

Summary Record
International Amateur Radio Union
Administrative Council Meeting
Friedrichshafen, Germany
25-26 June 2023

1. The 58th meeting of the IARU Administrative Council (AC) was held on Sunday and Monday, 25-26 June 2023 at SEEhotel, Friedrichshafen, Germany. Members attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, in the Chair; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Joel Harrison, W5ZN; Sylvain Azarian, F4GKR, President, IARU Region 1; George Gorsline, VE3YV, President, and Rod Stafford, W6ROD, Secretary, IARU Region 2; and Region 3 Co-Chairmen Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP, and Yudi Hasbi, YC1PRY. Also participating was Assistant Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. Region 1 Secretary Mats Espling, SM6EAN, sent regrets at being unable to attend. President Ellam called the meeting to order at 1230 local time.

2. A moment of silence was observed for radio amateurs and friends who have died since the March virtual meeting, including Charles H. “Chip” Margelli, K7JA, and Athol Masdoll, Z21LV.

3. The following agenda was approved:

1. Opening of Meeting by President
2. Introductions, meeting arrangements, remembrances
 - 2.1 Roll Call of Participants
 - 2.2 Meeting Arrangements
 - 2.3 Moment of Silence
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Report of officers
 - 4.1 Report of President Ellam
 - 4.2 Report of Vice President Garpestad
 - 4.3 Report of Secretary Harrison
5. Reports from the regional organizations
 - 5.1 Region 1
 - 5.2 Region 2
 - 5.3 Region 3
6. Review of written reports of International Coordinators and Advisors
 - 6.1 IARU Beacon Project Coordinator – Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN
 - 6.2 Satellite Advisor – Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T
 - 6.3 Emergency Communications Special Advisor – Rod Stafford, W6ROD
 - 6.4 IARU EMC Coordinator – Martin Sach, G8KDF
 - 6.4.1 EMC global coordination assistance
7. ITU and related issues
 - 7.1 ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)
 - 7.1.1 WRC-23
 - 7.1.1.1 Report on the Conference Preparatory Meeting
 - 7.1.1.2 Regional reports on RTO preparations

- 7.1.1.3 Latest Updates on WRC-23 Agenda Items 1.2, 1.12, and 9.1b including reports from the mid-May WP 5A
 - 7.1.1.4 Possible IARU contribution for information on WRC-23 agenda items
 - 7.1.1.5 Review of known possible WRC-27 agenda topics
 - 7.1.1.6 IARU representation at WRC
 - 7.1.1.7 ITU News published article
 - 7.1.2 Radiocommunication Advisory Group
 - 7.2 ITU Development Sector (ITU-D)
 - 7.2.1 Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)
 - 7.2.2 ITU-D Study Group 1
 - 7.3 ITU Council
 - 7.4 4U1ITU Status and Plans
8. Strategic Planning
- 8.1 Report of the Future Working Group
 - 8.2 Report of the Relationship Working Group – Sylvain Azarian, F4GKR
 - 8.3 Report of the Legal Working Group – Tim Ellam, VE6SH
 - 8.4 Report of the Finance Working Group – Tim Ellam, VE6SH
 - 8.5 Timeline for Implementation
9. Operational and administrative matters
- 9.1 Relations with Member Societies
 - 9.1.1 Applications for IARU Membership (if any)
 - 9.1.2 Member-Society and Second Society Issues
 - 9.2 Technical Representatives
 - 9.3 2024 budget and 2023 budget review
 - 9.4 Amateur Radio Administration Course
 - 9.5 ARDC Grant Proposal
 - 9.5.1 ARAC
 - 9.5.2 144+ Video
 - 9.6 IARU Support for European Space Agency to Investigate a Future Geostationary Amateur Satellite Payload
10. IARU Consultative Process – W6ROD on behalf of the International Secretariat
11. Terms of Reference for the IARU Monitoring System (proposed by Gaspar, EA6AMM)
12. Report on World Amateur Radio Day 2023 and HS4A – David Sumner, K1ZZ
13. IARU 100th Anniversary 2025
14. Hamradio.org website update
15. Any other business
- 15.1 QSL costs
16. Discussion of venues and dates for next AC meeting
4. Reports of the officers
- 4.1. President Ellam’s report covered his activities since the March virtual meeting, including a very fruitful meeting in April with Secretary Harrison and the ARRL President and Chief Executive Officer on behalf of the International Secretariat and staffing of the IARU booth at the Dayton (Xenia) Hamvention in May. He reflected on progress made

during his three terms as President and thanked everyone who has contributed, especially Mr. Garpestad without whom he could not have done the job.

4.2. The focus of Vice President Garpestad's report was on his coordination of WRC-23 preparations and included his work with Region 1 and the EMC Coordinator since last year's in-person meeting.

4.3. In his report Secretary Harrison observed that the majority of his work involves administrative matters and interface with the International Secretariat. He was especially glad to have the support of Philipp Springer, DK6SP, and Markus Grosser, DL8GM, in the IARU stand at Hamvention.

5. Reports from the regional organizations

5.1. The Region 1 report by Mr. Azarian noted that the current term was shortened to just two years, leading to a busy agenda. More active volunteers are needed for the "Shaping the Future" initiative. An Amateur Radio Management Application is in development for use by IARU and will be offered to member-societies. Preparations are well underway for the General Conference to be held at the beginning of November in Zlatibor, Serbia. There will be turnover in the leadership of several Working Groups and Committees.

5.2. Mr. Stafford delivered the Region 2 report covering events of the past year. The General Conference held virtually in November 2022 elected officers and several new directors. Reduced expenses owing to travel restrictions during the pandemic permitted temporary reductions in dues. There is a vacancy in the position of Region 2 EMC Coordinator.

5.3. Mr. Yamamoto reported for Region 3. The Directors and Secretary hold bimonthly virtual meetings; several of them have participated in meetings of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-23. The first Region 3 YOTA Camp is planned for Pattaya, Thailand, 27-29 October 2023. The 2024 Region 3 General Conference is also planned for Thailand, but the dates are not yet set.

6. Reports of International Coordinators and Advisors

6.1. The comprehensive annual report of Beacon Project Coordinator Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN, was reviewed. All but three of the beacons are functioning reliably thanks to local support. The Secretary confirmed that an oversight in providing the funding approved last year is being corrected. The AC agreed to renew the annual contribution of \$1,000 for 2023.

6.2. The written report of Satellite Advisor Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, was reviewed. The Satellite Frequency Coordination Panel meets every two or three weeks by conference call. In the past year 56 coordination letters were issued. IARU has contributed text for a small satellite handbook being developed in ITU-R WP 4A. ESA is investigating the feasibility of an amateur satellite payload on a European geostationary satellite.

6.3. Consideration of the report of the Emergency Communications Special Advisor was postponed until agenda item 7.2.

6.4. The report of the EMC Coordinator was reviewed. His work included some 40 CISPR Zoom meetings during the past year, most of them being team editing sessions, along with three in-person meetings.

6.4.1. At the June 2022 AC meeting a need was identified for additional administrative support of the global coordination function. Mr. Ellam thanked Region 1 and Mr. Garpestad for their assistance.

6.5. The coordinators and advisors were thanked for their excellent work during the past year. A letter of thanks will be sent to each. The Beacon Project Coordinator, Satellite Advisor, and EMC Coordinator were reappointed for additional three-year terms.

7. ITU and related issues

7.1. ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)

7.1.1. WRC-23

7.1.1.1. Mr. Sumner briefly reviewed his report on the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) that was circulated shortly after the meeting. He highlighted the work of Dale Hughes, VK1DSH, as chair of the Sub Working Group dealing with agenda item 9.1 topic b.

7.1.1.2. Reports were received from Regions 1, 2, and 3 on WRC preparations in the regional telecommunications organizations (RTOs). More meetings of the RTOs are scheduled in the coming months.

At 1415 local time the AC proceeded to consider agenda item 11. Region 1 IARU Monitoring System Coordinator Gaspar Miró, EA6AMM, joined the meeting remotely and presented a proposal for changes to the IARUMS Terms of Reference. His presentation concluded at 1447. The AC will discuss the proposed changes, as well as related changes in IARU documentation that would be required, in the coming weeks.

7.1.1.3. Mr. Garpestad provided updates on WRC-23 agenda item 1.12 and on the May meeting of ITU-R WP 5A. A report by Barry Lewis, G4SJH, on the meeting was also reviewed. Mr. Lewis is currently attending a meeting of WP 4C in Geneva that is also dealing with agenda item 9.1 topic b.

7.1.1.4. The AC agreed that as has been done in the past, the IARU should submit an information paper to WRC-23 addressing the agenda items of concern to the amateur and amateur-satellite services. It was also agreed that a handout for use at the WRC should be prepared, explaining how amateurs use the 1240-1300 MHz band and summarizing the ITU documentation in support of continued access. Mr. Azarian volunteered to coordinate the preparation of the handout. Finally, it was agreed that it would be useful for an IARU pin to be available for distribution by the IARU representatives at the WRC. Mr. Sumner will pursue the production of a suitable pin with the International Secretariat.

7.1.1.5. Several potential proposals for WRC-27 agenda items surfaced at the CPM and others are under discussion in the RTOs. IARU will continue to monitor developments in order to identify and track potential areas of concern and to plan accordingly.

7.1.1.6. Plans for IARU representation at WRC-23 were confirmed as previously agreed. Barry Lewis, G4SJH will be present full-time. President Ellam and Secretary Harrison will attend part-time. Vice President Garpestad plans to attend as a member of his national delegation, as will other IARU volunteers.

7.1.1.7. Mr. Ellam called attention to an article about amateur use of the 1240-1300 MHz band that appeared recently in the magazine *ITU News*.

7.1.2. To reduce expenses in a busy year for international travel, IARU did not participate in this year's meeting of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG).

7.2. ITU Development Sector (ITU-D)

7.2.1. Mr. Stafford presented reports covering recent meetings of ITU-D Study Group 1 and SG1 Rapporteurs. The most important ITU-D Question to which the IARU contributes, concerning emergency telecommunications, was moved from SG2 to SG1 and now encompasses disaster risk reduction and management. He found the Rapporteurs meeting to be the more beneficial of the two. Mr. Stafford said that he will be ready to turn the position of Emergency Communications Special Advisor over to a qualified successor after the end of the year and recommended the appointment of Rick Palm, K1CE. The AC expressed appreciation for Mr. Stafford's work in this important area and agreed to the appointment of Mr. Palm with a period of overlap to permit both to attend an upcoming meeting.

7.3. Mr. Ellam observed that the IARU has not requested permission to attend ITU Council meetings for several years. Former ITU-R Bureau Director Bob Jones, VE7RWJ, continues to monitor Council activities on our behalf.

7.4. The International Amateur Radio Club station, 4U1ITU, remains fully operational as the demolition and reconstruction of the building in which it is housed has not gone forward. The ITU Council will review options for the building at its meeting in July and a decision is expected at that time.

The AC was in recess from 1645 local time until 0856 the following day and resumed with all participants present.

8. Strategic Planning

8.1. The AC was reminded that the final report of the Future Working Group was previously received and that it was intended to guide the subsequent work toward restructuring.

8.2. Mr. Azarian gave a report "one year after" the last meeting of the Relationship Working Group in which he summarized subsequent discussions with members of the WG and member-society officials. Not all members of the governing boards of some member-societies have accepted that there is a need to become more future-oriented and more inclusive, leading to internal conflicts in some cases.

8.3. Mr. Ellam presented the report of the Legal Working Group. The WG was initially guided by the work of the Governance WG and by the requirements to be a Swiss Association, this being the form of formal organization that is best suited to the needs of the IARU. The WG had prepared a draft governing document that served as the basis for detailed, constructive discussions for most of the morning. Mr. Ellam will take the comments back to the Legal WG for refinement of the draft.

8.4. Mr. Ellam presented the report of the Finance Working Group. Much work remains to be done to estimate the cost of operating the new structure in order to determine the financial support that will be required.

8.5. After a brief recess for lunch, it was agreed that the next major step is to seek formal endorsement of the general direction of the restructuring by the Region 1 Conference. Mr. Ellam will prepare a draft paper and after review by the officers will circulate it to the AC with the objective of having an agreed document no later than 15 August.

9. Operational and administrative matters

9.1. Relations with member-societies

9.1.1. The Secretary reported that no applications for membership are pending.

9.1.2. No issues concerning member-societies and second societies were presented at this time.

9.2. The list of Technical Representatives was reviewed and will be updated by the Secretary.

9.3. The Secretary presented the financial report from the International Secretariat as of the end of May and a draft budget for 2024. Expenses for 2023 will occur mainly in the second half of the year. Expenses for 2024 are expected to be much less owing to reduced requirements for travel.

9.4. No Amateur Radio Administration Courses are currently planned.

9.5. There have been no recent developments concerning ARDC grants. The International Secretariat has offered to assist in developing a budget for the 144+ video.

9.6. The European Space Agency has replied to a letter from IARU seeking support for a definition of a geostationary amateur satellite payload. Mr. Garpestad will follow up with the Satellite Advisor to consider the next steps to be taken.

10. With Mr. Stafford in his role as ARRL International Affairs Vice President, the AC proceeded with the consultative process for the nomination of candidates for IARU President and Vice President for the 2024-2029 term. Mr. Ellam left the room and Mr. Garpestad assumed the Chair. Mr. Stafford reviewed the consultations that have occurred between ARRL as the International Secretariat (IS) and the heads of the regional IARU organizations. He reported that Mr. Ellam has confirmed that he is willing to remain as IARU President for the transition period to a new IARU structure. Mr. Stafford anticipates that Mr. Ellam will step down at some point during the new term whether or not the transition proceeds. The AC concurred with the IS in the nomination of Mr. Ellam for the new term. Mr. Ellam returned to the Chair. Proceeding to the nomination for IARU Vice President, Mr. Stafford noted that Mr. Garpestad had said he is not available for an additional term. Following interviews with potential candidates the IS and the regional heads have made a unanimous endorsement of Thomas Wrede, DF2OO, as the nominee. Accordingly, the Secretary was instructed to present to the member-societies, in a *Calendar* to be issued no later than 8 December 2023, proposals by the International Secretariat with the unanimous concurrence by the Administrative Council that Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, be re-elected as IARU President and Thomas Wrede, DF2OO, be elected as IARU Vice President for terms beginning on 9 May 2024.

11. This item was dealt with the previous day after item 7.1.1.2.

12. Mr. Sumner presented a report on World Amateur Radio Day 2023 and its theme of Human Security for All (HS4A). The AC thanked the Region 1 YOTA team, Christian Buenger, DL6KAC, and Mr. Sumner for their efforts to make the event a success; Mr. Sumner thanked Region 2 for making Mr. Buenger available. The implementing organization for the United Nations HS4A initiative has said it would like to continue the relationship with IARU; the AC expressed interest in hearing their thoughts.

13. Mr. Azarian shared a proposal from Region 1 that the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the IARU include an in-person event in Paris on Friday and Saturday, 25-26 April 2025. He outlined preliminary plans for a gala dinner on the Seine. A budget for the event will be sought at the Region 1 Conference. Mr. Harrison will seek budgetary support from the ARRL. ARRL envisions an operating event keyed to World Amateur Radio Day as part of the celebration. The AC agreed to support these plans.

14. Mr. Azarian reported on progress toward launching a completely revised hamradio.org website. A contract has been signed with a professional website developer who has worked previously with the IARU. A goal is to have a working “first release” website functioning by the time of the Region 1 Conference in November. While the work to date has been performed by volunteers in Region 1, ideas and contributions from Regions 2 and 3 are welcome.

15. Any other business

15.1. During the Ham Radio exhibition the previous weekend a representative of a member-society raised a concern about the increasing costs of operating a QSL bureau. The AC continues to share this concern, as expressed in Resolution 18-1 and more recently at agenda item 10.6 of the June 2022 meeting.

15.2. Proposals for the bestowing of a Michael J. Owen, VK3KI Memorial Award and an IARU Diamond Award were approved.

16. Regarding future meetings, it was observed that most AC members will attend the Region 1 Conference in Serbia at the beginning of November. A short meeting there is a possibility, as is a virtual meeting.

Mr. Ellam thanked everyone for their attendance and hard work over the course of the meeting, which was adjourned at 1430.

Joel Harrison, W5ZN
Secretary