The 51st 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 and Region 3 Secretary Shizuo Endo, JE1MUI. Also participating was IARU Assistant Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN. President Ellam called the meeting to order at 1200 UTC Tuesday, 8 June 2021.

A moment of silence was observed for radio amateurs and friends who have died since the previous meeting of the AC.

1. The following agenda was approved:
   1. Approval of agenda
   2. Remembrance of Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM
   3. Reports of officers
   4. Reports of regional organizations
   5. Region 1 inactive member-societies
   6. WRC-23 preparations
   7. Final report and recommendations of the Core Mission Working Group
   9. VHF+ Committee report
   10. 144+ Video report
   11. October meeting considerations
   12. ARAC project management
   13. Other business

2. A special moment of remembrance for Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, was offered and attendees afforded the opportunity to speak. Mr. Leandro’s many years of service to IARU was acknowledged. He possessed impressive diplomatic skills and his many contacts within ITU outside of amateur radio were extremely beneficial to IARU. His friendly personality and warm humanity were acknowledged by all. Mr. Leandro was the recipient of IARU’s Michael J. Owen Memorial Award in 2019.

3. Reports of the officers

3.1. President Ellam presented an oral report noting he had been busy with the work of the 144+ Committee. The ARRL Board will hold an in-person meeting in July and he will attend on behalf of IARU. A meeting with new ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA is also scheduled in addition to meetings with IARU Secretary K1ZZ and IARU Assistant Secretary W5ZN to discuss a number of items related to the transition of IARU Secretary that will occur on 1 July.
3.2. Vice President Garpestad’s oral report highlighted his participation in ITU-R Working Party 5A in April & May noting supporting work performed by Barry Lewis, G4SJH and Mr. Sumner.

3.3. Secretary Sumner reported the next IARU Calendar will be sent later this month. IARU member-societies have voted to approve two new member-societies, Kyrgyzstan (ARUKR) and Bahrain (BARS). Adoption of a member society proposal requires the affirmative votes of a majority of the member-societies that have participated in recent votes. Currently there are 105 such member-societies: 58 in Region 1, 27 in Region 2, and 20 in Region 3. This time votes were received from 35 member-societies in Region 1, 21 in Region 2, and 15 in Region 3. With 53 affirmative votes required for passage there were 70 for ARUKR and 71 for BARS. There were no negative votes or abstentions but one member-society only returned one of the two vote sheets.

4. Reports from the regional organizations

4.1. Mr. Beattie presented the report from Region 1, welcoming two new member societies from Bahrain and Kyrgyzstan. He noted preparations for the Region 1 Workshop are on-going. A decision will be made in July as to whether the format will be virtual or in-person in Novi Sad, Serbia this fall. Ham Radio – Friedrichshafen will hold a virtual event in June. IARU will have a presence. Mr. Beattie noted his work with Working Party 3L and emphasized a need for more input from IARU. The AC thanked Martin Sach, G8KDF, for organizing the regional EMC Coordinators to work together. It was noted that Covid is still limiting activities by HST, ARDF and youth.

4.2. Mr. Gorsline presented comments on the Region 2 written report. Youth activities are starting to take off. The Youth Liaison function is evolving as participation and interest develops, moving to a team concept. Work is ongoing by R2 CITEL Coordinator Flavio Archangelo, PY2ZX and in preparatory meetings with participation by RAC, ARRL, and LABRE. Rod Stafford W6ROD is now the Area B Director, representing the United States following the resignation of Jay Bellows, K0QB. With the transition to a new Director, under the Bylaws, Mr. Bellows could not continue as Treasurer. The EC appointed Ramón Santoyo XE1KK Treasurer until the existing term ends at the next General Assembly in 2022. Mr. Bellows will act as Assistant to the Treasurer until that time. The R2 EC has formally mandated the discontinuance of the red IARU R2 logo and adopted the IARU Branding Guide. All Member Societies, R2 committees, and other R2 related events are to make this transition at the earliest practical time, and no later than the end of 2021. Diego Salom, LU8ADX has been appointed Region 2 Awards Manager, replacing YV5AM (SK).

4.3. Mr. Widjaja delivered comments on the Region 3 written report. It was decided that the 2021 R3 Conference (September 20th to 23rd, 2021) would be held virtually via Zoom. RAST will be the host and coordinating member society. The APG23-2 meeting was held from 19 to 24 April 2021 in a virtual form. The Chairman of IARU Region 3 Directors Wisnu Widjaja and the Secretary of IARU Region 3 Shizuo Endo attended the meeting as representatives of IARU Region 3. Region 3 Director Ken Yamamoto, Director Don Wallace and Dale Hughes of WIA attended as members of their administrations’ delegations. An information document was submitted by IARU. Due to time constraints, most agenda items were discussed only one time at the relevant first WP/drafting groups and output documents which include APT preliminary views were drafted. No substantial discussions were made. We expect to see more specific APT preliminary views at the next meeting. The next Region 3 Directors meeting will be held virtually on June 27, 2021.
5. Region 1 Inactive Member Societies. A list of inactive Region 1 member societies had been presented to the AC prior to the meeting. The IARU Constitution explains that an IARU Member Society may be placed in temporary suspension if it appears not to have been able to fulfil its obligations under Article 2 (11) of the Constitution. A society in temporary suspension may be returned to full membership of IARU should its circumstances change. Mr. Beattie stated the Region expects some of the societies will return to active status, noting there is a difference between a society that cannot pay dues versus a society that no longer exists. A concern was expressed about the number of inactive societies from Africa. The AC agreed to the temporary suspensions proposed by Region 1 with two exceptions where more information will be sought. Region 1 also reported the resignation of the Radio Society of Zambia from the IARU; it will take effect upon publication in the IARU Calendar.

6. WRC-23 Preparations. Vice President Garpestad briefly commented on preparations, noting most information had been contained in his Vice President’s report.

7. Moving to Agenda Items 9 and 12 to accommodate members’ schedules, Mr. Ellam presented a brief report from the VHF+ Committee. A draft report is still under review with availability to the AC planned by the end of June.

8. Agenda Item 12, Amateur Radio Administration Course (ARAC) Project Management. Mr. Blondeel Timmerman noted that the work of the team responsible for developing the overall objectives and syllabus topics was largely complete. After discussion of the next steps to be taken it was agreed that the officers will be responsible for identifying a project manager to coordinate the development of course material by other individuals to be assigned specific modules. AC members were asked to propose candidates to continue the work.

9. Moving back to Agenda item 7, Mr. Gorsline presented the final report and recommendations of the Core Mission Working Group and addressed comments. The report includes several recommendations for action by the AC or other Working Groups. The AC will review the recommendations with action at a future meeting.

10. Mr. Azarian presented an interim report from the Relationships Working Group. The WG continues to meet and will provide recommendations at a future meeting.

11. Mr. Harrison reported on the 144+ Video Committee. The group is developing specific topics related to innovation, STEM and commercial exploitation of amateur radio technology with a global focus to be incorporated in to a 5 to 7 minute video focused toward government officials and regulators.

12. October Meeting Considerations. The AC believes there is benefit in holding an in-person meeting. The value of personal interaction is important however we must be cognizant of health and safety considerations. The AC will await a decision as to the status of the Region 1 meeting before discussing an alternate arrangement.

13. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1404 UTC.

David Sumner, K1ZZ, Secretary