

**Notes of the Informal International Meeting at Messe Friedrichshafen
27 June 2008 16.00 Hrs**

Present:

6W1KI, 9A5K, 9K2MN, 9K2RR, A61M, DF5UG, DJ3HW, DK4VW, E77X, EA3BRA, EA7MK, EI1CS, EI7CC, G0TWW, G3BJ, G3PJT, G3PSM, G4JKS, HA5VZ, HB0BB, HB9IQY, K1ZZ, LA2RR, LU2AH, LZ1US, OH2BR, OK1MP, OM3LU, ON4UN, ON4WF, ON7LX, ON7TK, OZ8CY, PA2BW, PA3AGF, PB0AOK, SP2DX, SP5HS, SV1JG, T93N, V85DB, VE6SH, VK3KI, VU2GMN, W4RA, W4RI, W5ZN, W6ROD, XE1KK and YV5AMH

Joerg, DJ3HW, welcomed everyone to the meeting on behalf of DARC. He then invited Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, President of IARU Region 1, to chair the meeting.

Ole thanked DARC for the opportunity to hold an international meeting at Friedrichshafen, and then invited everyone to introduce themselves, the list of those present being as above.

Each Member Society/IARU Region was then invited to update the meeting on developments over the last year.

IARU – IARU President W4RA then summarised developments at IARU:

WRC was held 2007. IARU was moderately successful. Some issues remain for further work.

The AC has agreed that VE6SH should be proposed to the IARU membership for election as President from May 2009, and LA2RR for Vice-President.

Region 3 Region 3 Chairman VK3KI commented:

Region 3 Conference to be held Christchurch New Zealand. Region 3 has been devoting effort to Emercoms. Has attended GAREC meetings. Australian amateur numbers are now growing, thanks to a new foundation licence. TR61/01 now implemented in Australia.

Region 2 – W6ROD

The Region 2 Executive Committee is to be held early August.

Region 1 – LA2RR

Summarised the work in Region 1, including working group activities and the work with CEPT and WRC07, plans for renewal of the Region 1 website and the plans for the Amateur Radio Administration Course in Congo.

PB2T then covered the developments in the work in ITU. He summarised the results of WRC07. The Amateur Services failed to obtain additional spectrum at around 5 MHz. It was also not possible to get the issue on a future WRC agenda. Similarly it was not possible to get the 50 MHz band allocation in Region 1 on the future WRC agenda. However, the Amateur Service was able to retain existing allocations, and the 135 kHz band was secured on a secondary basis. The 500 KHz band is slated for discussion at WRC 11, and there were some changes to VHF/UHF allocations.

Agenda item 1.1 will address some of the footnotes at WRC11, and there is scope to remove some of the restrictive footnotes, as far as the Amateur Service is concerned.

Agenda Item 1.14 (radiolocation service) will be monitored

Agenda 1.15 (radiolocation – 3- 50 MHz for oceanographic studies) needs very careful motoring so that amateur allocations are not adversely impacted. Any interference caused by testing systems on certain frequencies needs to be reported.

Agenda 1.19 concerns SDR and cognitive radio – we need to ensure amateur allocations are not adversely affected.

Agenda 1.20 – again need to safeguard amateur allocations

Agenda 1.23 – allocation of 15 kHz around 500 kHz. This is the main opportunity in WRC11. 495 to 510 kHz may be an option, but further tests are needed.

K1ZZ noted that on 29 March 2009, the exclusive allocation of 7100 – 7200 kHz in Regions 1 and 3 would become active. He acknowledged the work of many people who had made this allocation become a reality.

G3PJT (Chairman RRWG) noted that TR61/01 was now accepted by 32 administrations and that HAREC was now accepted by 28 administrations. The CEPT Novice Licence has been adopted by 8 administrations. A CEPT report has been published on entry-level licence proposals.

Some discussion has taken place on a CEPT-wide question pool for radio amateur examinations, and some pools are already available. A list of FAQs on CEPT licences has been prepared. All of these are planned for publication on the ERO website.

G3BJ outlined the status of the preparation for the Cavtat Conference, and encouraged all those planning to attend who had not already registered and booked a hotel room, to do so as quickly as possible.

He then outlined the status on elections for the EC, and encouraged all Member Societies to consider nominations for the vacant officer posts and for the EC ordinary positions.

Liechtenstein: HB0BB welcomed the opportunity to attend HamRadio and the International meeting.

Switzerland: HB9AQY outlined USKA's paper to the Cavtat Conference concerning a European DX Contest.

DARC had nothing to report.

Poland: SP2DX reported that a new PZK Board was elected in May. A new Vice President was elected. Although PZK has good relations with the regulator, there seemed a lack of technical experts in the administration to speak to.

Belgium: Claude, ON7TK reported that the main issue was the operating standards work done by John ON4UN – to be covered later in the meeting.

Region 2 President YV5AMH said he was happy to be at FHN

Finland: OH2BR explained that SRAL was active in schools, trying to interest young people in amateur radio.

Brunei: V85DB BDARA has reorganised, is reregistering and should be more active in the future.

Netherlands: VERON reported that the relationship with the regulator was good. VERON will be taking over the examinations for amateur licences.

The main concern in the Netherlands is age profile – and VERON wants to get youngsters interested in the hobby.

Greece: RAAG reported that Greece has two licences (one with CW). The ministry wants to change the licence (no CW). However, CW has been the main qualifying hurdle and the examination itself has represented a relatively low entry threshold. Discussions are continuing. D-STAR repeaters will be starting shortly.

Oman: ROARS is trying to work in schools and encourage younger people to become interested in amateur radio. ROARS is trying to get permission for 50 MHz.

Ireland: IRTS commented that IRTS has been running radio amateur exams for three years. Four 5MHz channels will be released shortly with a possibility of others later. IRTS has managed to get a footnote added to the CEPT Common Allocations Table concerning 70 MHz. This is open for consultation and societies are urged to support it with their comments.

Hungary: HA5VZ said that MRASZ would welcome a common question pool for examinations. 50MHz represented a challenge for Hungary – international support for a continuing 50MHz allocation would be appreciated.

Croatia: HRS 9K5A commented on the outcome of the recent Board elections. HRS hopes to take over the radio amateur examinations in due course.

Bulgaria: BFRA reported that it will host the HST World Championship and Region 1 ARDF Championship in 2009

Denmark: OZ8CY said that in EDR there was now a flexible examination arrangement, using local clubs.

On EMC, OZ8CY explained that proposals had been tabled that would have had the effect of raising PLT emissions by 20 dB. A further opportunity for input to national administrations on a new draft was available between now and August 2008. It was very important that member societies took the opportunity to make input to the administrations, and IARU would circulate a draft for use by MS.

India: VU2GMN reported that the licensing process in India was in need of updating, and ARSI was working to try to change this. There was a need to speed up the licensing process, and there are plans to introduce a lifetime licence.

Slovakia: OM3LU reported there were new licence regulations (2 licences)

Czech Republic: OK1MP – asked that confirmation of Cavtat registrations by MS should be introduced. G3BJ to action. A temporary allocation in the 70 MHz band has been secured.

Bosnia & Herzegovina: E77XZ and T93N reported on the actions to rationalise the structure of the amateur society in BiH, by establishing a new society that covers all current amateur radio societies within the country, and this would probably flow through to IARU membership in due course. The introduction of the new E7 prefix designated by ITU is one of the first steps and all T9 call should be replaced within the end of 2008.

Argentina: LU2AH The LU4AA/beacon is likely to be operational again shortly

Spain: EA3BRA A forthcoming meeting with authorities will hopefully lead to an interactive examination in due course.

Also URE wishes to encourage young people, and has introduced a discounted membership for young people.

Tunisia: CAST – DL1BDF commented that next CAST assembly will be end-July. There is a new President. In 2008 four new club stations were created. TS7C will be active from Kerkeria in 2009. At a scout convention in 2009, it is intended to hold workshops for young people on amateur radio.

UK: RSGB reported a good relationship with its administration, although concerns over data protection were causing some local difficulty with the publication of license holder data.

The licence structure was working well, with good flow-through taking place between lower and upper licence categories.

RSGB has moved to Bedford, and plans are being finalised for the heritage aspects of RSGB HQ to go to Bletchley Park nearby. A new QSL bureau had been created, which is operational now, with a new address, but cards to the old address will continue to reach the bureau for the next few months. The new address for QSL cards is PO Box 5, Halifax, HX1 9RJ

Kuwait: 9K2RR reported that KARS had been working with the administration on 50 MHz and 7 MHz access issues.

Region 2: Secretary XE1KK reported that work was continuing on improving the roaming facilities, through work between CITEL and CEPT. Region 2 was also involved in a progressive upgrade of its website.

United Arab Emirates: A61M reported that a new club had been formed in A61. The authorities had supported the creation of the club, and the society is now approved and would be applying for IARU membership.

USA: W5ZN reported that ARRL membership was growing. He reported on the court ruling in favour of ARRL in dispute with FCC on rule-making relating to PLT. W5ZN reported that Paul Rinaldo would be retiring later in 2008. Paul had made a huge contribution to amateur radio over very many years, and ARRL wished to place on record its appreciation of his work. Similarly he mentioned the work Larry Price had done over many years for amateur radio and recognised the outstanding contribution he had made to amateur radio around the world.

Operating Standards: ON4UN then presented the work he had been doing on operating standards. He outlined a new IARU Administrative Council Resolution concerning poor operating practice, which commended principles set out in a new booklet, available from a number of amateur radio web sites.

The meeting then closed with LA2RR thanking everyone for their participation.

Notes by D F Beattie, G3BJ