



THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

OPEN FORUM, CANBERRA, 7 May 2005

REPORT ON ITU MATTERS 2005

**David Wardlaw, VK3ADW,
ITU AND INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY COORDINATOR**

WRC Preparation

It is now two years since WRC-03 and at this conference the provisional Agenda was set for WRC-07 which is scheduled to be held in September 2007 although it is possible that the date could slip. On the agenda, which was endorsed at a meeting of the ITU Council, are two items of great importance to the amateur service.

The first is Agenda Item 1.13. The section of this agenda item which is of interest to amateurs, relates to the review of the allocations to all services in the HF bands between 4 MHz and 10 MHz, excluding those allocations to services in the frequency range 7000 - 7200 kHz.

The second is Agenda Item 1.15. which is to consider a secondary allocation to the amateur service in the frequency band 135.7-137.8 kHz

The LF band issue first arose out of a Canadian proposal at WRC-03 to create a footnote giving the amateur service secondary access to the band 135.7 to 137.8 kHz. Some administrations claimed that it was not strictly within the agenda. Although supported it was decided to add it to the agenda for WRC-07 in order for further sharing studies to take place.

As soon as a WRC is concluded work starts on the preparation for the next conference. This task is given the ITU Radiocommunications Sector Study Groups, who prepare possible ways of satisfying the agenda items, giving the reasons for their decisions.

At the September 2004 at a meeting of ITU Study Group 8, Working Party 8A (which deals with Amateur issues) there was a proposal that the agenda item could be satisfied by just a footnote to the table. And this was supported by the Working party.

In Australia, the ACA IRAC Preparatory Group for WRC 07 agreed with a WIA submission, that an entry in the Frequency Table of the Radio Regulations would be a more satisfactory solution.

A proposal that a second method of satisfying the agenda item was to have a table entry was forwarded by Australia to the March 2005 meeting of WP8A.

This proposal was aired at the February meeting of the APT APG2007 and received support.

WP8A has accepted the Australian proposal that would give the amateur service greater security on the band.

At WRC 03 the solution to the 7MHz issue was only partially completed as far as the amateur service is concerned and it was the result of a lot of difficult work. At WRC 07 all the bands between 4 and 10 MHz are to be examined with some exceptions, one being frequencies between 7 000 and 7 200 kHz.

The Broadcasting Services are making a case for wider bands while other services claim they cannot give up any spectrum.

No Australian way forward has surfaced as yet

Australian preparation for WRC-07 is being carried out by the International Radiocommunications Advisory Committee Preparatory Group for WRC-07. The WIA is a member of this group along with all affected stakeholders.

The WIA is also a member of Australian Radio Study Group 8 which is concerned with the work of ITU Study Group 8 which amongst other things, deals with a number of technical questions concerning the amateur and amateur satellite services.

SG8 is very important to amateurs and its meetings are regularly attended by IARU representatives who unlike at a WRC have full rights of participation.

David Wardlaw VK3ADW