



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 2014 General Conference – Varna-Albena, Bulgaria

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Subject	IARU Region 1 Report		
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IARU Region 1 Report

2011

IARU Region 1 Tri-Annual Conference 2011

The 22nd Tri-annual Conference of IARU Region 1 was held at Sun City in the North West Province of South Africa from 12 to 19 August 2011 and it was hosted by the South African Radio League.

Thirty-three Region 1 Member Societies were present in person at Conference with 21 proxies approved, thus 54 Member Societies were represented at Conference. Officers from the IARU, Region 2 and Region 3 also attended the conference.

The conference dealt with 129 documents and made 87 recommendations to the final plenary.

One of the recommendations approved was for the establishment of a Youth Co-ordinator for Region 1. This person would serve as a liaison between member societies and the EC, and the promotion of youth activities in the Region.

Further, the EUROCOM Working Group was closed and a Political Relations Committee was created in its place. The PRC is responsible for the co-ordination of the Region 1 relations with political entities (e.g. European Commission, European Parliament) on matters of importance to the interests of Amateur Services.

The HF Committee discussed various aspects of the HF Band plan and made changes to the 40-metre band. After discussion, which started at the 2008 Region 1 Conference, the HF Committee finally decided on a definition for a QSO – they agreed that the definition in the VHF Handbook was acceptable. The HF Committee also made recommendations on the 160 and 10 MHz bands.

The VHF/UHF Committee spent a lot of time working on the various band plans and coming to consensus on the band plans. The committee also discussed the rules of various VHF/UHF and Microwave competitions.

The following persons were elected to serve as the Region 1 Executive Committee for the period 2011 to 2014:

President: Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T

Vice President: Hani Raad, OD5TE

Secretary: Dennis Green, ZS4BS

Treasurer: Andreas Thiemann, HB9JOE

Members: Colin Thomas, G3PSM; Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE; Panayot Danev, LZ1US; Nikola Percin, 9A5W and Anders Larson, SM6CNN

The Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs will host the 23rd Tri-annual Conference in 2014 at Varna on the Black Sea.

IARU Region 1 Youth Co-ordinator

Following the General Conference, a call was put out for candidates and three nominations were received. After interviews with the three nominees, Lisa Leenders, PA2LS, was appointed as the Region 1 Youth Co-ordinator. Lisa has been active in Europe with Youth Activities.

2012

Region 1 Executive Committee Meeting

The annual meeting of the Region 1 EC was held on 10 and 11 March 2012 at the headquarters of the Deutsche Amateur Radio Club in Baunatal, Germany.

Colin Thomas, G3PSM, discussed the report submitted and highlights of the 2012 World Radio Conference held earlier in Geneva. G3PSM was complemented on his work at WRC-12 as CEPT Co-ordinator.

Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, discussed the EMC report and highlighted various PLT matters. CISPR issues such as multimedia items, emissions of LED lights, Plasma TVs, Photoviac, etc., are also highlighted.

The Meeting decided that a Spectrum Workshop would be held at Ham Radio 2012 in Friedrichshafen in June 2012. Member Societies were invited and specialists. The purpose of the Workshop – “The IARU did well in the preparation for and during World Radio Communications Conference 2012. It is in our interest to maintain that high level of IARU representation and even try to improve it. There is a need to replace those who are or will be no longer available and we have to invest in our future representation. We also must not forget our representation at the national level. Finally, we need to transmit the same message at all levels of participation.” The Workshop was held on Sunday 24 June 2012 and the topics covered were: 1) The ITU; 2) Regional Telecommunications Organizations; 3) National administration; 4) World Radiocommunications Conference - Outcome of WRC-12; WRC-15 agenda and Preparations for WRC-15; 5) Frequency allocations, and 6) Regulatory Affairs.

An application for membership was received from the Federation of Radiosport of Azerbaijan. The meeting approved the application and relevant documents. At present, the application is out for the vote by MS.

The meeting also noted that 21 candidates in the Democratic Republic of the Congo wrote a radio amateur examination. The licences and call signs were awarded in April 2012.

WRC-12 and planning for WRC-15. The outcome of WRC-12 was presented and discussed. Member Societies will be urged to work with their administrations to implement changes to their national allocation tables. CEPT has appointed Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T as their coordinator for AI 1.4. Colin Thomas, G3PSM and Ulrich Muller, DK4VW and Bram van den Berg, PB0AOK will be involved in the preparations for WRC-15.

Spectrum workshop. To ensure continuity in our work related to spectrum and regulatory affairs the EC decided to have a one day workshop in Friedrichshafen. This workshop took place 24 June 2012.

EMC Matters. Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, discussed the EMC report and highlighted various PLT matters. CISPR issues such as multimedia items, emissions of LED lights, Plasma TVs. Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE, will attend a CISPR meeting to be held in Bangkok 5 – 12 November 2012. He will attend the IARU AC meeting as observer.

CW as Intangible Heritage. The 2011 Region 1 General Conference concluded that IARU Region 1 should take the necessary steps for the recognition of CW as an intangible heritage by UNESCO. DARC reported on the progress that has been made. Member Societies will soon be informed of what actions they are required to take.

IARU Region 1 Youth Co-ordinator and Youth Activities

At Ham Radio 2012 at Friedrichshafen, Lisa, PA2LS, made a presentation on the progress she has made since she was appointed as the Region 1 Youth Coordinator. She also presented the Youngsters-on-the-Air meeting that is scheduled to be held in Eeklo, Belgium from 19 to 26 August 2012.

The 2012 European Youth ARDF Championships was held in Siauliai, Lithuania. Medals went to Russia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria and Lithuania. There were 104 participants from 9 countries. The next chance the youth will have is during EYAC'14 in the Czech Republic.

Emergency Communications

On 20 May 2012 Italian Radio Amateurs responded to a magnitude 6.0 earthquake in the Emilia Romagna region in Italy. No HF frequencies were used.

Monitoring System

The IARU Region 1 Monitoring System continued to do its excellent work as documented in their monthly newsletters. A pdf file about "Radar Systems on Shortwave," was issued and can be downloaded from <http://www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/radar-2012.pdf>.

Ulrich Bihlmayer DJ9KR received the Region 1 medal for his outstanding and longtime work in IARU MS.

Radio Sports

An oral report was given on the 12th World ARDF Championships and the 10th World HST Championships

Member Societies

Azerbaijan. An application for membership was received from the Federation of Radiosport of Azerbaijan. The EC meeting approved the application and relevant documentation. At present, the application is out for the vote by MS.

Democratic Republic of the Congo. 21 candidates in the Democratic Republic of the Congo wrote a radio amateur examination. The licences and call signs were awarded in April 2012. A new board was elected. This new Board was accepted by the national administration.

Tunisia. In January 2012, the Tunisian administration contacted the IARU to assist them implementing a new amateur radio framework. From 31 March to 4 April, Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, and Afif Benlagha, 7X2RO, visited Tunisia to assist the National Frequency Agency (NFA) with the development of a framework for amateur radio. They used the opportunity to learn more about the two new amateur radio societies that now exist in Tunisia. On Tuesday 3 April 2012, PB2T, paid a courtesy visit Mr Mongi Marzoug, Minister of Technology, Information and Communications.

Recent developments. An oral report was given on recent developments in Moldova and Kosovo.

2013

Region 1 Executive Committee Meeting

The annual meeting of the Region 1 EC was held on 4 and 5 May 2013 at the Hotel Cabin in Reykjavik, Iceland, following an invitation from the Icelandic Amateur Radio Society.

G3PSM presented the IARU position for World Radio Conference 2015. The Region is looking at a proposal for a future WRC a worldwide alignment of the 160 metre band.

SM6CNN lead a discussion on the Top 5 Objectives of Region 1 and plans to achieve these objectives were formulated.

DL9KCE discussed the Political Relations Report and highlighted that the Radio Equipment Directive (RED), former R&TTE-Directive, is under debate. Five amendments were channeled to the European Parliament on behalf of the IARU.

EMC Matters. DL9KCE further discussed EMC WG rules, PLT Standard EN 50561-1, PlasmaTV, GCPC and the last CISPR conference.

The Interim HF and VHF/UHF Meetings

The Interim HF and VHF/UHF Meetings were held on 19 to 21 April 2013 in Vienna, Austria. Two points worth mentioning from the HF Meeting are:

JOTA and Worked All Germany Contest. No recommendation was made to the EC and this matter will go forward to the 2014 General Conference. JOTA stations are encouraged to make use of the contest free segments of the bands as well as the WARC bands.

Harmonisation of HF Bandplans. DK4VW has been liaising with a number of Member Societies in Region 2 with the proposal for harmonisation of the 40 metre band. The matter will be under discussion at the Region 2 General Conference in September 2013, ZS4BS will represent Region 1.

IARU EMC Co-ordinator

Following the 2013 AC Teleconference, DL9KCE has been appointed as the IARU EMC Co-ordinator.

Development

An Amateur Radio Administration Course (ARAC) was held in Accra, Ghana from 3 to 7 June 2013. Brennan Price, N4QX, and PB2T were the instructors for this training. Attendees came from Ghana, Kenya and South Sudan.

Member Societies

Moldova. Apart from the IARU Member Society, there is a sport organisation. The sport organisation participates in the ARDF Championships but is not an IARU Member Society.

Azerbaijan. This country is added to the list of responsibilities of LZ1US.

Bosnia and Herzegovina. There is no news regarding the new umbrella organization. Many radio amateurs are outside of any organization.

Kosovo. 9A5W has invited radio amateurs from Kosovo to Zagreb for Amateur Radio Exhibition and discussions.

Poland. Region 1 assisted PZK in making presentations to the Senate about Youth in Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications.

Tunisia. There are two competing amateur societies in Tunisia. ASTRA claims the rights of the previous ASTRA/CAST organisation. New amateur radio legislation has been submitted to the Minister for approval. PB2T will assess the situation after implementation of the new legislation.

Democratic Republic of the Congo. A new Board has been appointed and radio amateur examinations have taken place.

Second Society. The subject of a second society in a country is discussed by the

meeting and it is proposed that it be discussed at Administrative Council level.

2014 Region 1 General Conference

The 2014 IARU Region 1 General Conference will be held at Varna-Albena, Bulgaria over the period 21 to 26 September 2014. The Conference Calling Note will be sent out to Members Societies and Regions 2 and 3 on 1 September 2013.

Diary of Events

Youngsters on the Air, Estonia, 5 to 12 August 2013

Region 1 ARDF Championships, Poland 5 to 10 September 2013

World HST Championships, Borovec, Bulgaria 22 to 26 September 2013