

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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For immediate release

**IARU Administrative Council Establishes  
Priorities and Strategies for WRC-19**

The Administrative Council (AC) of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual in-person meeting on 7 and 8 October 2016 in Viña del Mar, Chile, immediately prior to the IARU Region 2 Conference. The AC is responsible for the policy and management of the IARU and consists of the three IARU international officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU regional organizations.

The AC assigned priorities to the agenda items for the 2019 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-19) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and affirmed the adoption of a matrix approach to WRC preparation as agreed earlier in the year. The matrix approach is designed to ensure effective coordination among the numerous IARU volunteers who are participating in and monitoring the preparatory meetings of the ITU and regional telecommunications organizations. The agenda includes, along with several items of potential concern to radio amateurs, a possible allocation in Region 1 of 50-54 MHz to the amateur service to harmonize with the allocations in the other two regions.

The permanent working document setting out the long-term spectrum requirements of the amateur and amateur-satellite services was reviewed and updated to reflect WRC-15 decisions. A strategic plan to develop support for amateur spectrum allocations in the period 2016-2020 was adopted.

The IARU budget for the years 2017-2019 was reviewed and adopted. The budget is based upon anticipated financial contributions from the three regional organizations to defray a portion of the expenses, in accordance with previously adopted policy, and reflects ongoing efforts to minimize expenses. The IARU travel expense reimbursement policy was revised to reflect the current and anticipated future financial challenges facing many IARU member-societies, which are the ultimate source of IARU funding.

Proposals for improving the consistency of IARU branding were considered, and a way forward was agreed.

Reports from the following coordinators and advisers to the AC were received with thanks: Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN, International Beacon Project Coordinator; Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Satellite Adviser; Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS,

International Coordinator for Emergency Communications; and Thilo Kootz, DL9KCE, EMC Coordinator. All four volunteers were reappointed for three-year terms. The report of the International Coordinator for Emergency Communications included reports from the three regional coordinators documenting effective responses by radio amateurs to bridge communications gaps following natural disasters.

Reports from IARU representatives to ITU meetings in the past year were received and reviewed. Most recently, in late September the IARU accepted an invitation to participate as a panelist at the ITU-D Study Group 2 Workshop on Emergency Telecommunications and Disaster Relief in Geneva.

Relations with member-societies were reviewed. Following the determination that the former IARU member-society representing Belize no longer existed, a proposal for the admission of a new member-society will be forwarded to member-societies for consideration. At the request of Region 1, the rights of Amateur Radio Association Bahrain were suspended. A transition in the representation of the People's Republic of China is nearing completion.

Following the discussion at the 2015 in-person meeting, the AC reviewed its resolution concerning QSL bureaus and will be seeking input from its member-societies.

A program for recognition of IARU volunteers was adopted.

The governing documents of the IARU will be reviewed to identify the issues related to the registration of the IARU as a corporate entity.

Attending the meeting were IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR; Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD; regional representatives Don Beattie, G3BJ, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM, José Arturo Molina, YS1MS, Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, Shizuo Endo, JE1MUI and Assistant Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ. Also present as an observer was Ramón Santoyo, XE1KK, from Region 2.

It was determined that a virtual meeting will be held early in 2017. The next scheduled in-person meeting of the AC will be held in the vicinity of Munich, Germany, on 14-15 September 2017 in conjunction with the IARU Region 2 Conference.

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