



# International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

## 2020 General Conference – Virtual Part

**11-16 October 2020**

<b>Subject</b>	Conference Report of the 25 <sup>th</sup> IARU Region 1 General Conference		
<b>Society</b>	IARU Region 1	<b>Country:</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Plenary	<b>Paper number:</b>	NS20_ConfRep
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### 1. 25<sup>th</sup> IARU Region 1 General Conference

The 25<sup>th</sup> IARU Region 1 General Conference was held as virtual conference from 10 to 16 October 2020.

### 2. Participants

The following Member Societies attended the meeting: AGRA, ARABIH, ARAC, ARAI, ARAS, ARAT, ARI, ARRAME, BFRA, CARS, CRC, DARC, EDR, ERASD, FRR, HRS, IRA, IRTS, KARS, LRMD, MRASZ, NRRL, OeVSV, PZK, REF, REP, RL, RSGB, RSM, SARA Seychelles, SARA Slovakia, SARL, SARS, SHRAK, SRAL, SRR, SRS, SSA, UBA, URA, URE, USKA and VERON. Represented by proxy were NARL, IARS and RAAG. RAL attended as observer. The List of Participants can be found in Annex 3.

### 3. First Plenary

- 3.1 On 10 October 2020 07:00 UTC IARU Region 1 President Don Beattie G3BJ welcomed the participants. G3BJ's opening address can be found in Annex 1
- 3.2 The meeting observed two minutes of silence to remember those well-known radio amateurs who have left us since the last Conference. The list of silent keys include H.M. Sultan Qaboos Bin Said A41AA, Dr. Jürgen Röttger DJ3KR, Ulrich Bihlmayer DJ9KR, Hanspeter Kuhlen DK1YQ, Mustapha Landulsi DL1BDF, Seán Nolan EI7CD, Prof. Les Barclay OBE G3HTF, Gordon Adams G3LEQ, George Dobbs G3RJV, Mario Ambrosi I2MQP, Jerzy Jakubowski SP7CBG, Larry E Price, Ph.D W4RA, Paul Rinaldo W4RI, Owen Garriott W5LFL, Mirko S. Mandrino YT7MM-YT7NQM, Krešimir Kovarik 9A5K, H.H Sheikh Sabah Alahmad Alsabah 9K2AF
- 3.3 IARU President Tim Ellam VE6SH then formally opened the Conference. The text of his speech can be found in Annex 2.
- 3.4 G3BJ thanked VE6SH for his words of encouragement and challenge commenting that Tim's focus on "change" in his address made the deferral of the in-person Workshop, which had been scheduled for the 2020 conference, all the more unfortunate.

### 4. Formal business

The meeting returned to the formal business of the opening plenary.

- 4.1 Recognition awards would be awarded at the in-person event next year. As a consequence the G2BVN Memorial Award Committee will be set up at that event.
- 4.2 Similarly we normally need an election an ballot committee principally for the election of the EC and for any secret ballots that are taken in conference. As the VGC would use a high security electronic voting system for the conference, the EBC was not needed, but would be needed for the in-person event the following year.
- 4.3 Normally Conference would appoint the Chair of Committee C2 – Credentials and Finance Committee at the Opening Plenary. However, as it was only intended to set an interim budget for 2021 year, through to the in-person event next year – and the credentials part of the C2 work was scheduled for before the start of the Conference, Member Societies had agreed that Joerg Jaehrig, DJ3HW should chair the C2

meetings for the VGC only. For the in-person event, candidates would be sought for C2 chair.

4.4 DJ3HW Chair of C2 presented his report that listed those member societies participating in the VGC and are entitled to vote. See document NS20\_PLIC\_01. A proxy from QARS received after the deadline of 24 hours before the start of the conference could not be accepted as it was both late and used the incorrect format. The report from Committee C2 was accepted. G3BJ thanked DJ3HW and his committee for its work. There were therefore 50 Member Societies registered for the Conference and three by proxy. This would allow Conference to agree changes to the bye-laws, but not to the Constitution, Any proposed changes to the constitution would need to be put to a postal vote of Member Societies

4.5 The meeting approved by assent Don Beattie G3BJ as Chairman of Committee C3

4.6 Finally, G3BJ gave an outline of the following six days: The program would mirror closely a normal general conference with stream meetings for

- C2 – the Credential and Finance Committee
- C3 – the general administrative and organisational committee,
- C4 – the permanent HF Committee
- C5 – the permanent VHF/UHF/Microwaves Committee
- C7 - the permanent EMC Committee.

It was stressed that delegates should regularly review the content of the Committee folders headed “Prepared in Conference” to ensure they reviewed the minutes and recommendations prior to the next meeting of each committee. At the start of each committee meeting, the minutes from the previous meeting would be approved – and also at the end of the last meeting. The work of all those Committees would be presented to the final plenary on Friday and those consolidated recommendations

## 5. Closure of the first Plenary

The Opening Plenary was closed at 07:44 UTC.

## 6 Conference

The Conference then continued with a series of Conference Committee meetings over five days, in areas of Credentials and Finance (C2), Administration and Organisation matters (C3), HF matters (C4), VHF+ matters (C5), EMC matters (C7) together with meetings of the Political Relations Committee, Spectrum and Regulatory Affairs Committee and Youth Working Group.

## 7 Final Plenary

The final plenary took place on 16 October and started at 07:00 UTC

### 7.1 To approve the minutes of the first plenary meeting.

Proposed by NARL and seconded by CRC. The minutes of the first plenary as in Document NS20\_PLIC\_02 were approved with 36 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

OeVSV expressed concerns about the transparency of the secret ballot voting system. The Chairman responded that the voting system was provided for in the Constitution and at his request, for the avoidance of doubt, sufficient Member societies indicated their support for it to be adopted.

### 7.2 To receive a report from the Committee C2 Chairman and to consider the recommendations from Committee C2.

Documents NS20\_PLIC\_08 and NS\_PLIC\_14

#### a. Recommendation NS20\_C2\_Rec\_01. document NS20\_C4IC\_01.

**To allocate an amount of CHF 1070 (one-time amount) plus CHF 500 on an annual basis for development and maintenance of the IARU MS database application.**

The recommendation was carried with 31 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions

#### b. Recommendation NS20\_C2\_Rec\_02. Document NS20\_C5\_28.

**To allocate an amount of CHF 4350 (one time amount) for already planned and future changes to the contest robot (VHF/UHF/MW Committee) on the express condition that PE1ITR will act as sole Point of Contact to Indiware.**

The recommendation was carried with 30 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions

**c. Recommendation NS20\_C2\_Rec\_03.**

**To discuss a possible increase of the membership fee in accordance with LA17\_C2\_Rec\_02 at the 2021 Workshop when the budget for 2022-23 is determined.**

The recommendation was carried with 30 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention

**d. Recommendation NS20\_C2\_Rec\_04. Document NS20\_PLIC\_08A\_V2**

**To accept the proposed budget for 2021 as presented in document Consolidated draft budget figures for 2021**

The recommendation was carried with 31 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention

7.3 To receive a report from the Committee C3 Chairman and to consider the recommendations from Committee C3.

Documents NS20\_PLIC\_16 and NS20\_PLIC\_13

**a. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_01**

**That the constitutional changes as in Revised document NS20\_C3\_03 and 04 be accepted and that they will be put to Member societies for a postal ballot. These correct minor errors in the current Constitution, introduce gender neutrality and provide for calling a Virtual General Conference**

The recommendation was carried with 34 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**b. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_02**

**That Document NS20\_C3\_27A as amended, to simplify the presentation of still relevant standing recommendations be accepted**

The recommendation was carried with 36 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**c. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_03**

**That Document NS20\_C3\_31, containing minor changes to ToR for WG chairs and coordinators be accepted**

The recommendation was carried with 36 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstentions

**d. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_04**

**That Document NS20\_C3\_14 as amended, to make more extensive use of SMART goals and objectives be accepted and to form a 'Delivery Team' for those areas within the remit of C3-General proposals.**

The recommendation was carried with 34 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions

**e. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_05**

**That Document NS20\_C3\_05 will serve as a basis for the 2021 Workshop**

The recommendation was carried with 37 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions

**f. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_06**

**To continue the initiative within IARU Region 1 to get Morse code on different national lists of heritage and to build an action group. Committee C3 notes the creation of a C4 working group and recommends to final plenary that the responsibility for pursuing this initiative should be transferred to the societies taking part in the C4 Working Group and the C4 Chair. It is recommended to suppress Recommendation LA17\_C3\_Rec\_28**

The recommendation was carried with 38 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions

**g. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_07**

**To create a Technology Working Group as proposed in document NS20\_C3\_20\_V2. F5DJL assisted by G3YSX, HB9AMC, OE3MZC, OK7PM, ON5OO, OZ4VW, YT9TP and ZS6AKV will scope the work, set the boundaries and draft the Terms of Reference. F5DJL will report back before 31 December 2020, after which the TWG will be created.**

The recommendation was carried with 36 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention

**h. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_08**

**That the provisions of IARU Resolution 18-1 (concerning methods of confirming (QSLing) radio contacts (QSOs)) be drawn to the attention of Member societies and that Member societies be asked to adhere to the terms of this resolution. See document NS20\_C3\_13**

The recommendation was carried with 36 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions

**i. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_09**

**That the recommendation from the 2014 Region 1 Conference to appoint a Regional AROS Co-ordinator be suppressed. See document NS20\_PLIC\_16**

The recommendation proposed by NARL and seconded by ARAS was carried with 38 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**j. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_10**

**To suppress Recommendation LA17\_C3\_Rec\_27, to lobby Region 1 RTOs and administrations to introduce an Entry Level Amateur Licence. See document NS20\_PLIC\_16**

The recommendation proposed by IRTS and seconded by PZK was carried with 34 in favour, 0 against, 4 abstentions

**k. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec\_11**

**That the EC in absence of a volunteer, will try to identify a chair for the task group that makes an 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 as set out in Recommendation LA17\_C3\_Rec\_31**

The recommendation proposed by UBA and seconded by NARL was carried with 38 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**l. Recommendation NS20\_C3\_Rec 12**

**That the name of the IARU Region 1 ARDF Championships be changed to IARU Region 1 European OPEN championships. Reference Document NS20\_C3\_12**

The recommendation proposed by CRC and seconded by SARA Seychelles was rejected with 9 in favour, 21 against, 9 abstentions

**m. Recommendation NS20\_Youth\_Rec\_01**

**That Member societies invite young non-members to their national and local youth amateur radio events in order to attract newcomers to amateur radio and possible new members for the Member society.**

**Reference document NS20\_PLIC\_01**

The recommendation proposed by SARL and seconded by SSA was carried with 37 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**n. Recommendation NS20\_Youth\_Rec\_02**

**That Member societies that do not yet have a Youth Coordinator are urged to appoint a Youth Coordinator before the end Q1 2021.**

**Reference document NS20\_PLIC\_01**

The recommendation proposed by SSA and seconded by NRRL was carried with 38 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstentions

7.4 To receive a report from the Committee C4 Chairman and to consider the recommendations from Committee C4.

Documents NS20\_PLIC\_09 and NS20\_PLIC\_10\_V2



**a. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_01. Document NS20\_C4\_02**

**That the IARU Monitoring System Database application be approved.**

The recommendation proposed by RL and seconded by CRC was carried with 35 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**b. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_04. Document NS20\_C4\_12**

**That the 6 kHz maximum bandwidth restriction in the IARU Region 1 10 metre band plan be removed in the segment from 29000 - 29510 kHz, noting that any experimental wide bandwidth operation must be on a non-interference basis to other stations, including the amateur satellite service segment at 29300 - 29510 kHz.**

The recommendation proposed by RSGB and seconded by CARS was carried with 37 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**c. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_05 Document NS20\_C4\_15**

**That IARU Region 1 (C4) creates a simple one-page HF band plan graphic for use by Member societies.**

The recommendation proposed by NRRL and seconded by CRC was carried with 36 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**d. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_06. Document NS20\_C4\_11**

**That IARU Region 1 continues its work with Regions 2 and 3 to share band planning discussions and information with a goal to align HF band plans across all regions as far as possible.**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by RL was carried with 39 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**e. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_07. Ratification of VIE19\_C4\_REC\_02**

**That the phrase “It is recommended that HF Beacons between 1.8 MHz and 10.15 MHz be discouraged, noting that beacons may be established on the 1.8, 3.5 and 7 MHz band in the regions of Africa south of the Equator. (REC/99/LH/C4.1)” replace the existing text within the HF Manager’s Handbook.**

The recommendation proposed by IRTS and seconded by UBA was carried with 39 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**f. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_08. Ratification of VIE19\_C4\_REC\_03**

**To support global frequency harmonisation, and given the outcome of the IARU Region 3 General Conference, it is proposed that the 21.125-21.450 MHz frequency band be designated for use by amateur satellites on a non-exclusive basis, noting that frequencies above 21.4 MHz are clearly preferred.**

The recommendation proposed by RSGB and seconded by RL was carried with 36 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**g. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_09. Ratification of VIE19\_C4\_REC\_04**

**It is recommended that operators do not use more power than is necessary when using digital modes, and that care is taken to ensure sound cards, interfaces, and other equipment are properly set up so as to minimise the potential for interference.**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by URA was carried with 38 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**h. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_10. Ratification of VIE19\_C4\_REC\_05 CW**

**It is recommended that segments of the HF bands continue to be reserved for CW exclusive operation where appropriate.**

The recommendation proposed by DARC and seconded by SSA was carried with 38 in favour, 1 against, 0 abstentions

**i. Recommendation NS20\_C4\_Rec\_11. Ratification of VIE19\_C4\_REC\_07**

**That IARU Region 1 recognises that a network of KiwiSDR receivers in strategic locations is a valuable tool for IARU Member Societies' work due to the TDoA ability and encourages Member societies to help build out the network.**

The recommendation proposed by SARS and seconded by SSA was carried with 37 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

[7.5 To receive a report from the Committee C5 Chairman and to consider the recommendations from Committee C5.](#)

Documents NS20\_PLIC\_12, NS20\_PLIC, NS20\_PLIC\_06\_V2 and NS20\_PLIC\_17 C5

**a. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_01**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_15 on important actions related to the 23 cm band at WRC-23 to be taken by MS, be accepted.**

The recommendation proposed by RSGB and seconded by DARC was carried with 36 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**b. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_03. Document NS20\_C5\_06 Rev1**

**That the recommendations made during the interim meeting in Vienna 2019 and that were endorsed by the EC, be approved.**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by RL was carried with 38 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**c. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_04**

**That document NS20\_C5\_23, the use of IT technology in contests such as KST chat, databases etc. be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by MRASZ and seconded by PZK was carried with 33 in favour, 2 against, 3 abstentions

**d. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_05**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_24, shorter time for submitting logs for those stations who wants to win, be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by ARI and seconded by REF was carried with 28 in favour, 3 against, 6 abstentions

**e. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_06**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_08, 50 and 70MHz contests to be held on separate dates, be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by CRC and seconded by PZK was carried with 34 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**f. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_07. Documents NS20\_C5\_25 and NS20\_PLIC17**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_25 (as amended) for 50 & 70 MHz contests be accepted (MGM and CW/SSB to be held on different dates for each – No Mixed mode)**

The recommendation proposed by OeVSV and seconded by CARS was carried with 34 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions

**g. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_08**

Document NS20\_C5\_20 was withdrawn by EDR

**h. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_09**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_21, digital activity contest scheduling, be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by EDR was carried with 33 in favour, 0 against, 3 abstentions

**i. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_10**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_26, IARU Region-1 VHF & Up trophy, be accepted and that the CWG will define the initial rules and to agree on the rules by the end of 2020**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by RL was carried with 31 in favour, 0 against, 8 abstentions

**j. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_11**

**To encourage multinational amateur radio interest groups to promote and document their innovations for the sake of radio amateur activities through IARU (R1). Their experience and know-how can be an added value for the amateur community and IARU Member societies.**

**This would not impact the way in which proposals are presented to the Region for General Conferences.**

**This initiative should also be taken into account in framing the Terms of Reference for the proposed TWG**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by RSGB was carried with 34 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions

**k. Recommendation Rec NS20\_C5\_Rec\_12**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C5\_28\_rev, further development of the contest robot, be accepted.**

The recommendation proposed by VERON and seconded by SARA Slovakia was carried with 33 in favour, 0 against, 2 abstentions

**l. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_13**

**That the recommendation in paper NS20\_C4\_16 on wide band experimentation be accepted.**

The recommendation proposed by OeVSV and seconded by SRS was carried with 26 in favour, 5 against, 7 abstentions

**m. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_14**

**That the VHF band plan updates in paper NS20\_C5\_18 be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by RSGB was carried with 35 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**n. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_15**

**That the UHF band plan updates in paper NS20\_C5\_17 be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by RSGB and seconded by PZK was carried with 35 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

**o. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_16**

**That the MW band plan updates with exception of the proposed 23 cm change in paper NS20\_C5\_16 be accepted.**

The recommendation proposed by SARL and seconded by NARL was carried with 28 in favour, 7 against, 4 abstentions

**p. Recommendation NS20\_C5\_Rec\_17**

**That the recommendation, innovative data & ATV in 50 MHz, in paper NS20\_C5\_19 be accepted**

The recommendation proposed by RSGB and seconded by REF was carried with 33 in favour, 5 against, 1 abstention

7.6 To receive a report from the Committee C7 Chairman and to consider the recommendations from Committee C7.

Documents NS20\_PLIC\_15 and NS20\_PLIC\_07\_V2

**a. Recommendation NS20\_C7\_Rec\_01. Documents NS20\_C7\_02 and C7\_03**

**That the Noise Measurement Campaign should continue, and the Noise Measurement Campaign Sub-Working Group should seek to enlist help in areas where further assistance is required.**

The recommendation proposed by SARL and seconded by NARL was carried with 37 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**b. Recommendation NS20\_C7\_Rec\_02. Documents NS20\_C7\_07 and 07**

**That Member societies at the VGC consider the content of this paper and agree actions to raise awareness amongst national administrations and NSOs of the risk of WPT-EV to radio communications.**

The recommendation proposed by REF and seconded by NRRL was carried with 38 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**c. Recommendation NS20\_C7\_Rec\_03. Document NS20\_C7\_05**

**It is recommended that all Member societies build up a good working relationship with their National Standards Committees, preferably becoming a member of the Committee.**

The recommendation proposed by PZK and seconded by SRAL was carried with 36 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

7.7 To receive and consider the report of the joint SRLC and PRC meeting.

Document NS20\_PRC-SRLCIC-01\_V2

The report was noted with great interest

7.8 To receive and consider the report of the Youth Working Group meeting.

Document NS20\_PLIC\_04

The report was noted with great interest

7.9 To receive and consider proposals for Chairs and Coordinators to serve for the next three years.

Document NS20\_PLIC\_03

**a. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_01 to appoint Barry Lewis G4SJH as Chair of the SRLC**

Proposed by RSGB and seconded by RL, G4SJH was elected with 37 in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions

**b. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_02 to appoint Dick Harms PA2DW as Chair of the VHF/UHF/MW Committee**

Proposed by VERON and seconded by UBA, PA2DW was elected with 36 in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions

**c. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_03 to appoint Wolfgang Mahr OE1MHZ as Chair of the EMC Committee**

Proposed by OeVSV and seconded by NRRL OE1MHZ was elected with 37 in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions

**d. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_04 to appoint Philipp Springer DK6SP as Youth WG Chair**

Proposed by ARI and seconded by REF DK6SP was elected with 36 in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions

**e. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_05 to appoint Gaspar Miró EA6AMM as IARU Monitoring Service Coordinator**



Proposed by URE and seconded by URA EA6AMM was elected with 37 in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions

**f. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_06 to re-appoint the following officials for a new three- year term**

With 37 in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions the following officials were re-appointed

- HF Committee Tom Kamp, DF5JL
- PR Committee Séamus McCague, EI8BP
- STARS WG (until GC2021) Hans Welens, ON6WQ
- ARDF WG Jiří Mareček, OK2BWN
- HST WG Oliver Tabakovski, Z32TO
- RA Coordinator Peter Frey, HB9MQM
- ARSPEX Coordinator Stefan Dombrowski, ON6TI
- Emcomm Coordinator Greg Mossop, G0DUB
- Satellite Coordinator Graham Shirville, G3VZV
- HF Beacon Coordinator Dennis Green, ZS4BS
- V/U/M beacon Coordinator Mathias Klug, DH4FAJ
- IPDA Coordinator Thomas Huber, HB9FXU

**g. Recommendation NS20\_PL\_07 to rename the Information Programme for Handicapped Radio Amateurs (IPHA) to Information Programme for Disabled Radio Amateurs (IPDA)**

The recommendation was accepted with 38 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions

[7.10 To briefly review the experience of the first Virtual General Conference](#)

The meeting agreed that the VGC was successful. There was then a short discussion about experiences of the VGC. It was agreed that it offers opportunities for smaller

Member societies to participate in the work of IARU. Participants were invited to participate in a web-based survey. The results will be published on our website

#### 7.11 To close the Virtual General Conference 2020

The IARU Region 1 President closed the meeting with the following words:

“Now we have completed the election process I just want to say a few words, particularly to those people who are retiring from their roles in IARU Region 1. We all know that finding capable volunteers is an increasing challenge and I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to everyone who has held a voluntary role over the last three years. I'm personally delighted that so many of our volunteer chairs and coordinators have agreed to continue for another three years but I also recognise that those who are retiring feel that it is time for a change.

So we wish those who are leaving their roles – Tore, Jacques, Dave, Lisa and Peter the very best for the future and I hope that you will be able to continue to support IARU Region 1 into the future.

We hope that you will be able to join us at our workshop next year where we will be able to recognise the work you have done here in IARU in person. In the meantime, thank you very much indeed.

At the same time, I extend a very warm welcome to those taking up new appointments. I look forward to working with you and wish you every success in your new roles.

So that brings us to the last item on our agenda. This Virtual Conference has been a first for us all in IARU. I am very interested to get lots of feedback on your experience of working in the virtual world over the last few days. As you all know we have mailed a web link to a survey to everyone who has been at the conference and I encourage everyone to complete it as quickly as possible. It will only be available until Sunday.

The results will give us a statistical profile of the views you have of the virtual general conference. In the next few minutes we have the opportunity for people to express more qualitative views about the event. But first let me say a few words.

A few words now about this particular conference. Some say that the VGC lacks personal interaction. I am afraid that is inevitable. But it represented the only way we could get together at this time, requiring no travel and no social inter-mingling. It also, incidentally, saved us, collectively about CHF 200,000.

Remote conferencing technology is maturing and improving all the time and I feel we must ask ourselves how we use the experiences of the VGC and the technology we have used to work better into the future.

We must always remember that our conferences are contribution driven. Your contributions. We meet to discuss the issues that Member societies feel are important. On the EC, we see the need to raise our game in Region 1 and work more closely together on shaping amateur radio for the future and that is why we proposed a different approach to our conference this year – a proposal that you all readily accepted but which we have been prevented from doing by COVID.

In a fast-changing world, there is a saying in the business world that **no risk + no change = no business**. If we, in amateur radio, do not adapt to the changing environment, we will go the same way as the dinosaurs. That does not mean that we stop doing what we do today. Far from it. But we need to reach out to the new generation of those who may be attracted to amateur radio, welcome them and learn from them. Yesterdays' ways are not the ways of tomorrow and that is where we need to understand how the world is changing.

We had hoped to hold the workshop about change and the future this week and I feel that taking this out of this conference has left us with rather a dry and uninspiring agenda this week. In my view, we need to find better ways of handling many of the issues we have spent time discussing this week, and free up our valuable meeting time to discuss the survival issues for amateur radio. Had we held

this event in-person, would that really have been a good use of that CHF 200k I mentioned? I suspect not really.

We need to start the process of change and adaptation and we can only do that jointly – IARU does not have all the answers. So, I encourage all of you to think about the world of amateur radio today and what attracts the 21<sup>st</sup> century radio amateur to our world. It is often something very different from what attracted us to the hobby. Looking at our own Member societies, what they offer to the newcomer and how that needs to change is a part of the change process for us all – just as it is for IARU itself.

I want to lay down a challenge to you all. Please, if you have not done so already, will you ensure you create a focus in **your** society for tomorrow? For tomorrow's people, tomorrow's technologies, tomorrow's activities and tomorrow's ways of communicating with those you represent and the broader amateur radio world in your country. Speak to your younger or newer people and listen to what they say. Some tell us they are afraid to speak up – encourage them to be open and honest about what they see – and be prepared for some criticism. But use that criticism positively and help reshape your society and what it offers.”

“Now we come to the close of our meeting. As we do, I want to thank a few other people. Firstly, any event like this relies on a team of people to make it happen.

We are all deeply grateful to the secretaries of the streams – Ian, Dick and Hilary for their work in providing the record of the meetings and succinct recommendations.

But of course the person who holds it together administratively is the Conference Secretary and I want to say a special thank you to Hans for all his work and support in what has been a busy few months preparing for the VGC.

And finally, I am deeply indebted to Chris Deacon who is working with us on the workshop next year. Chris has a lot of experience of running workshops on strategic transformation and we are very fortunate to have his involvement

Now, it is over. We can, for a day or two, relax and recover. But then it's back to IARU reality.

So, with that, I plan to close the meeting and in doing so I hope you and your families stay safe in these uncertain times. I hope and pray that we will be able to meet in person next year and I know Chris Deacon, our consultant is looking forward to the challenge of the workshop.

Thank you for participating in the Virtual Conference and my very best wishes for the future.

## **Annex 1 Opening address by IARU Region 1 President Don Beattie G3BJ**

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the 25th IARU Region 1 General Conference.

We live in uncertain times. The COVID pandemic has ripped through human society, causing economic hardship, illness and death. Let us all hope that before long, things will change for the better and our lives will return to a more normal state. I hope you and your families remain safe and secure.

Meantime, we must find different ways of conducting our business and living our lives. And so we find ourselves here in the virtual world, at our first Virtual General Conference. This will be a very different General Conference, as we will all miss the social interaction which is such an important part of our normal conferences. But with the support of everyone, I hope that we can, in the next six days, complete our work and carry the work of IARU and its member societies forward until the in-person event we all hope will take place next year.

We have a total of 87 papers to consider and over 200 delegates and observers are registered for the event. This is the largest number of people I can remember for quite some time and reflects, of course, the opportunities that virtual working offers. But it also presents us all with a challenge.

I want every delegate to feel that the conference has been a good use of his or her time – and yet the conference will need to proceed at some speed if we are to cover our agenda in the allotted time.

At this stage I must express my thanks to the Executive Committee of Region 1 and those who have worked very hard to develop the foundations for the VGC. A lot of work has been done to ensure that the experience is a rewarding one for delegates and with all your help, we will deliver a good experience. As I know only too well, much of the load of the Conference falls on the Conference Secretary, so thank you, Hans, for pulling it all together.

I would also like to thank our Serbian Society, SRS, for their understanding when we decided to postpone the in-person event which should have been starting today. It was the clear view of Member Societies that it would be unwise to try to meet this month, and so it has proved. We still hope to be in Novi Sad next year, and I am deeply grateful to SRS for its support and understanding about the rescheduling.

You will understand that for this virtual conference, we do not have the traditional range of opening speakers, and so the opening ceremony will be relatively short. However, we are delighted to have the President of IARU, Tim Ellam, who will speak to us shortly.

But before I invite Tim to address you, I must pause on a sombre note, for us to remember those well-known radio amateurs who have left us since the last Conference.

Let us take two minutes silence to remember them.

Thank you. And now we continue with the opening ceremony, and it is my pleasure to invite the global President of IARU, Tim Ellam, VE6SH, to address the plenary. Tim – a very warm welcome.

## **Annex 2 Opening address by IARU President Tim Ellam VE6SH**

Honourable Guests , Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good morning.

I am delighted to see many of you again albeit virtually. I hope that you have all remained safe and healthy during current world events.

It also gives me great pleasure to bring greetings from the IARU International Secretariat and your officers Vice President Ole Garpestad LA2RR and Secretary Dave Sumner K1ZZ.

I would say that one would have not imagined that we would holding a regional conference by virtual means, but I would wager we are getting used it by now. I think it speaks highly of all of us how quickly we have been able to adapt to virtual meetings and to move a lot of our business on line.

While holding a virtual meeting is not without its challenges I also think it bring an excellent opportunity to have more of our member-societies, more of our delegates and more radio amateurs and guest participate in our discussions. Attendance at in person meetings was a financial challenge for many of our members. We now have an opportunity to include more input into our discussions and participation from societies that might not otherwise attend the conference. I would wager that going forward many of our conferences and meetings will continue to be virtual, or at least a hybrid of virtual and in person attendance.

All of the officers are pleased to be attending as observers at this conference and look forward to participating in the discussions this week.

I am also very pleased to be able to address you today and to deliver some remarks at the opening of this conference.

*Colleagues, "Amateur Radio has changed and will continue to change. The IARU and its member-societies must be ready to adapt and respond to that change"*

I have said those words in my opening remarks to IARU regional conferences since I became president in 2009. Everyone seemingly agrees with my comments about "change", but it is only recently that our changing environment has required IARU to focus on altering the way we work. Clearly the fact that this meeting is being held virtually gives us the opportunity to recognize changes have to be made if IARU is going to be able to continue its good work in the future.

While I firmly believed we have made the IARU more cohesive and adaptable we still need to do more. Much more.



We are facing a generational and technical change in the amateur population. Such generational changes are not always reflected in our member-societies or indeed the IARU.

We witness technical changes in the Amateur Services, but are often slow in adopting such changes or accepting those changes may not be what amateur radio means to us, but they are for many newer amateurs (the popularity of FT8 is but one example).

There are many additional organizations outside our member-societies which attract amateurs (and in some cases a very healthy number of members) sometimes to the detriment of our own societies. Some are focused on operating and others on technical achievement. We must adapt and consider how we can bring these organizations into our work. We can no longer ignore other groups which are attractive to the newer generation of amateurs.

In short, we cannot simply espouse the benefits of being a member of a IARU member society to today's amateurs. We need to respond and adapt to what they see as the benefit of amateur radio in order to ensure IARU remains healthy and relevant in the future.

I would urge you to consider how we can keep the core goals of the IARU and at the same time letting go of some things that we hold dear.

Will we really need a QSL Bureau system in the future for paper cards? Will that be attractive to a new generation of amateurs? We know the bureau system is major financial burden for some societies. The pandemic has suspended mail to service between many countries. Consider whether it will ever come back. Should we not be encouraging electronic QSLing in some form?

Spectrum sharing, especially in the VHF plus range, will become necessary in the future and something IARU is working on to have a coordinated worldwide response to what portions of the spectrum we can either share or possibly trade for additional spectrum. We can no longer ignore the changing view by many regulators that spectrum must be shared where it is feasible. That will become a reality we need to prepare for now and manage the expectations of our members.

I acknowledge change is not easy and implementation of changes are often far from perfect. But, we must embrace change to continue to effectively advocate for the Amateur Service. Mr. President I think I should stop there. I am not trying to generate controversy, but to stimulate discussion.

I am also pleased Region 1 has taken the lead on driving us forward. With the assistance of our member-societies and the IARU regional organizations I am confident that we will be able to adapt to change, both now and in the future. The workshop in 2021 will be an important opportunity for Region 1 to review its strategies for the future and the implications for Member Societies and IARU.

Thank you for allowing me some opening comments. I extend my personal support and good wishes for what I believe will be a very good conference.

Thank you.

### Annex 3 List of Participants

country	MS	first	name	callsign
Gabon	AGRA	Romuald	Nang Otogo	TR8NOR
Algeria	ARA	Afif	Ben Lagha	7X2RO
Algeria	ARA	Brahim	Mohammed	7X3TK
Bosnia and Herzegovina	ARABIH	Darko	Rusman	E70A
Bosnia and Herzegovina	ARABIH	Svetozar Sasha	Lisul	E74SL
DR Congo	ARAC	Cyprien	Kahundira	9Q1KS
DR Congo	ARAC	Robert	Ekaya	9Q1RE
Cote d'Ivoire	ARAI	Jean-Jacques	Niava	TU2OP
Senegal	ARAS	Tafa	Diop	6W1KI
Senegal	ARAS	Jul	Dialo	6W1QL
Senegal	ARAS	Maty Elisabeth	Dat	6W1SV
Senegal	ARAS	Mouhamadou	Ly	6W1TC
Senegal	ARAS	Ousseynou	Gueye	6W1PZ
Tunisia	ARAT	Ashraf	Chaabane	3V/KF5EYY
Tunisia	ARAT	Ali	Abdelhedi	3V1E
Italy	ARI	Saverio	Amore	IK2RLS
Italy	ARI	Mauro	Pregliasco	I1JQJ
Italy	ARI	Casari	Stefano	IK2HKT
Italy	ARI	De Paolis	Francesco	IK0WGF
Monaco	ARM	Robert	Scarlot	3A2CR
Monaco	ARM	Claude	Passet	3A2LF
Morocco	ARRAM	Hassan	Nacer	CN8HAN
Bulgaria	BFRA	Panayot	Danev	LZ1US
Cyprus	CARS	Nestor	Jacovides	5B4AHZ
Cyprus	CARS	Spyros	Stavrinides	5B4MF
Czech Republic	CRC	Jiří	Šanda	OK1RI
Czech Republic	CRC	Jan	Karel	OK1VAO
Czech Republic	CRC	Martin	Cerny	OK1VHB
Czech Republic	CRC	Martina	Kašpárková	OK2YLQ
Germany	DARC	Christian	Entsfellner	DL3MBG
Germany	DARC	Kai	Pastor	DG0YT
Germany	DARC	Christian	Reiber	DL8MDW
Germany	DARC	Fabian	Kurz	DJ1YFK
Germany	DARC	Jann	Traschewski	DG8NGN
Germany	DARC	Klaus	Eichel	DL6SES
Germany	DARC	Andreas	Imse	DJ5AR
Germany	DARC	Matthias		DK4FZ
Denmark	EDR	Arne	Fast Hansen	OZ4VW
Denmark	EDR	Verner	Topsoe	OZ5TG
Egypt	ERASD	Tarek	Abdela	SU2TA
Romania	FRR	Dan Lucian	Rabinca	YO9FNP

Croatia	HRS	Zeljko	Pilat	9A2R
Croatia	HRS	Zlatko	Maticic	9A2EU
Croatia	HRS	Zeljko	Drazic-Karalic	9A5R
Croatia	HRS	Nikola	Perčin	9A5W
Croatia	HRS	Zeljko	Ulip	9A2EY
Croatia	HRS	Marija	Soric	9A6PAX
Croatia	HRS	Mihaela	Šišul	9A3WW
Iraq	IARS	Ahmad	AlHoli	9K2DB-IARS
Iceland	IRA	Kristján	Benediktsson	TF3KB
Ireland	IRTS	Jim	Holohan	EI4HH
Ireland	IRTS	Joe	Fadden	EI3IX
Ireland	IRTS	Liam	Mangan	EI4GB
Ireland	IRTS	Niall	Donohoe	EI6HIB
Kuwait	KARS	Ahmad	AlHoli	9K2DB
Lithuania	LRMD	Andrejus	Sarpilo	LY2HQ
Lithuania	LRMD	Oleg	Sokolov	LY3UE
Malta	MARL	Ivan	Privitera	9H1PI
Hungary	MRASZ	Gyula	Huller	HA2VR
Hungary	MRASZ	Jozsef	Devenyi	HA0LC
Hungary	MRASZ	Tamas	Varro	HA8RT
Hungary	MRASZ	Levente	Dudás	HA7WEN
Namibia	NARL	Rassie	Erasmus	ZS1YT
Norway	NRRL	Jan	Almedal	LB1G
Norway	NRRL	Tom V	Segalstad	LA4LN
Norway	NRRL	Hans	Utne	LA6IM
Norway	NRRL	Bjorn	Myrvold	LB7ZG
Austria	OeVSV	Mike	Zwingl	OE3MZC
Austria	OeVSV	Michael	Kastelic	OE1MCU
Austria	OeVSV	Dieter	Kritzer	OE8KDK
Austria	OeVSV	Wolfgang	Mahr	OE1MHZ
Austria	OeVSV	Romain	Kieffer	OE1RKS
Austria	OeVSV	Florian	Zwingl	OE3FTA
Poland	PZK	Paweł	Zakrzewski	SP7TEV
Poland	PZK	Tomasz	Ciepielowski	SP5CCC
Poland	PZK	Marek	Bury	SP1JNY
Poland	PZK	Marek	Kuliński	SP3AMO
Greece	RAAG	Tasos	Thomaidis	SV8YM
Greece	RAAG	Nestor	Jacovides	5B4AHZ-RAAG
Lebanon	RAL	Riri	Azrak	OD5RI
France	REF	Jean Louis	Truquet	F5DJL
France	REF	Philippe	Martin	F6ETI
France	REF	Jacques	Saget	F6BEE
Portugal	REP	Carlos	Nora	CT1END
Portugal	REP	José	Francisco	CT4AN
Luxembourg	RL	Mich	Friederich	LX1KQ

Luxembourg	RL	Armand	Erpelding	LX1MA
Luxembourg	RL	Thomas	Wrede	LX200
UK	RSGB	Dave	Wilson	M00BW
UK	RSGB	Stewart	Bryant	G3YSX
UK	RSGB	Murray	Niman	G6JYB
UK	RSGB	John	Regnault	G4SWX
UK	RSGB	Barry	Lewis	G4SJH
UK	RSGB	John	Rogers	M0JAV
UK	RSGB	David	Lauder	G0SNO
UK	RSGB	Rob	Evered	G2RE
North Macedonia	RSM	Todor	Todorovski	Z31RM
North Macedonia	RSM	Djoko	Djordjevic	Z35U
Slovakia	SARA	Roman	Kudlac	OM3EI
Seychelles	SARA	Richard	Perks	S79RP
Slovakia	SARA	Ondrej	Briatka	OM4DW
Slovakia	SARA	Rasto	Hrnko	OM3BH
South Africa	SARL	Nico	van Rensburg	ZS6QL
South Africa	SARL	Dennis	Green	ZS4BS
South Africa	SARL	Rassie	Erasmus	ZS1YT
South Africa	SARL	Nick	Dreyer	ZS1N
South Africa	SARL	Brian	Jacobs	ZS6YZ
South Africa	SARL	Phillip	van Tonder	ZS6PVT
South Africa	SARL	Hans	van de Groenendaal	ZS6AKV
South Africa	SARL	Anton	Janovsky	ZR6AIC
South Africa	SARL	Guy	Eales	ZS6GUY
South Africa	SARL	Koos	Fick	ZR6KF
South Africa	SARL	Dave	Higgs	ZS2DH
Saudi Arabia	SARS	Badr	Al Saud	HZ1BF
Saudi Arabia	SARS	Fahd	Almuhaitheef	7Z1FM
Saudi Arabia	SARS	Fahad	Alfrayan	HZ1FA
Saudi Arabia	SARS	Abdulrahman	Alshahrani	HZ1DG
Saudi Arabia	SARS	Sulaiman	Aljedaie	7Z1SJ
Saudi Arabia	SARS	Moteb	Alsaud	HZ1MF
Kosovo	SHRAK	Vjollca	Belegu-Caka	V61VB
Kosovo	SHRAK	Fehmi	Bojniku	Z62FB
Finland	SRAL	Markku	Toijala	OH2BQZ
Finland	SRAL	Jussi	Liukkonen	OH5LK
Finland	SRAL	Marko	Wirtanen	OH8WM
Russian Fed	SRR	Roman	Thomas	R5AA
Serbia	SRS	Stevan	Stepanov	YU3AA
Serbia	SRS	Vaso	Nastasić	YT5T
Serbia	SRS	Predrag	Supurović	YT9TP
Serbia	SRS	Slobodan	Stanković	YT2SS
Serbia	SRS	Aleksandar	Car	YT1TX

Serbia	SRS	Slobodan	Ivančević	YU1DK
Serbia	SRS	Zoran	Mladenović	YU1EW
Serbia	SRS	Dušan	Ćeha	YU1EA
Serbia	SRS	Ljubomir	Živković	YU5EEA
Serbia	SRS	Siniša	Radulović	YU1RA
Sweden	SSA	Anders	Larsson	SM6CNN
Sweden	SSA	Mats	Ericson	SM4EPR
Sweden	SSA	Kjell	Jarl	SM7GVF
Sweden	SSA	Petter	Gärdin	SM3PXO
Belgium	UBA	Claude	van Pottelsberghe de la Potterie	ON7TK
Belgium	UBA	Egbert	Hertsen	ON4CAS
Belgium	UBA	Karel	Cornelis	ON7TA
Belgium	UBA	Jacques	Debouche	ON5OO
Belgium	UBA	Rik	Strobbe	ON7YD
Belgium	UBA	Filip	Schollaert	ON4PC
Andorra	URA	Joan	Sauri	C31US
Spain	URE	Hierro	Jose Ramon	EA7X
Spain	URE	Gaspar	Miró	EA6AMM
Spain	URE	Chazarra	Juan Manuel	EA5RS
Spain	URE	Pedro	Fernandez Rey	EA1YO
Switzerland	USKA	Willi	Vollenweider	HB9AMC
Switzerland	USKA	Marco	Hardmeier	HB9OCR
Switzerland	USKA	Bernard	Wehrli	HB9ALH
Switzerland	USKA	Jean-Michel	Clerc	HB9DBB
Switzerland	USKA	Urs	Lott	HB9BKT
Netherlands	VERON	Remy	Denker	PA0AGF
Netherlands	VERON	Johan	Jongbloed	PA3JEM
Netherlands	VERON	Sjoerd	Ypma	PA0SHY
Netherlands	VERON	Rob	Hardenberg	PE1ITR
Netherlands	VERON	Jan	Janssen	PA0JMG
Netherlands	VERON	Sietse	Anema	PF2X
Slovenia	ZRS	Miha	Habic	S51FB
IARU	IS	Tim	Ellam	VE6SH
IARU	IS	Ole	Garpestad	LA2RR
IARU	IS	Dave	Sumner	K1ZZ
IARU	IS	Joel	Harrison	W5ZN
IARU	IS	Martin	Sach	G8KDF
IARU Region 1	R1	Don	Beattie	G3BJ
IARU Region 1	R1	Faisal	Al-Ajmi	9K2RR
IARU Region 1	R1	Hans	Blondeel Timmerman	PB2T
IARU Region 1	R1	Andreas	Thiemann	HB9JOE
IARU Region 1	R1	Alessandro	Carletti	IV3KKW
IARU Region 1	R1	Joerg	Jaehrig	DJ3HW
IARU Region 1	R1	Sylvain	Azarian	F4GKR
IARU Region 1	R1	Oliver	Tabakovski	Z32TO
IARU Region 1	R1	Mats	Espling	SM6EAN

IARU Region 1	R1	Tom	Kamp	DF5JL
IARU Region 1	R1	Jacques	Verleijen	ON4AVJ
IARU Region 1	R1	Tore A.	Worren	LA9QL
IARU Region 1	R1	Séamus	McCague	EI8BP
IARU Region 1	R1	David	Court	EI3IO
IARU Region 1	R1	Peter	Frey	HB9MQM
IARU Region 1	R1	Jiří	Mareček	OK2BWN
IARU Region 1	R1	Stefan	Dombrowski	ON6TI
IARU Region 1	R1	Peter	Jost	HB9CET
IARU Region 1	R1	Greg	Mossop	G0DUB
IARU Region 1	R1	Lisa	Leenders	PA2LS
IARU Region 1	R1	Graham	Shirville	G3VZV
IARU Region 1	R1	Dennis	Green	ZS4BS
IARU Region 1	R1	Mathias	Klug	DH4FAJ
IARU Region 1	R1	Hans	Welens	ON6WQ
IARU Region 1	R1	Hilary	Claytonsmith	G4JKS
IARU Region 1	R1	Ian	Greenshields	G4FSU
IARU Region 1	R1	Chris	Deacon	G4IFX
IARU Region 1	R1	Dick	Harms	PA2DW
IARU Region 1	R1	Philipp	Springer	DK6SP
IARU Region 1	R1	Claudia	Grosser	DC2CL
IARU Region 1	R1	Markus	Grosser	DL8GM
IARU Region 1	R1	Jamie	Williams	M0SDV
IARU Region 1	R1	Otava	Tuomi	OH3OT
IARU Region 1	R1	Monty	Schebesta	OE3VVU
IARU Region 1	R1	Pieter	Pieter Maes	ON1GPS
IARU Region 1	R1	Yentel	Yentel Hollebeke	ON3YH
IARU Region 1	R1	Gerrit	Herzig	DH8GHH
IARU Region 1	R1	Heinrich	Zwemstra	V51HZ
IARU Region 1	R1	Silvio	Gaggini	IZ5DIY
IARU Region 1	R1	Kati	Harjula	OH2FKX
IARU Region 2	R2	Ramón	Santoyo Vázquez	XE1KK
IARU Region 2	R2	Sterling	Mann	N0SSC
IARU Region 3	ARRL	Rod	Stafford	W6ROD
IARU Region 3	R3	Wisnu	Widjaja	YB0AZ
IARU Region 3	R3	Katsumi	Yamamoto	JA1CJP
IARU Region 3	R3	Peter	Young	VK3MV
IARU Region 3	R3	Don	Wallace	ZL2TLL