



## THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

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### **REPORT ON ITU MATTERS**

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#### **WRC Preparation**

The WIA ITU Conference and Study Group team is David Wardlaw VK3ADW, Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM and Gilbert Hughes VK1GH.

At WRC-03 the provisional Agenda was set for WRC-07. This conference is scheduled to be held in Geneva during October and November 2007. The final decision as to the dates will be made at the June 2006 ITU Council meeting

On the agenda, for WRC-2007 there are two items of great importance to the amateur service.

The first is Agenda **Item 1.13**. Of the four sections of this agenda item the one 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**, 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. 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 accepted by the Working Party as a second method

This proposal was aired again at the February meeting of the APT APG2007-3 and the APT position is now to support an entry in Frequency Table of the ITU Radio Regulations. A New Zealand proposal that any power limitations should be up to individual administrations was accepted and this could be done by footnote if required.

A Table entry is now CEPT (European) policy

This second method will give the amateur service much 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.

The IARU is now going to introduce material into ITU SG8 WP8A on sharing potential for the amateur service around 5 MHz. This is line with IARU policy

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.

There is another agenda item **Agenda Item 1.4** *To consider frequency-related matters for the future development of IMT-2000 and systems beyond IMT-2000* which could lead to pressure on some of our microwave bands.

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 including the right to make proposals.

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