



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



SUBJECT	Common approach to secure the Future of Amateur Radio		
Society	OeVSV	Country:	Austria
Committee:	C3	Paper number:	CT08_C3_23
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Background:

Amateur Radio exists for more than 80 years. However it has never been widely recognized in general public in Region1 countries. No big efforts seemed to have been necessary to attract new people to join the hobby. Clubs did not run special programs to allow interested parties an easy entry in the past.

Situation:

Now as a result, majority of licensed amateurs are over 60 years old. This is a significant threat to amateur radio and IARU organization and funding.

Some societies have been realizing the problem and started special "newcomer" programs or work with schools successfully. However OeVSV feels that these important topics are severely underrepresented in IARU R1 work and during this conference!

Recommendation:

Therefore the OeVSV recommends to:

- Invoke a special program to increase number of members
- Define a common goal in IARU R1 strategic paper
- Ensure appropriate funding (similar to STARS)
- Produce & publish material that helps societies to deal with issue
- Evaluate & present annually a progress report based on statistics and activities