International Amateur Radio Union

Summary Meeting Report
ITU-R WP5A #27: 23rd May - 2nd June 2022 (Hybrid Meeting)

Relating to the 23cm Band RNSS Coexistence Aspects and WRC23 Al 9.1b

The IARU was represented by Ole Garpestad (LA2RR – ITU Lead) and Barry Lewis (G4SJH – WRC23 Al9.1b Lead).

Background

As detailed in the report from WRC23 CPM-1, ITU-R WP5A is the lead group responsible for developing the CPM report on agenda item 9.1 topic b and is working in collaboration with WP4C on the studies identified under invites 2 of Resolution 774.

The contributions relating to this work are dealt with in working group WG5A-1 which met for fourteen sessions over the ten meeting days. WG5A-1 also deals with other aspects related to the amateur and amateur satellite services reported elsewhere.

Contributions to the meeting were provided by ITU-R WP4C, Canada, France, Germany, IARU and the Russian Federation. These were presented in WG5A-1 and used as the basis for further discussion and development of the WG5A-1 deliverables. The deliverables under development relating to Al9.1b are:

1. draft technical report ITU-R M.[AMATEUR.CHARACTERISTICS]
2. draft ITU-R Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE]
3. internal ITU-R deliverable into the conference preparatory process draft CPM Text.

Working documents and contributions to the meeting relevant to Al 9.1b

The following working documents carried over from the previous meeting #26 formed the basis for the work to progress:
Document 5A/491-E, Annex 6 - The draft CPM text.

Input contributions

Doc 5A/522 – France/Germany – proposals for the CPM text.
Doc 5A/538 – Canada - proposals for the CPM text.
Doc 5A/539 – Canada - proposals for the report M.[AMATEUR.CHARACTERISTICS].
Doc 5A/544 – France - draft liaison response to WP4C.
IARU objectives

The IARU provided one contribution to this meeting regarding the CPM text and participated in all the discussions concerning the deliverables under development. The key objective was to ensure that the amateur and amateur satellite services are represented and reflected accurately and in a balanced way in the discussions and deliverables.

Meeting Activity

a) CPM Text relating to WRC23 agenda item 9.1b:
WP5A is identified as the responsible group for providing the CPM text for the CPM report developed ahead of the WRC providing a summary of the studies carried out in the study period since the last WRC and the methods to satisfy the agenda item. However for WRC agenda item 9 issues, specific methods for amending the Radio Regulations are not proposed (as this is normally out of scope for an agenda item 9 topic). Finalising this work was the top priority for this meeting to meet the deadlines for development of the CPM report by the ITU-R.

The text was completed taking into account all the contributions and adopted for work by the ITU-R CPM report rapporteurs. For the IARU it was important to reflect the results of the studies in a way that avoids discussion of the specifics (e.g. interference distances and so on) as it didn’t seem possible to properly reflect adequately all the elements in the relatively short CPM text.

IARU attempted to bring in the aspect of low probability of interference due to the relatively low usage of the band (<2% of a year) but this was not accepted as it had not been a part of the WP4C studies. However with no specific mention of interference distances the IARU is satisfied with the text going forward. The text also identifies the development of the recommendation [AS_GUIDANCE] as the deliverable to satisfy the agenda item.

b) Report M.[AMATEUR.CHARACTERISTICS]:
It is now agreed that this report will not reflect the details of the studies underway in WP4C (see the report from WP5A meeting #26). As a result all the material introduced at the last meeting relating to the WP4C activity was removed. As a result of the “<2% of a year” topic not accepted in the CPM text development the IARU proposed a short text to be added to the draft report to provide the detail on how this figure is reached. The meeting agreed to add this in the relevant section of the report and it will need to be mirrored in the information provided to WP4C (It is mentioned in the liaison response to WP4C). Work will continue on this report at the next meeting.

c) Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE]
Focus has now shifted to this draft recommendation which will provide guidelines to administrations to ensure the protection of the RNSS primary allocation from the secondary amateur and amateur satellite services. A compilation of all the contributions was made on the (previously undiscussed) document from meeting #26 and drafting group
work started. During the (off-line) compilation process the IARU also supplied comments inserted into the draft. All the proposals remain colour coded in the draft according to their source. The meeting agreed first draft text (scope, considerings and recognisings) up to the annexes. The annexes will provide details of the frequency band usage constraints on the amateur and amateur satellite services and power levels proposed by the contributors. All the proposals in the annexes remain unaccepted in the draft at this time for further discussion at future meetings.

**Summary of the meeting outputs relevant to AI 9.1b**

**Annex 10 to the chairman’s report 5A/xxx: PDNR ITU-R M.[AMATEUR.CHARACTERISTICS].** This working document forms the basis for ongoing contributions and work at the next meeting.

**Annex 6 to the chairman’s report 5A/597: Draft CPM text.**

**Annex 7 to the chairman’s report 5A/597: Report of activities in support of WRC-23 agenda item 9.1, topic b).**

**Annex 11 to the chairman’s report 5A/597: Working document towards a Recommendation on guidance for the amateur and amateur satellite service use of the 1240-1300 MHz band.**

A liaison response was approved to be sent to WP4C.

**Comments**

The draft recommendation will be the most important element of the WP5A work going forward for the amateur and amateur satellite services in the 23cm band. The working document contains a number of proposals for severe limitations on amateur usage of the band including transmitter power constraints. Very low power levels are proposed for large portions of the band (100% in one case). The proposed annexes in the working document all identify possible frequency band usage limitations for broadband applications (e.g. ATV), narrowband applications and amateur satellite services in 1 260-1 270 MHz.

*None of these proposals are adopted at this time* and work will continue at the next meeting to rationalise the variations.

The RNSS proponents are expecting these proposals to be applicable in all 3 regions.

The IARU also noticed some inconsistencies in the study work liaised from WP4C and has requested (through the liaison response) clarification of these concerns. These inconsistencies will reduce the narrowband interference distances reported in the IARU WP4C meeting report.

**Next WP-5A meeting:** 14 – 25th Nov 2022

**Next WP-4C meeting:** 7 – 13th Sept 2022