

International Amateur Radio Union
Administrative Council
Summary Record of Virtual Meeting
14 January 2022

1. The 53rd meeting of the IARU Administrative Council (AC) was held virtually via Zoom teleconference on Friday, 14 January 2022. Members attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN; Sylvain Azarian, F4GKR, President, and Mats Espling, SM6EAN, Secretary, IARU Region 1; Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, President, and George Gorsline, VE3YV, Secretary, IARU Region 2; and Region 3 Chairman Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP, and Director Yudi Hasbi, YD1PRY. Also participating was Assistant Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. President Ellam called the meeting to order at 1308 UTC. Mr. Espling joined the meeting at 1340 UTC.

2. A moment of silence was observed for radio amateurs and friends who have died since the previous meeting of the AC including Joseph Kirsch, LX1DK, and Saif Shahid, S21A.

The following agenda was approved:

1. Opening of Meeting – VE6SH
 2. Moment of Silence
 3. Reports of the Officers
 4. Reports of the Regions
 5. Region Use of the 144+ MHz Committee Report - VE6SH
 6. IARU Coordinator Reports
 - i. CISPR – G8KDF
 7. WRC-23 Preparations – LA2RR
 8. Inter-regional Bandplanning Proposals
 9. Report of the Communications Working Group
 10. Report of the Relationships Working Group
 11. Report of the Governance Working Group
 12. Report of the Finance Working Group
 13. ARDC Grant Status – VE6SH/W5ZN
 - i. ARAC
 - ii. 144+ Video
 - iii. Hamradio.org
 14. QSL Bureau Postal Mailing Issues
 15. Satellite Coordination Policy
 16. Review of Action Item List
 17. Membership application from Sudan Amateur Radio Union (SARU)
 18. Other Business
 19. Proposed date for in-person AC meeting in spring 2022
3. Reports of the officers

3.1. Unless pandemic-related restrictions prevent it, President Ellam will attend the ARRL Board of Directors meeting that begins on 21 January. He looks forward to meeting the newly hired executive assistant whose responsibilities include IARU support.

3.2. Vice President Garpestad noted his participation in the virtual conference of Region 3 and the conference/workshop of Region 1 as well as WRC-23 preparatory meetings. He also attended the ITU organized, virtual Inter-regional band workshop on WRC-23 preparations to get the latest status from all relevant RTOs..

3.3. Secretary Harrison's written report reviewed his activity since the October 2021 meeting. The IARU budget for 2022 and 2023 was discussed with ARRL as the International Secretariat and approved with minor revisions. The iaru-news email reflector is available for member-societies to distribute news of a global nature suitable for a general audience. Mr. Harrison plans to attend the ARRL National Convention in Orlando next month.

4. Reports from the regional organizations

4.1. Mr. Azarian noted that the new Region 1 Executive Committee had taken over as of 1 December 2021. There is a great deal of activity on the "Shaping the Future" initiative arising from the October 2021 virtual workshop, with more than 80 people involved. The interim meeting normally held in Vienna has been cancelled owing to travel restrictions, but it is hoped that an in-person meeting can be held in conjunction with the Ham Radio event in Friedrichshafen.

4.2. Mr. Santoyo supplemented the written report from Region 2 prepared by Mr. Gorsline. He observed that it is unlikely an in-person conference can be held in Argentina later this year as originally planned. Plans for a virtual conference will be developed based on the positive experiences of Regions 1 and 3. Region 2 now have a qualified individual to represent the IARU at CITEL meetings, since all other amateurs who participate are members of their national delegation and must adhere to their national briefs.

4.3. Mr. Yamamoto reported that the new Region 3 Board of Directors took office on 15 October 2021 following election during the virtual conference. Directors' meetings are held virtually bimonthly. Region 3 continues to participate in APT preparations for WRC-23.

5. Mr. Ellam requested updates from the regions on distribution of the letter to member-societies that was prepared by the 144+ MHz Committee and approved by the AC last year and expressed the hope that the agreed distribution can be completed in the next 30 days.

6. Reports from the IARU Coordinators are not generally required except at the annual meeting of the AC. As no report from the EMC Coordinator could be prepared for the October AC meeting, the IARU EMC Coordinator Mr. Sach, G8KDF, submitted a comprehensive report that was distributed in advance of this meeting.

7. Mr. Garpestad reviewed the status of WRC-23 preparations. The ITU Working Parties that are responsible for studies relating to the agenda items are hampered by having to function virtually. Draft CPM text must be completed this year, but little progress has been made on many items. A three-day inter-regional workshop held in December yielded little new information on the work being conducted by the regional telecommunications organizations. Concern was expressed that the amateur community is not generally aware of

the work being done by the IARU to address the challenges we face between now and the conclusion of WRC-23 late next year.

8. Mr. Garpestad reported on the work being done by the inter-regional IARU band planning committee especially on the bandplan for HF data segments. The committee realizes that member-societies should be given more opportunities for discussion of the issues being dealt with and has asked if it would be possible for IARU to hold a virtual conference for that purpose. New thinking is emerging about how to approach band planning globally.

9. Mr. Espling apologized for his late arrival at the meeting and reported for the Communications Working Group. He expressed concern that there has been insufficient activity to suggest that the regions are all prepared for the changes that must occur. With his new responsibilities as Region 1 Secretary he cannot continue as WG Coordinator; the WG will discuss a replacement. The AC agreed to add Region 1 Vice President Hani Raad, OD5TE/A65TE, as a member of the WG.

10. Mr. Azarian reported for the Relationships WG. The WG will be finalizing the work it has done to date. It will recommend a less defensive, more positive mindset in advocating for amateur radio. The AC agreed to add Region 3 Director Aris Bernawi, 9M2IR, to the WG.

11. Mr. Sumner reported that the 10-member Governance WG has begun its work. He noted a need for liaison to the Communications WG. The initial task given to the Governance WG by the AC is to develop more specific obligations of member-societies.

12. Mr. Ellam reported that former Region 2 Treasurer Jay Bellows, K0QB, has agreed to serve as coordinator of the Finance WG.

13. Mr. Ellam reported that he and Mr. Harrison made a presentation to ARDC to provide background on the IARU for their future consideration of possible grant proposals. He noted that a professional project manager is needed for the 144+ MHz Video Project.

14. A survey of member-societies seeking information on QSL bureau international postal delivery issues will be included in the next issue of the IARU *Calendar*.

15. Mr. Azarian had asked that Satellite Coordination Policy be added to the agenda. He serves on the Satellite Frequency Coordination Panel and informed the AC that the vast majority of coordination requests are for university-based projects. The applicants for coordination typically have little background in amateur radio and are unfamiliar with ITU requirements. Mr Garpestad explained that the Satellite Frequency Coordination Panel is preparing explanatory material in an effort to improve understanding of the IARU frequency coordination process. The AC agreed to review the paper and discuss it at its next meeting. The importance of preparing IARU member societies to deal with such requests was stressed.

16. Mr. Harrison led a discussion of the Action Items from the previous meeting. It was noted that there is a vacancy for Agenda Item 1.18 in the WRC-23 IARU personnel matrix.

17. Region 1 reported that it has reviewed an application for IARU membership from the Sudan Amateur Radio Union and has made a favorable finding. A proposal for admission to IARU membership will be presented to member-societies for vote in the next issue of the *Calendar*.

18. Other Business. At its June 2021 meeting the AC sought additional information from two member-societies that Region 1 had requested be placed in temporary suspension. Information on one of the two is still being sought.

19. Because of travel restrictions it is still not possible to schedule an in-person meeting of the AC. It was agreed to review the situation in late February to see if a meeting can be scheduled for April.

While this meeting was originally planned for two days, there being no further business it was agreed that the second day would not be needed. Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 1605 UTC.

Joel Harrison, W5ZN
Secretary