



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

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Subject	IARU Region 1 Conference Proceedings and Archive		
Society	RSGB	Country:	United Kingdom
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IARU Region 1 Conference Proceedings and Archive

Introduction:

During the preparation of papers for the Varna Conference the RSGB has had to undertake searches of past IARU Region 1 General Conference papers in order to confirm policy decisions and recommendations. Apart from recent conferences, which are well documented, older conferences are very difficult to research.

Background:

IARU Region 1 does not appear to have a formal archive. There are some old papers lodged with ARRL, which refer to Region 1 conferences, but these are not in digital form. RSGB does have some reports that it published in its journal, but these only seem to cover key items and in any case do not constitute a formal record of proceedings. As time passes and memories fade then it will become impossible to recover detailed information. The situation also varies with the three main committees:-

C3: There is no composite record of C3 recommendations.

C4: The HF Manager's Handbook includes details of standing C4 Recommendations

C5: The VHF Manager's Handbook is edited to cover more recent matters

There can also be occasions where key recommendations are provisionally approved at Interim Meetings, making an archive of these equally important.

Key Points & Proposal:

IARU Region 1 should establish a formal archive that contains material covering conference proceedings as far back as possible. This will involve digitising all paper records which do exist; and as originals may have been lost, extracts from reports in society journals. This archive shall be available as a searchable internet web archive.

It is suggested that task is kept as simple as is possible, so an indexed and searchable set of pdf documents should suffice. For completeness, and to provide context, input papers as well as approved Recommendations should be archived.

Recommendations:

- **Online Archive:** Region 1 puts in place a project to create an online archive of its General Conference proceedings and other key documents, in an easily accessible suitable digital format.
- **Current Recommendations:** Committees C3, C4 and C5 should each maintain a Proceedings/Handbook that lists all standing Recommendations for prominent download on the IARU R1 website.