

PLENARY MEETING

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Working Group 5

PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE DRAFT CPM REPORT

CHAPTER 5, AGENDA ITEM 7

AGENDA ITEM 7

7 *to consider possible changes, and other options, in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, an advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks, in accordance with Resolution 86 (Rev.WRC-07) to facilitate rational, efficient, and economical use of radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary-satellite orbit;*

Resolution 86 (Rev.WRC-07): Implementation of Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference

5/7/4 Issue D – General use of modern electronic means of communications in coordination and notification procedures

5/7/4.1 Executive summary

Increasing difficulties to make transmissions by fax generates in turn difficulties in communicating between administrations and with the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) and hampers the implementation of coordination and notification procedures of satellite networks. Resolution 907 (WRC-12) is directly related to this issue and could be amended to ensure that, wherever the words “telegram”, “telex” or “fax” are inserted in provisions related to coordination and notification procedures of satellite networks (including Radio Regulations (RR) Appendices 30, 30A, 30B and relevant Resolutions), modern electronic means can be used instead.

In a connected matter, Resolution 908 (WRC-12) deals with electronic submission and publication of advance publication of information (API). Following the availability of SpaceWISC (see Circular Letters [CR/363](#) and [CR/376](#)), the scope of this Resolution could be expanded to all kind of satellite network filings and the BR could be requested to analyse whether it is possible to have a single consolidated interface for both the submission of satellite network filings and the related correspondence.

5/7/4.2 Background

In the past years, transmissions by fax have become increasingly unreliable or difficult to perform. This situation generates difficulties in communicating between administrations and with the BR and slows down the appropriate conduct of coordination and notification procedures of satellite networks.

In 2010, the Plenipotentiary Conference envisaged in § 20 of Annex 2 to its Decision 5 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) that there should be a transition from fax to modern electronic communication methods for communications between ITU and its Member States:

“20) Move, to the extent practicable, from present communications by fax between the Union and Member States to modern electronic communication methods.”

WRC-12 adopted Resolution **907 (WRC-12)** directly related to this issue and, in a somewhat connected matter, Resolution **908 (WRC-12)** on electronic submission and publication of advance publication information.

5/7/4.3 Summary of technical and operational studies, including a list of relevant ITU-R Recommendations

A number of regulatory provisions concerning coordination and notification procedures of satellite networks (including in RR Appendices **30**, **30A**, **30B** and relevant Resolutions) uses the words “telegram”, “telex” or “fax”. The actual use of telegram or telex has been discontinued for a while since these technologies are no longer provided. In a parallel manner, the provision of international fax is currently decaying. The reliability and quality of service of fax systems are sometimes too low to ensure an efficient implementation of provisions concerning satellite coordination and notification. On the counterpart, administrations are nowadays equipped with email systems and Internet access that have reached a level of reliability and quality of service compatible with a routine use for coordination and notification activities.

Following successful testing by administrations and the Radiocommunication Bureau, and further to the approval by the Radio Regulations Board at its 66th meeting (30 July – 5 August 2014) of rules of procedure on the receivability of forms of notice and on RR Nos. **9.2B** and **9.5B**, the Bureau informed administrations through Circular Letter [CR/376](#) that the operational version of the software interface called SpaceWISC (Space Web-based Interface for Secure Communication) is available for use as of 1 March 2015 to enable notifying administrations to submit API notices under Subsection IB of Article **9** of the RR, and administrations’ comments under No. **9.5B** of the RR.

5/7/4.4 Analysis of the results of studies

Modern electronic means of communications can nowadays be used for implementing the various provisions of the RR related to satellite coordination and notification. The BR can be entrusted to devise a harmonized approach to implement this more general use of modern electronic means of communications.

In devising such approach, the aspects of security will have to be considered and properly implemented, both in the sense of reliability (i.e. to ensure that the BR has well received a message from an administration and vice-versa) and of authentication (i.e. to ensure that messages sent or received by an administration are indeed originating from, or addressed to, the responsible authority of the administration). WRC-12 already contemplated this aspect by including the word “secure” in the *instructs the Radiocommunication Bureau* 1 of both Resolutions **907 (WRC-12)** and **908 (WRC-12)**. WRC-15 may need to provide more detailed guidelines to the BR. The Director of the BR may include in his Report to WRC-15 the BR’s requests in this regard.

It should also be noted that this transition should not affect administrations that may experience difficulties in its implementation. Therefore, it is also proposed to maintain unchanged *resolves* 2 of Resolution **907 (WRC-12)** (“other, traditional means of communication can continue to be used if modern electronic means are not available”).

Furthermore, the availability of SpaceWISC (see Circular Letters [CR/363](#) and [CR/376](#)) also suggests that Resolution **908 (WRC-12)** could be amended to expand its scope to all kind of satellite network filings.

The BR could finally be requested to analyse whether it is possible to have a single consolidated interface for both the submission of satellite network filings and the related correspondence (correspondence between the BR and the notifying administration, comments submitted following the publication of the special section, correspondence between administrations about the special section, etc.).

5/7/4.5 Method to satisfy issue D

Method D: Amendments to Resolutions 907 (WRC-12) and 908 (WRC-12)

Resolution **907 (WRC-12)** is proposed to be amended to ensure that, wherever the words “telegram”, “telex” or “fax” are used in provisions related to coordination and notification procedures of satellite networks (including RR Appendices **30, 30A, 30B** and relevant Resolutions), modern electronic means can be used instead, as far as possible, without however replacing “telegram”, “telex” or “fax” since telefax is still used in many administrations as the most reliable means of communication due to the fact that, in some instances, in particular in some developing countries, Internet may not be always available. The BR would continue to be tasked to implement the *resolves* part and to report to administrations on such an implementation. It should be noted that this transition should not affect administrations that may experience difficulties in its implementation. Therefore, it is also proposed to maintain unchanged *resolves* 2 of Resolution **907 (WRC-12)** (“other, traditional means of communication can continue to be used if modern electronic means are not available”).

Building on the availability of SpaceWISC (see Circular Letters [CR/363](#) and [CR/376](#)), Resolution **908 (WRC-12)** is also proposed to be amended to expand its scope to all kind of satellite network filings and to request the BR to analyse whether it is possible to have a single consolidated interface for both the submission of satellite network filings and the related correspondence (correspondence between the BR and the notifying administration, comments submitted following the publication of the special section, correspondence between administrations about the special section, etc.).

5/7/4.6 Regulatory and procedural considerations for issue D

Method D: Amendments to Resolutions 907 (WRC-12) and 908 (WRC-12)

MOD

RESOLUTION 907 (REV.WRC-15)

Use of modern electronic means of communication for administrative correspondence related to advance publication, coordination and notification of satellite networks including that related to Appendices 30, 30A and 30B, earth stations and radio astronomy stations

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2012~~15~~),

considering

that the use of electronic means of communication for administrative correspondence related to advance publication, coordination and notification of satellite networks, earth stations and radio astronomy stations would facilitate the tasks of the Radiocommunication Bureau and of administrations and has the potential to improve the coordination and notification process by reducing the amount of duplicated correspondence,

noting

that Decision 5 (Rev. ~~Guadalajara~~Busan, 2014~~2010~~) includes, in its Annex 2, paragraph ~~2820~~, which proposes to “~~Discontinue to the greatest extent possible communications by fax and traditional postal mail between the Union and Member States and replace it with modern electronic communication methods~~move, to the extent practicable, from present communications by fax between the Union and Member States to modern electronic communication methods”,

recognizing

that administrations could use the time freed by a reduction of administrative correspondence to effect coordination,

resolves

1 that modern electronic means of communication shall be used whenever possible in the administrative correspondence between administrations and the Radiocommunication Bureau related to the advance publication, coordination ~~and~~, notification and recording processes, including correspondence related to Appendices **30, 30A, and 30B** ~~and relevant Resolutions~~, where applicable, to due diligence for satellite networks, earth stations and radio astronomy stations;

2 that, wherever the words “telegram”, “telex” or “fax” are inserted in provisions related to the advance publication, coordination and, notification and recording processes of satellite networks, earth stations and radio astronomy stations, including the provisions contained in Appendices 30, 30A, and 30B and relevant Resolutions, modern electronic means shall be used instead, whenever possible, to the utmost possible;

23 that other, traditional means of communication ~~can~~shall continue to be used ~~if modern electronic means are not available~~unless the administration informs the Bureau of its willingness to discontinue such use,

instructs the Radiocommunication Bureau

- 1 to provide administrations with the necessary technical means to ensure that the modern electronic correspondence between administrations and the Radiocommunication Bureau is secure;
- 2 to inform administrations of the availability of such means and of the associated schedule of implementation;
- 3 to automatically acknowledge receipt of all electronic correspondence;
- 4 to report to the next world radiocommunication conference on the experience gained in the application of this Resolution, with a view to making any necessary consequential amendments to the Radio Regulations,

urges administrations

to use, to the extent possible, modern electronic means of communication in the administrative correspondence between themselves related to advance publication, coordination and notification of satellite networks, including that related to Appendices **30**, **30A** and **30B**, and to earth stations and radio astronomy stations, recognizing that other means of communication may still be used if necessary (see also *resolves* [23](#)).

MOD

RESOLUTION 908 (~~REV.WRC-1215~~)

Electronic submission and publication of advance publication information satellite network filings

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 20~~12~~15),

considering

a) that the volume of advance publication information (API), coordination requests (CR/C), notification, application of Appendices 30, 30A and 30B ~~on~~ for satellite networks or systems ~~subject to the coordination procedure under Section II of Article 9 of the Radio Regulations~~ has been steadily increasing in recent years;

~~b) that this increasing trend may be due in part to the fact that there is no cost-recovery fee for these APIs;~~

~~c) that the Bureau has also observed that many of the APIs are not followed by a coordination request within the period of 24 months prescribed under No. 9.5D;~~

~~d) that a significant amount of effort is therefore required to update/maintain the relevant databases by deleting either in total or partially the obsolete APIs;~~

considering further

~~e) that a paperless electronic approach for the submission of APIs on satellite networks filings would make API>this information readily accessible to all, and would limit the workload for administrations and the Bureau in the processing of APIs for satellite networks or systems subject to coordination these filings;~~

~~b) that, at the end of 24 month period prescribed in No. 9.5D, the entries will automatically be removed from the list;~~

~~e) that coordination requests that are submitted within the 24 month period, together with relevant API information (date of receipt, nominal orbital position), will then be processed and entered in the SNS database in the normal way;~~

noting

~~a) that the API requested under Section IB of Article 9 of the Radio Regulations contains only a limited amount of information, the most pertinent being the date of receipt of complete information, the frequency bands and, for GSO networks, the orbital position;~~

~~b) that the current API publication will continue to apply to the advance publication of information on satellite networks or systems which are not subject to coordination procedures under Section II of Article 9;~~

a) that, through Circular Letters CR/363 and CR/376, the Bureau informed administrations that a web-based application (SpaceWISC) was developed is available as of 1 March 2015 for the submission and publication of API notices for satellite networks or systems subject to coordination and for the administrations' comments under No. 9.5B;

b) that, through Circular Letter CR/360, the Bureau informed administrations that a web-based on-line distribution of the International Frequency Information Circular BR IFIC (Space services) on DVD-ROM in ISO format was developed, allowing the data to be available without delay on the BR IFIC publication date and administrations to get a secure local reproduction of the BR IFIC (Space services) DVD-ROM.

resolves

that administrations shall submit API all satellite network filings, under Articles 9 and 11 as well as Appendices 30, 30A, 30B and relevant Resolutions, using a secure paperless electronic approach upon being advised that the means for such an electronic submission of API a satellite network filing for satellite networks or systems ~~subject to coordination~~ has been implemented and upon receiving assurances that such means are indeed secure,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to implement a secure paperless electronic approach for the electronic submission and publication of API satellite network filings for satellite networks or systems subject to coordination, taking into account the conditions mentioned in the resolves of this resolution.;

2 to study and implement, as appropriate, a consolidated approach for both the electronic submission of satellite network filings and their related correspondence.