



International Amateur Union – Region 1 *Newsletter 59 – December 2005*



Permanent HF Committee



To: Members of IARU R1 HF Committee, IARU R1 Executive Committee, Chairman of R1 VHF/UHF/MW Committee, Region 1 ARDF WG Chairman, Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator, Region 1 HF Beacon Coordinator, Region 1 HST WG Chairman, Region 1 RRWG Chairman, Region 1 STARS WG, IARUMS Region 1 Coordinator, the President of IARU and the Secretary of IARU.

***Wishing you and your families' peace and goodwill for
the holidays and for the New Year 2006.***

59.1 The Davos Conference

Another Region 1 Conference has come and gone and I thank all of you who elected me as your HF Committee Chairman for the next three years. I will certainly try and justify your confidence in me and I in turn look forward to working with as many of you as I can.

59.2 Terms of Reference

Those of you who remember approving the new Term of Reference of the HF Committee in Committee C4 at Davos (Paper C3_38) will be sorry to learn that by mistake the original Terms of Reference were included in the paper C3_38v2 and this paper was approved during the final Plenary without anyone noticing the error. It will be remembered that the revised Terms of Reference removed information that was not directly relevant to the organisation of the committee and that duplicated much of the information already contained within the main Region 1 organisational material. With your agreement I intend to submit the new Terms of Reference to the next meeting of the Region 1 Executive Committee for tentative approval. This approval will carry on through to the next Conference in 2008 which hopefully will ratify this decision. The next EC meeting is due to be held in March 2007. A copy of the proposed new Terms of Reference is attached to the newsletter being sent via the postal system.

59.3 The HF Managers Reflector

This reflector was set-up before the Davos Conference and now has 48 participants from 36 of the Region 1 Member Societies. While this is a very good proportion of our membership there are still a small number of Societies located in European countries with good electronic communication that have not joined us. One or two people have had problems with the Yahoo Groups system but these can be sorted. All you have to do is ask. In the meantime those of you not on the reflector will continue to receive communications through the postal system.

59.4 Bandplan 2006

The new HF Bandplan decided in principle at Davos and agreed by a majority vote on the HF Managers reflector comes into use on the 1st January 2006. For those not at Davos the Bandplan represents a shift away from bandplanning by mode but rather by bandwidth, although the immediate changes are not so obvious. A number of changes have taken place within the frequency segments historically used by datamodes in an attempt to separate the unattended automatic data stations from attended keyboard operations.

There is still slight confusion when it comes to the definition of the “All modes” usage part of the bandplan. Further discussions still needs to take place on this subject to try and ensure that all understand the meaning of this terminology.

The Bandplanning Working Group has received one detailed letter of criticism regarding the adoption of bandplanning by bandwidth and this has originated from outside of the Region. At the time of compiling this Newsletter the BWG is still exchanging emails with the person concerned.

59.5 WRC-07

Arrangements for the next World Radio Conference due to be held in Geneva in November 2007 continue at a steady pace. IARU Region 1 continues to be represented at Conference Preparatory Group Project Team 4 (CPG PT4) which is the group dealing with HF agenda items. Agenda items of particular interest are 1.13 and 1.15.

Agenda item 1.13: “taking into account Resolutions 729 (WRC-97), 351 (WRC-03) and 544 (WRC-03), to review the allocations to all services in the HF bands between 4 MHz and 10 MHz, excluding those allocations to services in the frequency range 7 000-7 200 kHz and those bands whose allotment plans are in Appendices 25, 26 and 27 and whose channelling arrangements are in Appendix 17,taking account of the impact of new modulation techniques, adaptive control techniques and the spectrum requirements for HF broadcasting;”

What this means in simple language is that all allocations between 4 MHz and 10 MHz, excluding those agreed at WRC-03, are subject to review. IARU Region 1 would like to extend the Amateur Service segment up to 7300 kHz, the Broadcasting Service wants more frequencies as they have more broadcasting requirements than frequencies, the Fixed Service claim shortages of frequencies and it all needs to be sorted out, if possible.

Agenda item 1.15 is “to consider a secondary allocation to the Amateur Service in the frequency band 135.7-137.8 kHz”.

This should be a simple agenda item. This proposal has already been adopted within CEPT administrations and it was only the objections of a number of Asian Pacific countries that stopped it being adopted at WRC-03.

I would ask as many of you that are able to discuss these agenda items with your national administrations to do so and if possible join your delegation to WRC-07. Advice on the IARU positions for these agenda items is available from Hans PB2T who is the Chairman of the External Relations Committee. Hans can be contacted at PB2T@planet.nl .

59.6 Welcome to new HF Managers

The following have been appointed as HF Managers for their National Societies –

Paris Andreou, 5B4XF of the Cyprus Amateur Radio Society (CARS)
e-mail address – parisand@spidernet.com.cy

Ivan Pazdersky, OK1PI of the Czech Radio Club (CRC)
e-mail address – I.pazdesky@kaiser.cz

59.7 Licensing News from Iraq

From Laith YI3SRA we learn of new arrangements for a 6 months temporary amateur radio licence. This licence is free and will be available until a new protocol is signed between the Iraqi Amateur Radio Society and the regulator INCMC. Contact Diya YI1DZ at yilirq@yahoo.com or Laith at yi3sra@hotmail.com for a licence application form or download it from www.iraqi-ars.org. A copy of your home licence and a passport type photograph should accompany the completed form.

59.8 HF Managers Handbook

The HF Managers Handbook is currently undergoing revision following the Davos Conference and I have to thank Dennis ZS4BS for carrying out this onerous task. It is intended to distribute the revised Version 6 when the revised Terms of Reference come into force.

59.9 Beacons on 7 and 10 MHz

Recommendation DV05_C4_20 agreed at Davos states that Region 1 member societies “should discourage the operation of unmanned beacon stations at 7 and 10 MHz”. Further discussion has taken place regarding this and there is some feeling that subject to agreement, beacons having a defined scientific purpose might be allowed. Of course DK0WCY is an example of one of these types of beacons and this operation has been agreed with the primary user, however there are a number of private stations operating on both 7 and 10 MHz and these should be discouraged for the time being.

59.10 Finally

This may seem familiar but I can only repeat the requests that were always being asked by my predecessors – please send me news from your Society, especially that with a HF interest. I can sit in front of my PC for as long as I like but not being a journalist I cannot invent the news! With the winding up of the Contest Sub-Group perhaps there are items of interest to testers that could be included?

73

Colin, G3PSM
IARU Region 1 HF Committee Chairman