The International Amateur Radio Union

Founded 1925. Representing the radiocommunication services as defined by the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union: The Amateur Service and the Amateur Satellite Service. Member of the International Special Committee on Radio Interference CISPR.

Region I

Europe, Africa and part of Asia.
Founded 1950

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The Conference in San Marino

We had a good/efficient C5 meeting in San Marino. A pity, however, that relatively few societies could be present. But those present represented probably 75 % of all VHF/UHF/MW amateurs in Region 1.
Several ad hoc committees did an excellent job.
The final version of minutes and recommendations (all accepted by the conference plenary) of the meeting can be downloaded from the IARU-Region 1 site at http://www.iaru-r1.org.za or somewhat faster from http://home.hccnet.nl/a.dogterom/Marino/C5_Report_final.PDF **.**
Please check in particular the action points and act accordingly.

Important bandplanning decisions

From the report mentioned above you can learn the details of our deliberations and decisions. But for those who could not be present I will mention in particular :

- The first step has been set towards another bandplanning approach, whereby the occupied bandwidth of a signal is the first important parameter for the choice of a band segment. We could only apply this at this conference to the 50 MHz and 145 MHz bands. The new bandplans will become effective on 1-1-2003. For the other bands more study is required.

- Another first step towards a new 435 MHz bandplan has been set as well. In order to lessen the interference of the out of band radiation of SRD's the beacon band will be shifted down and will (like in the 145 MHz bandplan) be from 432.400-432.499 MHz. Somewhat narrower than before but 100 kHz seems to be sufficient . In order not to diminish too much the SSB segment the telegraphy segment (anyhow not used very much) will now become 100 kHz wide.
This results in a much wider all mode segment just below 433 MHz and that will make a redesign of the telephony repeater system possible which appears to be necessary in order to solve the problems in those countries having only access to 6

MHz of the band. In fact those countries are almost the only countries applying the Region 1 repeater standard in the 435 MHz band.
In order to have enough time to shift all beacons this new plan only will become effective from 1-1-2004.
MOVING THE BEACON BAND REQUIRES YOUR ACTIVE SUPPORT ! Our new beacon coordinator, Ian Phillips, G0RDI, will soon approach you !

We hope that it will be possible to finalise this refarming of the 435 MHz band at the 2004 interim meeting of the VHF/UHF/Microwaves committee in Vienna.

- The third important change/addition to our bandplans concerns the bands above 24 GHz. The most important decision here is that in all those bands the segment where the amateur and the amateur satellite services have a primary status will be used initially. This implies that the current use by narrow-band activities of the 24192-24194 MHz segment must stop per 1-1-2004 and those activities shall move to the already recommended 24048-24050 segment.
Experience has shown that such a change will not be possible without the support of all microwavers. *HERE AGAIN YOUR ACTIVE SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL* by approaching those amateurs explaining the background. In the UK there are already problems in obtaining permission for unmanned operation in the 24192 MHz area. A good solution probably will be to not accept contest contacts in the “old” segment after 1-1-2004.

Handbook update

All decisions of the San Marino conference have now been incorporated in the VHF managers Handbook.
The main changes are to be found in the chapters IIc (bandplanning),IIIa(Contest dates),IIIa.a1(Contest organisation), IIIa.a2(contest adjudication), III (50 MHz contest), III (contest coordination), Va (new- 50 MHz code of conduct),Vb (MS procedures), V’s(new- definition of a complete contact).

Contest Results

From ARI (I2AMP) I received the corrected results of the IARU Region 1 contest in October 2001. You can find those on the VHF/UHF/MW Committee website.

ITU Conference Preparatory meeting in November 2002

In the weeks after our Conference the ITU preparatory meeting for WRC 2003 took place. IARU has been well represented there.
In the realm of our committee agenda item 1.38 (EES between 420 and 470 MHz) is the most important.
For your information I have made available the relevant extract of the meeting report at our web-site under http://home.hccnet.nl/a.dogterom/CPM_1.38.doc . As you can see the situation is not promising nor hopeless.