International Amateur Radio Union

Summary Meeting Report
CEPT CPG Meeting #8: 22 - 25 May 2023

The IARU Region 1 was represented in person by Barry Lewis (G4SJH – SRLC Chair and WRC-23 Al9.1b Lead) accompanied by Hans Blondeel Timmerman (PB2T - WRC-23 Al 9.1b CEPT co-coordinator).

Background

The R1 SRLC has a work item to follow and contribute to the CEPT WRC-23 preparations to support the WRC agenda items of interest to the IARU. (IARU positions can be found here). The CEPT Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) reviews and agrees the current status of the CEPT Briefs and European Common Positions (ECP’s) developed in the specific project teams (A, B, C, D and PT1). Participation is open to all CEPT administrations and Observer organisations.

The IARU has positions on and follows closely WRC-23 agenda items 1.2, 1.12, 1.14, 1.18, 8, 9.1a, 9.1b and 10. This meeting was particularly important for agenda item 9.1b on the 23cm band.

Contributions to the meeting

All the project teams provide reports and updates to the meeting for consideration on all the WRC agenda items that come within their responsibility. In addition observer organisations and others provide INFO docs that may need consideration, including updates to their WRC agenda item positions. There are no technical issues dealt with in this meeting.

The last PTC project team had developed two options for an ECP for agenda item 9.1b. One (supported by the IARU and a handful of administrations) proposed No Change (NOC) in the Radio Regulations and the other (also supported by several administrations) proposed to identify the ITU-R Recommendation (under development in ITU-R WP5A) in the Radio Regulations as a footnote. This is referred to as “incorporation by reference” and in effect would make the Recommendation mandatory to implement.

France provided a contribution to this meeting strongly in favour of the second option including a proposal to “To retain only the option of the draft ECP on WRC-23 agenda item 9.1.b that proposes the incorporation by reference of the Recommendation.”

IARU objectives

The CPG meeting provides an opportunity to have visibility of the developing CEPT views and positions on all the WRC agenda items under consideration in the project teams. In
particular the IARU participation focusses on the status of the work on the agenda items identified as a priority in the IARU WRC positions document.

**Meeting Activity**

**General Matters:**
A presentation from the ITU-R representative highlighted updates to the WRC-23 preparatory process. It was noted that the third Inter-Regional Workshop is planned for 27 – 29 September 2023.

**CPG PTC:**
For agenda item 9.1b – the proposal from France created a large amount of discussion amongst the administrations that took place both in the meeting and in the sidelines. Not all administrations supported the French proposal. It seemed to the IARU that this was the first time that many administrations had really taken any notice or interest in this agenda item.

It was also observed that the European Council is currently consulting on the final EU WRC Decision on this and other agenda items and it is likely there will be support for the “incorporation by reference”. This will effectively tie the hands of the 27 EU member states in CEPT and force this ECP through.

The draft ECP was updated to include the following note:
*“The incorporation by reference is under consideration by CEPT among other options. In the event that the content of the Recommendation is not acceptable by CEPT or the Recommendation does not become available, the fallback position will be NOC or a WRC Resolution”*

The fact that the Recommendation is not yet complete in ITU-R WP5A (see WP5A Report) could create some difficulty if it cannot be finalised at the next WP5A meeting in September. In this case there might be proposals for a WRC Resolution on the topic.

The draft ECP is attached.

**Last CPG PTC meeting: 21st-25th August 2023.**

**CPG PTA, B, C, D and PT1:**
Progress in these project teams was noted but no particular points of concern arose.

**Meeting Schedule**

CPG#9: 18 – 22nd September 2023 (Will clash with ITU-R WP5A)

**Attachment: Draft WRC 23 AI9.1b proposed ECP:**
European Common Proposals

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

- Agenda item 9.1 (9.1-b)

9 to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention;

9.1 on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-19:

(9.1-b) Review of the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service allocations in the frequency band 1 240–1 300 MHz to determine if additional measures are required to ensure protection of the radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) service operating in the same band in accordance with Resolution 774 (WRC-19);

Resolution 774 (WRC-19) – Studies on technical and operational measures to be applied in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz to ensure the protection of the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth)

Introduction

This proposal supports the modifications to the Radio Regulations towards ensuring protection of the primary radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) service operating in the frequency band 1 240 – 1 300 MHz against the amateur and the amateur-satellite services that operate on a secondary basis in the same band.

This proposal adds a footnote in Section IV – Table of Frequency Allocations of RR Article 5, for the protection of the RNSS that incorporates by reference the ITU-R Recommendation under development by WP 5A and WP 4C. This proposal also supports suppressing Resolution 774 (WRC-19) because this Resolution is no longer necessary.

NOTE: The incorporation by reference is under consideration by CEPT among other options. In the event that the content of the Recommendation is not acceptable by CEPT or the Recommendation does not become available, the fallback position will be NOC or a WRC Resolution.
ARTICLE 5

• Frequency allocations

Section IV – Table of Frequency Allocations
(See No. 2.1)

MOD EUR/XXXXA9/1

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ADD EUR/XXXXA9/2

5.A91B The use of the band 1 240-1 300 MHz by the amateur and amateur-satellite services shall be in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE] (WRC-23)

Reasons: To incorporate by reference the new Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE] which contains the technical conditions (e.g. power restrictions depending on the sub-part of the band) facilitating the protection of the radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) service from the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service that operate on a secondary basis in the band 1240-1300 MHz.

Alternative reasons: CEPT prefers to highlight the technical conditions (e.g. power restrictions depending on the sub-part of the band) for the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service, as contained in the new Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE], by incorporation by reference in the RR to ensure the protection of the radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) service in the band 1240-1300 MHz.
RESOLUTION 774 (WRC-19)

Studies on technical and operational measures to be applied in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz to ensure the protection of the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth)

Reasons: Relevant studies are finalised and therefore the supporting Resolution can be suppressed.