International Amateur Radio Union Region1
General Conference - 16th to 21st November 2008 - Cavtat, Croatia

SUBJECT	Approval Process for Proposed Annual Budget		
Society	EC	Country:	
Committee:	C2 -> C3	Paper number:	CT08_C2_04
Author:	Don Beattie, G3BJ		

Introduction

This paper proposes amendments to the requirements for changes to the proposed annual budget to be approved by member societies.

Background

At the 2002 San Marino IARU Region1 General Conference, it was resolved that:

Each year, and not later than November, the Executive Committee shall present to Member Societies for comment, the Proposed Annual Budget (PAB) and spending priorities for the following year. The PAB shall, as much as possible, be in keeping with the principles of the long-term budget approved for the three year period by the General Conference of the Region. Member Societies' annual contributions for the PAB will be based on the individual society membership numbers notified to the Treasurer for the year prior to the year of preparation of the PAB.

In proposing the PAB, the Executive Committee shall have reasonable discretion to make changes to the spending patterns, but within the pattern of priorities and spending limits agreed by the General Conference, as well as to propose reasonable amendments and additions to such allocations, should such variations, contingencies and additions to such allocations, be deemed necessary to meet the priorities and unforeseen contingencies (if any) for that current year. The principle shall be maintained, however, that the spending limits set at the General Conference shall not be exceeded, other than with the approval of the majority of Member Societies in the Region.

Member Societies shall provide the Executive Committee with a reaction to the PAB by the end of December of the year preceding the budget year in question, by direct notification of a vote in favour or against. A simple majority of those Member Societies who vote is required to approve any material changes to the spending patterns agreed at the General Conference. The PAB shall be deemed as "not approved" should the simple majority of those Member Societies who vote, not vote for it. In such an event, then the relevant yearly section of the long-term budget shall automatically apply.

Since then, the EC has sought approval from Member Societies for any changes to the PAB.

However, it has become clear that when budgeting up to three years ahead, it is virtually impossible to predict precisely the profile of operating spend. Some costs increase, others reduce, and the net of these is often a modest increase to the overall budget requirement.

Under the above 2002 resolution, an increase of CHF 10 in the proposed annual spend requires the whole budget to be re-submitted to Member Societies for approval. This seems needlessly cumbersome, and it seems sensible to try to reduce the need for PAB re-approval when the change is "de minimis".

Proposal

That the last sentence of the first paragraph in the above San Marino resolution be amended to read:

The principle shall be maintained, however, that the spending limits set at the General Conference shall not be exceeded by more than 5%, other than with the approval of the majority of Member Societies in the Region.