

International Amateur Radio Union
Administrative Council
Summary Record of Virtual Meeting
12 January 2021

1. The 49th meeting of the IARU Administrative Council (AC) was held virtually via Zoom teleconference. Members attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ; Don Beattie, G3BJ, President, and Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Secretary, IARU Region 1; Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, President, and George Gorsline, VE3YV, Secretary, IARU Region 2; and Region 3 Chairman Wisnu Widjaja, YB0AZ, and Director Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP. Participating as observers were Region 1 Executive Committee member Sylvain Azarian, F4GKR, Region 3 Director Peter Young, VK3MV, and Region 3 Secretary Shizuo Endo, JE1MUI. Also participating were Emergency Communications Special Advisor Rod Stafford, W6ROD, and IARU Assistant Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN. President Ellam called the meeting to order at 1300 UTC Tuesday, 12 January, 2021.

2. A moment of silence was observed for radio amateurs and friends who have died since the previous meeting of the AC, especially Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM, Dani Hidayat, YB2TJV, John Devoldere, ON4UN, and John Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD.

The following agenda was approved:

1. Opening of meeting
2. Remembrance of Silent Keys
3. Reports of the officers
4. Reports of the regions
5. WRC-23 preparations – LA2RR
6. Report on implementation of Future Committee recommendations – XE1KK
7. Report on Amateur Radio Administration Course revision – PB2T
8. Report of the 144+ MHz Committee – VE6SH
9. Discussion of ways to update data on amateur spectrum use above 30 MHz – LA2RR
10. Consideration of offer of hamradio.org domain – K1ZZ
11. Date/time of next virtual AC meeting

3. Reports of the officers

3.1. President Ellam presented an oral report updating the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. He will attend, on behalf of IARU, the Annual Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors meeting scheduled virtually for January 15, 2021.

3.2. Vice President Garpestad's oral report highlighted the WRC-23 preparations and will provide additional details during Agenda Item 5.

3.3. Secretary Sumner's written report reviewed activity since the AC's last meeting in October 2020. Preliminary IARU positions for WRC-23 have been completed, approved by the AC, and provided to a limited circulation in a 26-page document that includes background material. On membership, Region 1 and the AC have agreed that the previous member-society for Bahrain no longer exists. Proposals for the admission of Bahrain ARS and the Amateur Radio Union of the Kyrgyz Republic have been offered to the member-

societies for approval in Calendar 201. He noted member-societies have begun returning votes although it is still early in the process.

4. Reports from the regional organizations

4.1. Mr. Beattie presented the report from Region 1. The Region held its virtual general Conference (VGC) in October, 2020, with some 200 registered delegates attending. While the VGC was a success technically several learning points were noted to improve strategic content going forward. The report noted new Chairs for the following committees had been selected at the VGC; Spectrum and Regulatory Liaison Committee, Barry Lewis, G4SJH; VHF+ Committee, Dick Harms, PA2DW; Youth Working Group, Philipp Springer, DK6SP; EMC Committee, Wolf Mahr, OE1MHZ. Planning for Ham Radio Friedrichshafen has started although it is not yet certain that the event will occur due to the pandemic. A regional conference workshop is still being planned for October 2021 in Novi Sad, Serbia.

4.2. Mr. Santoyo presented oral remarks to supplement the written Region 2 report. The Region 2 Executive Committee continues to meet virtually about every three months. He noted 2020 was an unusual year for Region 2 and presented a time line of work completed to date and future planned activities. The Region continues preparations on WRC matters, conducting workshops, virtual meetings and interfacing with CITEL. He noted that succession planning is a part of their on-going work.

4.3 Mr. Widjaja delivered the Region 3 report. The proposed revision to the Region 3 bandplan for digital modes in the 40 meter band has been circulated to the Region 3 Bandplan Committee for comment. Region 3 is considering a change for the 2021 Region 3 Conference to a virtual format. The date and details will be discussed during the upcoming Region 3 Directors' meeting scheduled virtually for January 31, 2021.

5. Vice President Garpestad reviewed preparations for WRC-23 including upcoming meetings of ITU-R Working Parties 4C and 5A. A document setting out the preliminary IARU positions on WRC-23 agenda items and without the background material mentioned in the Secretary's report will be ready for public release soon. President Ellam noted that the AC will be setting IARU policy on future WRC agenda items, preferably at an in-person meeting.

6. Mr. Santoyo presented an update on implementation of the Future Committee recommendations that were approved at the October 2020 AC meeting. In accordance with the plan, President Ellam has approved the membership of two new groups, a Core Mission Working Group and a Relationship Working Group. These groups will begin meeting in mid-January, 2021.

7. Mr. Blondeel Timmerman presented a status report on revisions to the Amateur Radio Administration Course and asked that AC members review the draft syllabus. He also asked for help in identifying potential instructors.

8. Mr. Ellam provided comments on the work of the 144+ MHz Committee. He noted that Asst. Secretary Harrison had been assigned to identify an appropriate person with related experience in developing a video or series of videos describing amateur use of VHF plus frequencies that could be presented to administrative and regulatory agencies.

9. Mr. Garpestad observed that a proposal to undertake a survey that could gather useful data on amateur use of frequencies above 30 MHz was probably not appropriate. For now the

best way forward appears to be to solicit information from the numerous interest groups that are active in these bands.

10. Mr. Sumner had received a communication from the owner of an internet domain related to amateur radio, suggesting the IARU might take responsibility for it as a further way of reaching out to the broader community. Following discussion, the AC directed Mr. Sumner to contact the domain owner and accept the offer. Further details and recognition of the former owner will be released once the agreement is complete.

11. The next meeting of the AC is scheduled for Tuesday, 6 April 2021 at 1200 UTC. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1459 UTC.

David Sumner, K1ZZ
IARU Secretary