



International Amateur Radio Union

Working for the future of amateur radio

PO Box 310905, Newington, CT 06131-0905 USA

Email: iaru@iaru.org

IARU Position on WRC-23 Agenda Item 9.1 Topic B

In March 2021 the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) presented its preliminary views on six WRC-23 agenda items of principal concern: 1.2, 1.12, 1.14, 1.18, 9.1 Topic A, and 9.1 Topic B. These positions were approved by the IARU Administrative Council and are subject to revision as WRC-23 preparations proceed.

This document presents an updated position on WRC-23 Agenda Item 9.1b taking into account the developments during the Study Period.

Agenda Item 9.1 Topic B

Text of agenda item

9 to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention;

9.1 on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-19:

...

– Review of the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service allocations in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz to determine if additional measures are required to ensure protection of the radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) service operating in the same band in accordance with Resolution 774 (WRC-19);

Assignment of studies to ITU-R Working Parties

Responsible group: WP 5A

Contributing groups: WP 3M, WP 4C (responsible for developing studies on *resolves to invite ITU R 2* and sending this to WP 5A)

History of the allocations to the amateur and amateur-satellite services

An amateur service allocation of 1 215-1 300 MHz was made on a primary, exclusive basis at the 1947 International Radio Conference in Atlantic City. At the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC), Geneva, 1959, the allocation was changed to radiolocation primary and amateur secondary, narrowed to 1 240-1 300 MHz. At the 1979 WARC radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) was added to 1 240-1 260 MHz as a primary service and an amateur-satellite allocation (Earth-to-space) was added at 1 260-1 270 MHz. The radionavigation-satellite service was added to 1 260-1 300 MHz at the World Radiocommunication Conference, Istanbul, 2000. Also in 2000 the earth-exploration satellite service and space research service were added to 1 215-1 300 MHz as primary services but with certain constraints to protect other primary services including the radionavigation service, which is allocated by footnote in a very large number of countries.

Use of the band 1 240-1 300 MHz by the amateur and amateur-satellite services

The amateur service has a secondary allocation in the 1 240-1 300 MHz frequency band. The amateur-satellite service has a secondary allocation in 1 260-1 270 MHz (Earth-to-space).

A preliminary draft new Report ITU-R M.[AMATEUR.CHARACTERISTICS] is in preparation in ITU-R Working Party 5A. The current version of the working document is Annex 5 to Document 5A/769-E (Chairman's Report) from May 2023. The document provides a comprehensive illustration of how the band is used by amateurs.

Development of an ITU-R Recommendation on guidance for administrations

A preliminary draft new Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE] is in preparation in ITU-R Working Party 5A. This Recommendation will provide guidance on technical and operational measures for administrations authorizing stations operating in the amateur and amateur-satellite services to protect the radionavigation satellite service (space-to-Earth) in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz. The current version of the working document is Annex 6 to Document 5A/769-E (Chairman's Report) from May 2023.

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During many years of operational experience, the secondary amateur and amateur satellite services have successfully co-existed with all the primary services in the range 1 240-1 300 MHz with very few issues. In cases where certain applications (in particular wide bandwidth, high duty cycle applications) could increase the potential for interference, careful spectrum management and national licensing conditions have minimised any risk. Radio amateurs have successfully co-existed and innovated in this frequency range for many years and IARU believes that the regulatory status of the amateur and amateur satellite services in this range is already clear. Therefore any developments to add new regulatory, operational or technical measures to be incorporated as new mandatory elements into the Radio Regulations are considered by the IARU as disproportionate to the minimal risk of interference and therefore opposed.

IARU has supported and continues to support the development of guidance embodied in draft Recommendation ITU-R M.[AS_GUIDANCE] resulting from the studies conducted under Resolution 774. The guidance thus provided to administrations can be applied as needed on a national basis having taken account of amateur and amateur satellite service spectrum occupancy and usage, so as to be proportionate in scope and carefully justified so as not to unnecessarily inhibit these amateur services and their future development.