



JARL Region 3



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JAPAN

IARU Region 3 Report to the 2014 IARU Region 1 EC Meeting 2-3 May 2014

1. Introduction

The Directors of IARU Region 3 thank the IARU Region 1 EC for the invitation to participate in its meeting but once again are unable to do so because of the financial restraints that it must observe.

2. Director s' Meeting in Tokyo, August 2013

The IARU Region 3 Directors' meeting was held on 26th and 27th August at JARL HQ, Tokyo, Japan. All the Directors below were present and assisted by Secretary Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP and Special Advisor Keigo Komuro JA1KAB.

Present Directors: Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN (Chairman), Shizuo Endo JE1MUI, Peter Lake ZL2AZ, Prof. Rhee HL1AQQ, Geoff Atkinson VK3TL and Wisnu Widjaja YB0AZ

The meeting was also attended by AC members from IARU IS, Region 1 and Region 2, listed below.

IARU IS: Tim Ellam VE6SH, IARU President

IARU Region 1: Hans Blondeel Timmerman PB2T, Region 1 President

IARU Region 2: Reinaldo Leandro YV5AM, Region 2 President

The meeting discussed the reports of each Director, Secretary, IARU IS, IARU Region 1 and Region 2 as well as several issues given below concerning IARU Region 3.

- The meeting noted that further improvement on IARU Region 3 website was needed.
- The meeting agreed to recommend that the 2m band be used exclusively for down link on all future satellites and that the 144.000 – 144.035 MHz section be additionally allocated for satellite down link.
- The meeting agreed Gopal to coordinate IARU booth at ITU Telecom World 2013 in November, Bangkok, Thailand while IARU IS agreed to take care of major expenses.

3. APT Preparatory Group (APG) Meeting toward WRC-15

Directors Endo JE1MUI and Lake ZL2AZ participated in the APG15-2 meeting held in July 2013, Bangkok, Thailand. Director Endo provided a presentation of IARU position on amateur related issues including WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.4 "Possible secondary amateur allocation in 5 MHz band". Dale Hughes VK1DSH of WIA and Region 3 Secretary Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP participated as a member of each national delegation.

The outcome of APG15-2 on WC15 AI 1.4 was to protect incumbent users and to support the studies at ITU-R.

4. The ITU Telecom World 2013

The exhibition was held on 19 – 22 November, Bangkok, Thailand and the IARU booth was visited by many visitors including Dr. Hamadoun Toure HB9EHT, the ITU Secretary General. The IARU booth was well managed by Region 3 Chairman Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN with assistance from Director Peter Lake ZL2AZ and a large and helpful team of RAST (Radio Amateur Association of Thailand) volunteers.

5. The IARU Region 3 relationship with the APT

IARU Region 3 has continued to seek a formalisation of its relationship with the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, the regional telecommunications organisation of administrations in Region 3, and of which the APG is a part.

The draft MoU was considered at APT Management Committee in November 2013, but it decided to consult the draft MoU with APG.

6. Emergency Communications

Chairman of the Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Jim Linton VK3PC reported following major amateur emergency communications activities.

"Hams in India provide emergency communications" (26 June 2013)

In northern India, the early seasonal monsoon rains are three times as heavy as usual, causing flooding, mudslides and a death toll of at least 800. The disaster caught everyone by surprise.

The emergency communications provided by radio amateurs are well known to disaster authorities and the government, through their preparedness drills and other presentations.

India's National Coordinator for Disaster Communication Jayu Mbide VU2JAU said two amateur radio stations were active in the disaster area, at Dehradun and Uttarkashi. He has personally been in contact with them.

They have been sending messages via coordinating stations in Gwalior, New Delhi and elsewhere. The emergency communications they provide will continue for some time.

Government officials estimate 33,000 people have been rescued so far and around 63,000 are missing.

Rescue efforts involving soldiers are continuing, and more than 50 air force helicopters have dropped food, water and medical supplies to people trapped by the flood.

“Earthquake in Pakistan” (26 September 2013)

An earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter scale struck on Tuesday in the Balochistan province that has claimed more than 330 lives in the remote and sparsely populated southwestern area.

Imran Mujtaba AP2MI reports that members of the Pakistan Amateur Radio Society (PARS) have provided emergency communications support.

He said they have been extending cooperation and contributing to the disaster relief operation, helped by outside experts.

The earthquake destroyed hundreds of houses and cut communications. In the worst affected area of Awaran it caused a small island to emerge just off the Pakistani coastline in the Arabian Sea.

The army and rescuers are still searching for survivors in one of the country's remotest areas.

It was the worst earthquake in Pakistan since 2005, when about 75,000 people were killed in the north.

“Powerful Cyclone Hits India” (13 October 2013)

As Cyclone Phailin hit the Bay of Bengal in India on Saturday (October 12) it flooded thousands of homes, killed at least five people and forced 800,000 others to evacuate.

In anticipation, amateur radio operators were ready to provide emergency communications and help spread up-to-date information on the storm's damage and path.

Many mud homes and farms were destroyed, and uprooted trees blocked roads. The windy and wet Cyclone had deluged some areas causing one of the largest evacuations in India's history.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said he had directed the central government extend all needed assistance to state officials.

The National Institute of Amateur Radio reports that it has several ham radio operators involved. The cyclone did weaken when it reached the coast, but its impact is still severe.

Jose Jacob VU2JOS and VU2MCW Mukesh Kumar Gola VU2MCW are to reach Odisha and begin operating.

During the Paradwip Cyclone in 1999, the Chief Minister's house was without power and telecommunications. It was then ham radio operators who provided a link to rescuers and the outside world.

In the current disaster the army, air force and navy are helping in rescue and relief operations. However more details are not immediately known due to the large population involved and the normal slowness of official data.

“Earthquake hits the Philippines” (15 October 2013)

The Philippine Amateur Radio Association (PARA) has activated its Ham Emergency Radio Operators in emergency communications using the frequency of is ongoing at a frequency of 7.095 MHz.

It did so almost immediately on receiving news that a 7.2 Magnitude earthquake occurred in the Bohol Province causing numerous casualties and damage. Pictures from the scene show damaged buildings, blocked roads and a looks of bewilderment on many faces.

Roberto Jose C. Vicencio DU1VHY said all radio amateurs are asked to keep the frequency clear. The assessment of damage and other relief work is continuing.

Various reports put the death toll up to 20 and many injured when the earthquake struck near a key tourist area. It was followed by two aftershocks, each measuring more than 5.0 in magnitude.

“Strong typhoon hits Philippines” (08 November 2013)

The Super Typhoon Haiyan has affected the Philippines, triggering flooding, destroying buildings and causing millions of people to take shelter.

Ramon Anquilan DU1UGZ of the Philippines Amateur Radio Association (PARA) reports that the typhoon made landfall at about 4.40am local time today in Guian Estern Samar, about 600 kilometres southeast of Manila, and neighbouring provinces are affected.

Then it made second landfall over Dulag-Tolosa, Leyte with maximum sustained winds of 235 kilometres per hour near the centre and gusting up to 275 kph.

Sadly the area of Bohol and Cebu, which suffered from the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in October, are also along the typhoon's path. Bohol was the epicentre of the earthquake that killed 222 people, where at least 5,000 survivors still living in tents.

There is no power in many areas including Masbate, Ticao Island, Southern Sorsogon, Romblon, Northern Samar, Eastern Samar, Samar, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Biliran, Northern Cebu, Cebu City, Bantayan, Camotes Islands, Northern Negros Occidental, Capiz, Aklan, Antique, Iloilo, Guimaras and Dinagat Province.

Ramon DU1UGZ said, "HERO (Ham Emergency Radio Operator) have reported that those along the typhoon path have shut down their radios as they wait out for it to pass. In a few hours, we feel we should be hearing them again."

Already there have been some 270 postings of emergency traffic. More reports are expected. Earlier PARA called for the frequencies of 7.095 and 144.740 to be kept clear for emergency traffic.

Typhoon Haiyan, the world's strongest this year, and some reports make it potentially one of the most intense recorded.

The Philippines is battered by an average of 20 major storms or typhoons each year. Typhoon Bopha left about 2,000 people dead or missing on Mindanao Island in December 2012.

7. Relocation of IARU Region 3 Secretariat

Effective on November 3rd, 2014, IARU Region 3 Secretariat had relocated to the new address with new telephone/facsimile numbers as given below;

Address: 3-43-1 Minamitsuka, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 170-8073 JAPAN
Telephone: +81-3-3988-8768
Facsimile: +81-3-3988-8772

8. Next Directors' Meeting

The next Directors' meeting is planned to be in Brisbane, on 14th and 15th June 2014, following the APG15-3 meeting of APT.

Once again, the Directors hope that the IARU Officers, and the representatives of IARU Regions 1 and 2 will be able to join us, particularly as financial constraints have precluded IARU Region 3 from participating in the EC meetings of the other regions.