentence to clarify.

VIE16_C5_Rec_07: To review the contest rules in the Managers Handbook and preparing a common document for the General Conference (GC) in 2017 by using the Wiki. This includes the paragraph 5.2 for organizational aspects and the aspect of disqualification in paragraph 5.3.11, the usage of EDI-format and the missing Appendix 3B.

A new topic in the Wiki will be prepared.

VIE16_C5_Rec_08: To add in paragraph 5.2.2 that this is applicable for Phone/CW contests (ATV does not use the IARU-R1 contest robot).

Direct implementation in the handbook

VIE16_C5_Rec_09: To remove in paragraph 5.3.11 "but these stations may not take part in the contest".

Direct implementation in the handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_10: To add further information on the EDI-format in the next Newsletter.

And

VIE16_C5_Rec_18: To encourage testers as well as logging SW programmers to use one of the contest section abbreviations in their submitted contest log (EDI entry line: Psect=):

- *Section SINGLE (SO, SINGLE, SINGLE-OP)*
- *Section MULTI (MO, MULTI, MULTI-OP)*
- *Section 6 HOURS SINGLE (SO-6H, SINGLE-OP-6H)*
- *Section 6 HOURS MULTI (MO-6H, MULTI-OP-6H)*
- *Section SINGLE with MGM (SO-MGM, SINGLE-OP-MGM)*
- *Section MULTI with MGM (MO-MGM, MULTI-OP-MGM)*

by publishing in the next Newsletter.

In the next VHF newsletter there will be more explanation about the EDI format and applications which convert to the EDI format.

VIE16_C5_Rec_11A: To discuss an even more extended locator system that is used for ATV (including IARU ATV contest) and for other purposes by using the Wiki and prepare a document for GC 2017 if necessary.

We need to agree if we want to define an extension to the locator system for some modes/bands. The discussion will be done through the Wiki and will result in a proposal for Landshut 2017

VIE16_C5_Rec_11B: To change paragraph 5.3.10 Entries to:

The entries must be set out in digital/electronic form fulfilling the requirements under rule 5.3.13. Logs shall be sent according to rule 5.2.3 not later than the second Monday following the contest weekend. Late entries will be accepted as check logs. By submitting the contest or check log, an entrant agrees that he / she has:

- *understood the contest rules and agrees to be bound by them,*
- *operated according to all the rules and regulations that pertain to his and/or station license,*
- *agreed the cross-checked log may be made open to the public, except for the personal data in PAdr1, PAdr2, RName, RAdr1, RAdr2, RPoCo, RCity, RCoun, RPhon and RHBBS lines of EDI file format,*
- *accepted all decisions of the organizing society (contest organizer) as final.*

This change is needed to inform the competitor that the logs are crosschecked. Direct implementation in the Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_12: The sub regional contest managers are encouraged to exchange the received contest logs for cross checking purposes on their decision.

VHF contest managers are invited to send all the logs they receive to the IARU contest robot, or to other platforms (such as the SP7NPX server) for crosscheck purposes.

VIE16_C5_Rec_13: To update Section 5.3.6 by adding the acceptable/unacceptable examples of secondary methods as mentioned in the document. Remark: To add "and the QSO starts again" after: "Nothing received, please try again"

Direct implementation in the Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_14: To retain the 6-digit Locator system in 50 MHz contest. For stations outside Region 1, four digits can be accepted and such Locators would be assumed to be completed with "MM".

Direct implementation in the Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_15: To add in paragraph 5.3.2 in the 6 HOURS section time rule: "Participants are welcome to operate longer than 6 hours and in such case they shall send their complete log (the contest robot will automatically extract the 6 hours part from the log, while the rest of the log entries will be used for cross-checking purposes)."

Direct implementation in the Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_16: To add to the paragraph 5.3.2 of the VHF Managers Handbook: "Section MULTI: stations operated by multiple operators"

Direct implementation in the Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_17: To hold a prize giving ceremony for the first three of each category during Ham Radio in Friedrichshafen, starting with the 2016 contest. DARC to support the ceremony itself, C5 to conduct the ceremony and to organise the prizes.

The DARC agreed to organise this after the DARC prize giving. The EC agrees also, but the prizes need to be sponsored by the organising society, responsible for organising the contest.

VIE16_C5_Rec_19: ZRS to lead a Sub Working Group to add paragraph "5.8 Automatic Contest Adjudication Software" to the VHF Managers Handbook by using the Wiki and prepare a document for GC 2017 if necessary.

ZRS, by the way of Miha, S53WW will coordinate this work.

VIE16_C5_Rec_20: To use a common template for the final classifications of the IARU Region 1 contests taking the information for each field from the EDI Logs comparable to the table used for the Marconi Memorial Contest by ARI.

This will be further discussed and a proposal will be made for Landshut 2017

VIE16_C5_Rec_21: To enable the Contest Robot to export the results in some other electronic format (e.g. xls, .csv, pdf) for publishing purposes.

This will be initiated in the near future.

VIE16_C5_Rec_22: To encourage MS and members to use the old beacon segment for CW. (at 50.031-50.100 MHz)

In Varna (2014 Conference) we decided that all (except the new synchronised) beacons shall be moved to the new beacon segment (50.400 -50.500 MHz) and this before end 2015. Some are still active on the old frequencies. We need to encourage the users to accept the new band plan and the use of CW in this segment.

In the meanwhile we need to encourage the beacon keepers to use the new segment, either to move their beacon or give the opportunity to new beacon projects in the new segment.

To be further discussed in the upcoming conference.

VIE16_C5_Rec_23: The C5 chairman to answer Regions 2 and 3 that:

- *144.390 MHz is not suitable for Region 1 and that*
- *To consider an additional 144 MHz frequency (that might be compatible) with Region 2 and 3*
- *To also consider 435 MHz usage and newer APRS technologies (for the 2017 GC)*

The EC agreed that we should communicate with R2 and R3 that R1 has a problem with the use of 144.390 MHz as an APRS frequency and we are looking for a global solution. Whilst the chairman will send an initial response immediately, it is also clear that we need to have a consultation about a common policy for APRS between the 3 regions. It needs to be global, with consideration between ground and space needs.

Therefore we need to start a discussion about APRS and newer technologies between the 3 regions.

VIE16_C5_Rec_24: The C5 chairman to set up a new Mailing list on the IARU server for VHF-Managers and IARU-Liaison officers of the MS only.

The Chairman of C5 will manage a new mailing list of the official VHF/Microwave managers of the MS. Other MS will be officially informed via the IARU liaison officers. The original C5 mailing list will be maintained.

VIE16_C5_Rec_26: The C5 chairman to remove the band plan web pages from the Region 1 Website and point to the VHF Managers Handbook as the master.

By reworking the VHF managers handbook (and the IARU-R1 website) it must be possible to point to the band plans. The EC agreed with the principle of a single point of information, but wants to see band plans easily accessible from the website without having to read through the Handbook.

VIE16_C5_Rec_26: VERON will organize the IARU Region 1 ATV contests in 2016 and 2017. DARC will do the same for all other Region 1 contests in 2016 and 2017. MS are encouraged to apply for the following years in the GC 2017

We want to thank DARC and VERON for the organisations of those contests.

We also want to invite the other MS to think about the organisation of the upcoming contests. To be discussed in Landshut 2017

VIE16_C5_Rec_27: To remove paragraph 5.11 from the VHF-Managers Handbook and putting the winners table on the website. Remark: The missing results can be found on the OK2KKW-Website or on <http://slovhf.net/mednarodni-uradni-rezultati/>

Direct implementation in the Handbook and the IARU-R1 website

VIE16_C5_Rec_27: To remove all dedicated WSPR spot frequencies and footnotes from the VHF Managers Handbook

Direct implementation in the Handbook.

Important

Those recommendations are agreed by the Executive Committee on an interim basis until the next General Conference..

Actions will be done to implement all recommendations in a new edition of the VHF handbook (v7.5). This will be effective by the first of June 2016.

All the recommendations need to be ratified on the upcoming Conference in Landshut 2017.

WRC-19 50 MHz Resolution

At some time IARU will be asking Member Societies to speak with their national regulators on this topic, but please do not do so until we have the key messages available to guide those discussions. **IARU wants to ensure that all actions are well coordinated in the run-up to WRC19**

IARU ATV contest 2016

As far as I have seen them, in most of your magazines I did not notice any attention for the IARU ATV contest.

In several countries there is a lot of ATV activity but even when just one contact is made, it would be appreciated to receive a log. No fancy log-installation or so, just open the excel sheet, fill out some fields, save it and send it to the mentioned email address. If you have a centralised email address: you can add it in the Excel sheet before you distribute it locally. If needed, you can also do some kind of translation. The sheets are locked but can be opened without password. Please ensure you do **not move** cells and lock the sheet again.

The rules and logsheet are on the IARU website but a bit hard to find, therefore I give you the link: <http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php/vhfuhsshf/1418-atv-news>
Results from last year: <http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php/vhfuhsshf/1455-atv>

If you do not have an ATV station but you have SDRsharp running with (for example) an RTLstick: you can easily receive ATV signals in the 70 cm and 23 cm band by using TVsharp. No additional installation, just run TVsharp.exe instead of SDRsharp.exe. (It is AM but you can detect FM with it). Link for direct download of TVsharp: <http://pi6ats.nl/tv.zip>

Hopefully you could pay attention to it on your website and/or local infrastructure. ATV could stimulate activity and interest in frequencies VHF-and-above so lets give it a try!

Best regards,
Chris PA3CRX

Use of the IARU R1 C5 Wiki

This Wiki can be a good tool for discussing and preparing our meeting in Vienna and future conferences. There are some improvements on the interface. Now you can reset you password, if you forgot it. If you have no login and you want to participate to the discussions on the Wiki, please write a mail to ON4AVJ@uba.be.

Useful Information

Website:	http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php/vhfuhsshf
Handbook:	http://iaru-r1.org/index.php/documents/Documents/Newsletters/VHF-Newsletters/VHF-handbook-Vers-7.0/
Newsletters:	http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php/documents/Documents/Newsletters/VHF-Newsletters/
Wiki	http://iaruwiki.oevsv.at
Contest robot	http://iaru.oevsv.at/v_upld/prg_list.php