Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular Letter
CR/372

17 December 2014

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: **Database of oceanographic radars in the frequency bands between 3 and 50 MHz**

The World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12) allocated a number of frequency bands in the range 3 - 50 MHz to the radiolocation service for use by oceanographic radars in accordance with Resolution **612 (Rev.WRC-12)**.

Resolution **612 (Rev.WRC-12)** requires, inter-alia, that administrations should coordinate the operation of their oceanographic radars with other administrations whose border is located within separation distances defined in its *resolves 6*.

Post-conference considerations of oceanographic radar usage under Resolution **612 (Rev.WRC-12)** in different ITU-R fora identified a need for establishment of a database on existing and planned oceanographic radars. It was concluded that this database may considerably facilitate the coordination process of oceanographic radars, increase their visibility and could assist in international cooperation for their usage.

The Radiocommunication Bureau created such a database and developed, in consultation with ITU-R Study Group 5, the notification formats and a dedicated web page for the database. Taking into account that oceanographic radars may also function in bands other than those covered by Resolution **612 (Rev.WRC-12)**, the database is open for inclusion of all existing or planned oceanographic radars operating in the bands between 3 and 50 MHz allocated to the radiolocation services on a primary or secondary basis.

The general guidelines for notification of the relevant information to the Bureau about oceanographic radars are given in Annex 1. The data elements for the electronic submission of information are described in Annex 2 and examples of notification formats are contained in Annex 3.

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Administrations are invited to submit the relevant data in Excel or in ASCII format to the Bureau at the address indicated below and to take appropriate measures to keep the information regularly updated:

Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, ITU
Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Telefax. No.: +41 22 730 5785
Email: brmail@itu.int

Furthermore, administrations are encouraged to submit all data elements listed in Annex 2 to facilitate the use of this information for coordination purposes. Nevertheless, given the informal status of the database and sensitivity of some data items, the notification of the relevant information remains at the discretion of administrations concerned.

The Bureau created a dedicated webpage for consultation of the database at the following address: http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/fmd/Pages/res_612_or.aspx. This database is accessible for TIES registered users only.

It should be noted that this database would serve as reference information for coordination purposes and cooperation activities and would not have any regulatory status. Administrations wishing to obtain the status of international recognition for their oceanographic radars still need to notify the frequency assignments to the Bureau for their inclusion into the Master International Frequency Register in accordance with Article 11 of the Radio Regulations.

The Bureau remains at your disposal for any clarification you may require with respect to the subjects covered in this Circular Letter.

François Rancy
Director

Annexes: 3

Distribution:
- Administrations of Member States of the ITU
- Members of the Radio Regulations Board

ANNEX 1

Guidelines for submission of information related to oceanographic radars

When preparing and submitting the relevant data for inclusion into the oceanographic radar database administrations are invited to comply with the following rules:

1. The data should be submitted in Excel or in ASCII (coma separated, ISO-8859-1 (Latin-1) characters set) format.
2. For the first notification, all radars in the submitted file should have field “Action Code” equal to “A” (addition).
3. In subsequent notifications, when a new entry is added to the database, field “Action Code” should be equal to “A” (addition). When an existing entry is suppressed, then field “Action Code” should be equal to “S” (suppression) and all data for the suppressed radar should be notified in order to correctly identify the target entry.
4. In order to modify characteristics of a certain entry in the database, the replacement concept is used. This means that an administration should send a suppression of an existing entry followed by an addition of the entry with modified characteristics in the same file.
5. The data will be published by the Bureau as received, without validation of their completeness and correctness, with the exception of the check as to whether the Centre Frequency falls into the bands between 3 and 50 MHz allocated to the radiolocation service**.**

For clarifications and any additional information, you may contact: brfmd@itu.int

ANNEX 2

Data items for electronic submission of information related to oceanographic radars

Field Name	Field description	Permissible Values/Units	Length (Max.)	Remark
Int	Action code	"A" or "S"	**1**	Notification intended for: "A" – Add to the database "S" – Delete from the database
Adm	Responsible ITU Administration	Symbol of the Notifying Administration	**3**	ITU symbol designating the administration responsible for radar. Up to 3 characters. Reference: Preface to BRIFIC-terrestrial
ctry	Geographical Area Where the Radar is Located	Symbol of the Geographical Area	**3**	ITU symbol designating the geographical area where the radar is located. Up to 3 characters. Reference: Preface to BRIFIC-terrestrial
stn_type	Station type	"TX" , "RX" or "TR"	**2**	If radar is used in transmission mode enter TX. If radar is used in receiving mode enter RX. If radar is used in monostatic mode enter TR. Maximum 2 characters.
freq_assgn	Centre Frequency	MHz	**10**	Operational centre frequency of the radar. Numeric value, with decimal point. Up to 10 characters.
bdwdth_kHz	Bandwidth	kHz	**11**	Emission bandwidth. Numeric value, with decimal point. Up to 11 characters.
eirp_dBW[1]	e.i.r.p.[2]	dBW	**5**	Radiated power. Numeric, with + or – sign and 1 decimal. Up to 5 characters
emi_cls	Class of Emission	ITU Codes	**5**	Emission Class in accordance with Appendix 1 to the Radio Regulations. From 3 to 5 characters.
network_name	Network Name	As provided by administration/owner	**30**	Indicate the name of the group. If not part of the group leave blank. Up to 30 characters.
synch	Synchronization with other Radars	"Y" or "N"	**1**	If radar is synchronized with other radars in the group insert "Y". Otherwise insert "N". Max. 1 character.
util	Utilization	"P" or "N"	**1**	In case radar is permanent enter "P". In case it is not permanent enter "N". Max. 1 character.

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[1] This data item is to be notified only for transmitting and monostatic radars. For receivers it shall be left blank.

[2] The product of the power supplied to the antenna and the antenna gain G_i in a given direction relative to an isotropic antenna (absolute or isotropic gain) (Radio Regulations, No. **1.161**).

Field Name	Field description	Permissible Values/Units	Length (Max.)	Remark
lat	Radar Latitude	Latitude (degrees, minutes, seconds) **±DDMMSS -900000 to +900000**		The latitude of the location at which the radar is installed. Sign + (plus) for North Latitude, sign – (minus) for South Latitude and leading zeros (when necessary) in DD (degrees), MM (minutes) and SS (seconds).
long	Radar Longitude	Longitude (degrees, minutes, seconds) **±DDDMMSS -1800000 to +1800000**		The longitude of the location at which the radar is installed. Sign + (plus) for East Longitude, sign – (minus) for West Longitude and leading zeros (when necessary) in DDD (degrees), MM (minutes) and SS (seconds).
site_name	Site Name	Name, as Provided by Administration	**30**	The name that is associated with the oceanographic radar site. Up to 30 characters.
Adm_ref_id	Administration Unique Identifier	Identifier, as Provided By Administration	**20**	Unique identifier of the radar given by the administration. In case radar doesn't have it, leave blank. Up to 20 characters.
call_sign[3]	Call Sign	Call Sign	**7**	Call sign used in accordance with Article **19** of the RR. Up to max. 7 characters. In case this information is not available leave blank.
email_adm	Administration or Authority Contact	Email Address	**-**	Email address of the individual who has responsibility for assigning frequency to the radar.
email_op	User Contact	Email Address	**-**	Email address of the individual who has responsibility for the operation of the radar.
d_inuse	Date of Bringing Into Use	DD.MM.YYYY	**10**	Date (actual or foreseen, as appropriate) of bringing the radar into use.
d_update	Last update in the database			This date is not to be notified. It will be automatically generated by BR.
op_time	Full Time	"Y" or "N"	**1**	In case radar is on whole day insert "Y". Otherwise insert "N". Max. 1 character.
adm_remark			**255**	Additional information on the duty cycle of the radar (for example: "First 15 min every hour") and any other information that could be useful for coordination. Max. 255 characters in total.

[3] This data item is to be notified only for transmitting and monostatic radars.

ANNEX 3

Examples of files with information for submission to the oceanographic database[4]

1. Example of files for first notification

1.1 Excel format:

Int	Adm	ctry	stn_type	freq_assgn	bdwdth_kHz	eirp_dBW	emi_cls	network_name	synch	util	lat	long	site_name	Adm_ref_id	call_sign	email_adm	email_op	d_inuse	d_update	op_time	adm_remark
A	AUS	AUS	TX	4.463	50.0	22.8	N0N--	South01	Y	N	-311306	+1151942	Lancelin	AUS - 009	AXD288	adm@gov.au	user@oper.au	01.05.2014		Y	
A	AUS	AUS	RX	4.465	50.0		N0N--		N	N	-375622	+1402725	Blackfellows	AUS - 011		adm@gov.au		01.05.2014		N	First 15 min of the hour
A	AUS	AUS	TX	4.468	50.0	22.8	N0N--		N	N	-371944	+1395056	Nova Creina	AUS - 013	VZZ888	adm@gov.au		05.04.2014		N	Last 15 min of the hour
A	AUS	AUS	TR	4.45	50.0	22.8	N0N--		N	N	-304204	+1145800	Green Head	AUS - 015	VZZ999	adm@gov.au		12.01.2015		Y	

1.2 ASCII format:

A,AUS,AUS,TX,4.463,50.0,22.8,N0N--,South01,Y,N,-311306,+1151942,Lancelin,AUS - 009,AXD288,adm@gov.au,user@oper.au,01.05.2014,,Y,
A,AUS,AUS,RX,4.465,50.0, ,N0N--,,N,N,-375622,+1402725,Blackfellows,AUS - 011,,adm@gov.au,,01.05.2014,,N,First 15 min of the hour
A,AUS,AUS,TX,4.468,50.0,22.8,N0N--,,N,N,-371944,+1395056,Nova Creina,AUS - 013,VZZ888,adm@gov.au,,05.04.2014,,N,Last 15 min of the hour
A,AUS,AUS,TR,4.45,50.0,22.8,N0N--,,N,N,-304204,+1145800,Green Head,AUS - 015,VZZ999,adm@gov.au,,12.01.2015,,Y,

2. Example of files for modifications

2.1 Excel format:

Int	Adm	ctry	stn_type	freq_assgn	bdwdth_kHz	eirp_dBW	emi_cls	network_name	synch	util	lat	long	site_name	Adm_ref_id	call_sign	email_adm	email_op	d_inuse	d_update	op_time	adm_remark
S	AUS	AUS	TX	4.468	50.0	22.8	N0N--		N	N	-371944	+1395056	Nova Creina	AUS - 013	VZZ888	adm@gov.au		05.04.2014		N	Last 15 min of the hour
A	AUS	AUS	TX	4.468	50.0	19.2	N0N--		N	N	-371944	+1395056	Nova Creina	AUS - 013	VZZ888	adm@gov.au		10.01.2015		Y	

2.2 ASCII format:

S,AUS,AUS,TX,4.468,50.0,22.8,N0N--,,N,N,-371944,+1395056,Nova Creina,AUS - 013,,adm@gov.au,,05.04.2014,,N,Last 15 min of the hour
A,AUS,AUS,TX,4.468,50.0,19.2,N0N--,,N,N,-371944,+1395056,Nova Creina,AUS - 013,,adm@gov.au,,10.01.2015,,Y,

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[4] *The data in this Annex do not represent real parameters of oceanographic radars and are given only as examples to facilitate notification*