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Report Regulatory Affairs Coordinator

Summary

During the period from April 2013 to March 2014 again three main topics were in the focus of the Regulatory Affairs Coordinator working in cooperation with Alexander Gulyaev of ECO in Copenhagen: The expansion and consolidation of the number of countries participating in the CEPT licence as defined in recommendations TR 61-01 and 61-02, the amendment of the HAREC syllabus (TR 61-02) and the updating of the information in the tables of equivalence for both TR 61-01 and TR 61-02.

TR 61-01 and TR 61-02 issues

Participating CEPT/ECO countries

After the *Russian Federation* and the Republic of *Serbia* had officially notified CEPT that they were adopting recommendations TR 61-01 and TR 61-02 in 2011 and 2012 respectively, Curaçao joined TR 61-02 in 2013 with IARU-Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, helping to resolve the remaining problems in the discussion with the administration in Curaçao. Curaçao was added to Annex 4 of T/R 61-02 on 22 October 2013.

Japan and TR 61-01 and 61-02

As mentioned in the last report to the EC, the Japanese administration had indicated to CEPT that *Japan* would be interested to join the Non-European countries participating in the CEPT licence scheme. The ongoing contacts of CEPT/ECO with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication (MIC) confirmed that the Japanese licensing system is a major impediment to a participation in TR 61-01. ECO, supported by IARU Region 1 is of the view that, due to the requirement in the current Japanese regulation for CEPT radio amateurs to apply for a separate Station License and to pay the associated fee, Japan cannot be accepted to T/R 61-01 at the current stage. However, in order to overcome these difficulties ECO is suggesting to MIC to consider implementing administrative provisions that allow operating for foreign radio amateurs in accordance with T/R 61-01 during short stays in Japan.

More progress than with TR 61-01 was made last year with TR 61-02, the HAREC recommendation. ECO is of the view that Japan can be accepted with its national licence class 1 into TR 61-02. The subject of accepting the Japanese national licence class 2 into TR 61-02 is subject to additional clarification from MIC on the

difference between the syllabi for class 1 and class 2, mainly on the difference of the requirement of "*basic knowledge*" of radio technology (class 2) and the requirement of an "*outline*" of radio technology (class 1) "*outline*" obviously being a more in-depth knowledge of the examination material. ECO is inviting the Japanese regulator to provide the necessary clarifications and submit an official application for joining T/R 61-02 to CEPT/ECO.

Non-European countries

Unfortunately still unresolved is the re-establishment of equivalence of licences with some Non-European countries participating in the CEPT licence. ECO and the RA coordinator again tried unsuccessfully to get a response from the administrations in question (mainly Canada and Peru) by enlisting the help of officers of member societies. The same holds true of the equivalence of the CEPT licence and the Interamerican Amateur Radio Permit IARP.

Equivalence of licence classes and examinations

At Ham Radio 2012 in Friedrichshafen discussions among the delegates present showed that the entries in the tables of equivalence for both TR 61-01 and 61-02 contain errors, inconsistencies and simply outdated information. This is mainly due to the fact that administration often fails to notify ECO of changes in their licence classes. To support ECO in getting the information up to date the RA coordinator started a survey among all member societies in CEPT/ECO countries. The feedback from member societies has been rather slow. Personal approaches to member societies' representatives at Friedrichshafen last year provided some additional information, but there is still additional work to do to bring the annexes up to date.

Amending the HAREC syllabus

The syllabus for the Harmonized Amateur Radio Examination Certificate on page 23 contains two headings under chapter 7, mainly 7.1 Social Responsibility of Amateur Radio Operations and 7.2 Operating procedures. Following these headings however there is no content at all outlining what is meant with social responsibility of amateur operations and operating procedures. When the HAREC syllabus was agreed upon the then authors did not include content for the two sub chapters because IARU Region 1 at that time lacked a mutually agreed upon definition of social responsibility and good practice in amateur radio operating. This has changed thanks to work of John Devoldere, ON4UN, and Mark Demeuleneere, ON4WW. Their document ***Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur*** has become the universally accepted guide for newcomers and experienced amateurs alike.

In coordination with ECO the RA coordinator enlisted the help of ON4UN and ON4WW to formulate key topics ("bullet points") to be included in chapters 7.1 and 7.2 of the HAREC syllabus. The content could now be finalized and is going to be submitted to ECO in Copenhagen. Thanks to a change in the working methods of the European Communications Commission the amendments do not require a new process of implementation of recommendation TR 61-02 by the administration. In addition to the amendments ECO will amend the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding TR 61-01 and TR 61-02 on the ECO website with a link to the **document**

Ethics and Operating Procedures for the Radio Amateur which is available in more 25 languages.

Licence examination of persons with disabilities

A draft prepared by the IARU Region 1 RA coordinator for a proposed ECC recommendation regarding special provisions for licence examinations for persons with disabilities has been put to public consultation on the Radio Amateur Forum Group (RAFG) within WGFM (Working Group Frequency Management). So far the comments from administrations are basically positive. However administrations emphasize that such a recommendation should not lower the standards for examinations (which never was the idea in the first place!), should not further complicate the bureaucratic process and should not in any way imply any requirement for the administrations to subsidise examinations where these are performed by volunteer examiners (for example in Sweden and Finland). The consultation on the draft recommendation is still going on.

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