REGULATORY ARRANGEMENT FOR TERRESTRIAL SERVICES

Borislav Rackov¹

1 Introduction

1.1 The rights and obligations of the Member States of ITU in the domain of international frequency management of the spectrum/orbit resource are incorporated in the International Telecommunication Constitution and Convention and in the Radio Regulations that are annexed to them. Article 44 of the Constitution (Geneva, 1992, as amended by the Plenipotentiary Conferences Kyoto, 1994 and Minneapolis, 1998) stipulates that the radio-frequency spectrum is a limited natural resource and that it must be used rationally, efficiently and economically, in conformity with the Radio Regulations, so that countries and groups of countries may have equitable access to it. Specific procedures have been established to ensure international recognition of the frequencies used and to safeguard the rights of administrations when they comply with these procedures.

1.2 The fact that the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and the Radio Regulations annexed to them are intergovernmental treaties ratified by governments, means that these governments undertake: 1) to apply the provisions in their countries; and 2) to adopt adequate national legislation which includes, as the basic minimum, the essential provisions of this international treaty. However, the international radio regulations are oriented mainly towards those matters that have a global or regional character, and in many areas there is a place for making special arrangements on a bilateral or multilateral basis.

1.3 The Radio Regulations of ITU, as a principal instrument of the international radio-regulatory arrangement, are based on the use of two main concepts:

- The concept of frequency block allocations that are intended for use by defined radio services (Table of Frequency Allocations as contained in Article 5 of the Radio Regulations). This concept generally provides common frequency allocations to mutually compatible services operating with similar technical characteristics in specific parts of the spectrum. It also provides stable planning environment for administrations, for equipment manufacturers and for users.
- The concept of voluntary or obligatory regulatory procedures (for coordination, notification and recording) that are adapted to the allocation structure.

1.4 The level of the regulation varies considerably from service to service: apart from the general provisions applicable to all services there are very few provisions that are applicable specifically to the fixed and the land mobile services; on the other hand, the maritime mobile and the aeronautical-mobile services are subject to very detailed international regulations. This is due to the fact that the maritime mobile and the aeronautical-mobile services which implies the need to handle the relevant operational procedures and technical material in a larger international context.

2 Allocation structures

2.1 The allocation structure and the associated principles represent a basis for the planning and implementation of radiocommunication services. The current approach is based on a block allocation methodology with footnotes. The regulated frequency band (9 kHz - 400 GHz) is segmented into smaller bands and allocated to over 40 defined radiocommunication services in the Table of Frequency Allocations. The radio services are identified as **primary** or **secondary** (the latter shall cause no harmful interference to, nor claim protection from, the former) and footnotes are used to further specify how the frequencies are to be assigned or used. The table is organized into three **Regions** of the world and is supplemented by assignment and allotment plans for some bands and services, and/or by mandatory coordination procedures.

- 2.2 Two types of allocation are made:
- exclusive allocations, which are favoured in cases that involve broad international use of equipment and practices which imply the need to harmonize relevant operational procedures and technical material in a larger international context. In some cases, the exclusive allocations are subject to a plan (e.g. in the broadcasting service, in the maritime mobile service, or in the aeronautical-mobile service);

¹ This document represents an update of the presentation of Mr. T. Gavrilov at the BR Seminar (Geneva, 2002).

• shared frequency allocations, which are applied to maximize the usage of the available spectrum when two or more radiocommunication services can effectively utilize the same frequency band. The regulatory procedures which govern the use of bands that are allocated to several radiocommunication services, on a shared basis, are based on the use of technical criteria (usually threshold values) which are intended to identify the countries with which the coordination is to be effected to obtain an acceptable sharing arrangement.

2.3 Using the international Table of Frequency Allocations as a starting point, the frequency spectrum management authority of each country selects appropriate frequencies with a view to their assigning to stations of a given service. Before taking the final decision to assign a frequency to a station in a given radiocommunication service in a given frequency band and to issue an appropriate licence, the authority concerned should be aware of all other conditions that are regulating the use of frequencies in concerned band, e.g.:

- Are there other mandatory RR provisions that are governing the use of frequencies (mandatory channelling arrangement, power limits)?
- Is the band concerned subject to a pre-established international assignment or allotment plan; are the characteristics of the assignment in accordance with the appropriate entry in the plan; is there a need to apply the plan modification procedure prior to issuing a licence?
- Is there a need for effecting the coordination procedure prior to notification of the concerned assignment to the Radiocommunication Bureau or prior to its bringing into use, is the procedure mandatory or voluntary, is the procedure specified in the RR or in a special agreement?
- Is there a need to notify the frequency assignment to the Radiocommunication Bureau, when such notification should be made, which characteristics are to be notified, what action should be foreseen after the recording or otherwise of the frequency assignment concerned?

3 A priori planning of the frequency bands

3.1 Frequency allotment or frequency assignment plans represent a key mechanism for preserving the rights of all Member States in the context of equitable access to the limited radio resources (the frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite orbit). Associated to these plans are plan modification and notification procedures that provide for satisfaction of particular operational requirements that are not met by the Plans, while preserving the integrity of the Plans themselves.
3.2 The following worldwide plans, which have been established under the auspices of ITU, are relevant for the terrestrial services concerned in the concerned frequency bands:

- frequency allotment plan for coast radiotelephone stations operating in the exclusive maritime mobile bands between 4 000 and 27 500 kHz (Appendix 25 to RR);
- frequency allotment plan for the aeronautical-mobile (OR) service in the exclusive bands between 3 025 and 18 030 kHz (Appendix 26 to RR);
- frequency allotment plan for the aeronautical-mobile (R) service in the exclusive bands between 2 850 and 22 000 kHz (Appendix 27 to RR).

3.3 The following regional plans, which have been established under the auspices of ITU, are still relevant for the terrestrial services concerned in the concerned frequency bands:

- frequency assignment plans for VHF and UHF Television Broadcasting annexed to the Regional Agreement for the European Broadcasting Area, Stockholm, 1961 (ST61) including a frequency assignment plan for FM sound broadcasting in the band 41-68 MHz;
- frequency assignment plans for LF and MF broadcasting annexed to the Regional Agreement on LF/MF Broadcasting (Regions 1 and 3), Geneva, 1975 (GE75);
- frequency assignment plan for MF broadcasting annexed to the Regional Agreement on MF Broadcasting, (Region 2), Rio de Janeiro, 1981 (RJ81);
- frequency assignment plan for VHF/FM sound broadcasting annexed to the Regional Agreement concerning FM Sound Broadcasting Stations (Region 1 and part of Region 3), Geneva, 1984 (GE84);
- frequency assignment plan for stations of the maritime mobile and aeronautical radionavigation service in the MF bands in Region 1 annexed to the Regional Agreement concerning the MF maritime mobile and aeronautical radionavigation services in Region 1, Geneva, 1985 (GE85-MM-R1);

- 2 -

- frequency assignment plan for stations of the maritime radionavigation service (radiobeacons) for the European Maritime Area in the band 283.5-315 kHz annexed to the Regional Agreement concerning the planning of the maritime radionavigation service (radiobeacons) in the European Maritime Area, Geneva, 1985 (GE85-EMA);
- allotment plan for the broadcasting service in the band 1 605-1 705 kHz in Region 2 annexed to the Regional Agreement for the use of the band 1 605-1 705 kHz in Region 2, Rio de Janeiro, 1988 (RJ88);
- frequency assignment plans for VHF and UHF Television Broadcasting annexed to the Regional Agreement concerning planning of the VHF/UHF Television Broadcasting stations in the African Broadcasting Area and neighbouring Countries, Geneva, 1989 (GE89).

3.4 It is to be noted that many organizations play active roles in the planning and coordination of frequencies, such as ICAO, IMO, WMO, IALA, etc. These organizations are establishing their own plans (e.g. ICAO has established regional air navigation plans for the band 117.975-137 MHz, which are maintained and permanently updated by ICAO's regional offices). The Bureau does not check the conformity of the relevant frequency assignment notices with these plans when examining the concerned notices from the view point of their conformity with a world or regional allotment or assignment plan under No. 11.34.

4 Coordination procedures

4.1 The procedure for coordinating the use of frequencies represents one of the basic elements of the international radio regulatory arrangement, as it enables implementation of new radiocommunication systems while avoiding harmful interference with the other existing and planned users. In essence, coordination is a bilateral or multilateral process conducted between administrations, which comprises the following activities:

- identification of the administrations whose assignments are likely to be affected and with which prior coordination must be sought or agreement obtained;
- use of standardized methods for calculating the potential for interference;
- application of standardized steps of a well-defined and transparent procedure comprising, *inter alia*, the exchange of a sufficient number of data elements in a prescribed format, communicating comments within a prescribed period, and, when appropriate, publication of the results of the coordination procedure in the appropriate Circular of ITU/BR.

4.2 The procedures for effecting coordination with, or obtaining agreement of, other administrations are streamlined in Article 9 of the Radio Regulations. In the context of terrestrial services administrations have the obligation to effect mandatory coordination with the concerned administrations, before notifying the relevant frequency assignment to the Bureau or before bringing into use the relevant frequency assignment, in the following cases:

- for any station of a service for which the requirement to seek the agreement of other administrations is included in a footnote of the Table of Frequency Allocations referring to No. 9.21 (e.g. 5.92, 5.93, etc.) in respect to all services which have allocations in the concerned frequency band of the same or a higher category of allocation see No. 9.21 and Appendix 5;
- for a transmitting station of a terrestrial service for which the requirement to coordinate is included in a footnote of the Table of Frequency Allocations referring to No. 9.11A and which is located within the coordination area of an earth station in a non-geostationary satellite network in respect to a receiving earth station in a non-GSO network see No. 9.16 and Appendix 5;
- for any transmitting station of a terrestrial service in frequency bands above 100 MHz allocated with equal rights to space and terrestrial stations which is located within the coordination area of an earth station in a geostationary-satellite network in respect to a receiving earth station in a GSO network see No. 9.18 and Appendix 5;
- for any transmitting station of a terrestrial service in a frequency band shared on an equal primary basis with the BSS (i.e. in the bands 620-790 MHz, 1 452-1 492 MHz, 2 310-2 360 MHz, 2 520-2 670 MHz, 11.7-12.75 GHz, 17.3-17.8 GHz, 21.4-22 GHz and 74-76 GHz) in respect to typical earth stations included in the service area of a space station in the BSS, if the pfd of a terrestrial station exceeds the permissible level at the edge of BSS service area see No. 9.19 and Appendix 5.

- 3 -

4.3 The cases referred to in Nos. 9.16, 9.18 and 9.19 are to be dealt with directly between the administrations concerned, with no involvement of the Bureau (excepting the cases when the Bureau is asked to provide assistance). To this effect, the requesting administration identifies the administrations with which coordination is to be effected (using the calculation methodology of Appendix 5) and communicates to each of them the appropriate information on its terrestrial stations as specified in Appendix 4. After the coordination is completed, the administration responsible for the terrestrial station may notify the concerned frequency assignment to the Bureau, with the indication of the administrations with which the coordination has been effected. When examining such notices under Article 11, the Bureau determines the coordination requirements (based on the criteria specified in Appendix 5), compares the received coordination information with these requirements and formulates appropriate findings.

4.4 In the case of No. 9.21, the requesting administration has to follow a rather structured procedure. To this end, it submits the Appendix 4 information to the Bureau, who determines the list of administrations likely to be affected and publishes the relevant information in a special section of the information circular (BRIFIC). After the publication of the Special Section, any administration, whether named in the Special Section or not, believing that its operating or planned services might be affected by the proposed assignment may submit an appropriately substantiated request to become party to the procedure. The administrations concerned attempt to reach agreement by common consent. noting that four months after the date of publication of the Special Section of the BR Circular an administration whose name has been published but which has not provided comment, or any other administration which has not declared itself to be affected by the proposed assignment, is regarded as being unaffected thereby. The procedure requires both the requesting and commenting administrations to send to the Bureau copies of any further information they may exchange. Upon expiry of the deadline for comments, the Bureau publishes a further Special Section, indicating the list of administrations having submitted their disagreement or other comments within the regulatory deadline. In the case of continuing disagreement, the requesting administration may still notify the relevant frequency assignment to the Bureau, which may record the concerned assignment under specified conditions.

4.5 In addition to the mandatory procedures listed in the Radio Regulations, some Regional Agreements also specify the obligation of performing prior coordination of assignments to terrestrial services in some specific cases, e.g.:

• the regional agreement concerning the MF maritime mobile and aeronautical radionavigation services in Region 1, Geneva, 1985 (GE85-MM-R1), specifies the obligation for the parties to the agreement to coordinate their assignments in the non-planned services (fixed and land mobile) in the bands 1 606.5-1 625 kHz,

1 635-1 800 kHz and 2 045-2 160 kHz in respect to the assignments of the planned service;

- the regional agreement concerning the planning of the maritime radionavigation service (radiobeacons) in the European Maritime Area, Geneva, 1985 (GE85-EMA), specifies the obligation for the parties to the agreement to coordinate their assignments in the non-planned service (aeronautical radionavigation) in the band 283.5-315 kHz in respect to the assignments of the planned service;
- the regional agreement for the use of the band 1 605-1 705 kHz in Region 2, Rio de Janeiro, 1988 (RJ88) specifies the obligation for the parties to the agreement to coordinate their assignments in the non-planned services (fixed and mobile) in the band 1 625-1 705 kHz in respect to the allotment plan.

4.6 Apart from the mandatory procedures for coordination that are applicable to terrestrial services as specified above, several provisions of the Radio Regulations invite administrations to coordinate the operational characteristics of their assignments with other administrations. As these procedures are only recommended, but not mandatory, the Bureau does not check the conformity of the relevant frequency assignment notices with these procedures when examining the concerned notices from the viewpoint of their conformity with the procedures relating to coordination with other administrations under No. 11.32. The following is a non-exhaustive list of examples in this regard:

- coordination of the technical and operating characteristics of stations in the radionavigation service in the band 90-110 kHz (see No. 5.62);
- coordination of technical and operating characteristics when establishing and operating stations in the standard frequency and time-signal service (see No. 26.1);

- coordination, through the International Maritime Organization (IMO), of the operating characteristics of coast stations in the NAVTEX service on the frequencies 490 kHz, 518 kHz and 4 209.5 kHz (see No.5.79A and Resolution 339(Rev.WRC-97));
- coordination, through the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), of the operational use of the frequencies in Appendix 27 for international aeronautical operations (see No. 27/19), and more specifically the use of worldwide frequencies for aeronautical operational control communications (see Recommendation 402);
- coordination of the operational use of the calling channels for A1A and A1B Morse telegraphy in the HF bands allocated exclusively to the maritime mobile service (see Resolution 312(Rev.WRC-97)).

4.7 It is to be noted that many organizations play active roles in the coordination of operational aspects of the use of frequencies, such as ICAO, IMO, WMO, IALA, CEPT/ERO, etc. These organizations are establishing their own procedures in this regard. Similarly, many administrations are concluding special agreements regarding the use of frequencies which establish the obligation of coordination of the characteristics of the relevant frequency assignments if the concerned station is within the coordination zone (e.g. the Vienna-93 Agreement on the coordination of frequencies for the fixed and land mobile service in the bands between 29.7 MHz and 960 MHz; the Wiesbaden-95 Agreement concerning the introduction of digital audio broadcasting; the Chester-97 agreement on the introduction of terrestrial digital video broadcasting in the VHF/UHF bands, etc.). As these procedures are outside the ITU regulatory arrangement, the Bureau does not check the conformity of the relevant frequency assignment notices with these procedures when examining the concerned notices from the viewpoint of their conformity with the procedures relating to coordination with other administrations under No. 11.32.

5 Notification and registration procedures

5.1 The Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) represents one of the pillars of the international radio-regulatory arrangement as it contains all frequency usage notified to the ITU. It should be consulted before selecting a frequency for any new user. For these reasons, notification of frequency assignments to the Bureau, with a view to their recording in the Master International Frequency Register, represents an important obligation for administrations, especially in respect to those frequency assignments that have international implications.

5.2 The process of notification of frequency assignments has been streamlined by the revisions of the Radio Regulations in 1995, 1997 and 2000 and the relevant provisions are contained in Article 11. According to these provisions, any frequency assignment liable to have an international implication has to be notified to the Bureau in order to obtain international recognition. In other words, any assignment liable to cause interference to existing or future stations in another country or to suffer interference from such stations should normally be notified to the Bureau so as to be recorded in the MIFR and published in the IFL, thereby ensuring that all administrations are informed on the use of these assignments and that they are taken into account in any future planning conducted at the national, regional or international level. When an administration considers that the above conditions are met, it submits appropriate notice form indicating the relevant characteristics of the frequency assignment, as specified in Appendix 4 of the RR. When an assignment is no longer used, its cancellation is also to be notified.

5.3 In order to keep the process workable, Radio Regulations specify in quite a precise manner what should be notified, when the notification information is to be submitted to the Bureau and what information has to be submitted. For instance, provisions Nos. 11.13 and 11.14 specify the cases when no notification is needed. The cases are further developed in the related Rules of Procedure. No need to notify:

 frequency assignments involving specific frequencies which are prescribed for common use (e.g. worldwide distress and calling frequencies 500 kHz and 2 182 kHz; GMDSS frequencies for distress and safety calling; GMDSS frequencies for distress and safety traffic; international frequencies for search and rescue operations; international frequencies for commercial calling using radiotelephony, DSC or SSFC techniques; worldwide frequencies for radio direction-finding; worldwide and international working frequencies for ship radiotelegraph stations in MF bands; international ship-to-shore or inter-ship frequencies at MF) - see No. 11.13 and the associated Rule of Procedure;

- frequency assignments to ship stations and to mobile stations of other services (e.g. worldwide frequencies for use by ship and coast SSB radiotelephone stations at HF in simplex mode of operation; worldwide working frequencies for use by ship stations equipped for wideband telegraphy and special transmission systems at HF; worldwide working frequencies for use by ship stations equipped for NBDP telegraphy and data transmission systems at HF on a non-paired basis; ship calling frequencies using A1A Morse telegraphy; ship working frequencies using A1A Morse telegraphy) see No. 11.14 and the associated Rule of Procedure;
- frequency assignments to stations in the amateur service see No. 11.14;
- frequency assignments to receiving aeronautical stations in the bands governed by Appendices 26 and 27, as all communications in these bands are made in simplex mode of operation see Rule of Procedure related to No. 11.14.

5.4 Radio Regulations also specify the conditions when there is a need to notify individual station (either transmitting or receiving) or typical station (i.e. when the same frequency is reused many times within the same country with generalized parameters). According to these conditions, which are further developed in the related Rules of Procedure, the following frequency assignments have to be notified individually:

- assignments to stations covered by Allotment Plans of Appendices 25, 26 and 27 and by any frequency assignment plan;
- assignments to stations of the broadcasting service in any band;
- assignments to stations of all terrestrial services which are within the coordination area of an earth station;
- assignments to any stations in the bands shared with space services with equal rights if they
 exceed the limits specified in the appropriate tables of Appendix 7 and in
 No. 21.3;
- assignments to terrestrial stations in the bands shared with space services and listed in Table 21.2.

With respect to possibility of notifying typical stations, it is to be noted that only notices to typical transmitting stations are receivable.

5.5 Radio Regulations also specify the earliest possible date of submitting notification information to the Bureau, which is dependent on the scheduled date of bringing into service of the station (which must be indicated in the notice form). The following deadlines are applicable to notices in terrestrial services:

- five years before the assignment is brought into use, for assignments to high altitude platform stations (HAPS) in the fixed service in the bands 47.2-47.5 GHz and 47.9-48.2 GHz (see No. 11.26);
- three years before the assignment is brought into use, for terrestrial stations involved in coordination with a satellite network (i.e. if the terrestrial station is operating in band shared with a space service and located within the coordination area of receiving earth station) see No. 11.25. Similarly, for assignments for high altitude platform stations (HAPS) operating as bases stations to provide IMT-2000 in specific frequency bands (1885 1980 MHz, 2010 2025 MHz, 2110 2170 MHz)- the period is extended to three years (RR 11.26A).
- three months before the assignment is brought into use, for all other terrestrial stations (see No. 11.24).

5.6 If the notice contains all the necessary information specified in Appendix 4, it is published in Part I of the Bureau's International Frequency Information Circular within **two months** of its receipt (No. 11.28). This publication serves as acknowledgment of receipt and also enables the notifying administration to check that the publication is an accurate reflection of the information it submitted. Incomplete notices are returned to the notifying administrations unless the missing information is provided immediately after an inquiry by the Bureau.

5.7 Subsequent processing of a notice varies according to the frequency band and service concerned. Each notice is firstly examined with respect to its conformity with the Table of Frequency Allocations and the other provisions of the Radio Regulations (regulatory examination); this examination consists in checking that the assignment (frequency, class of station, notified bandwidth) does indeed correspond to an allocation in the Table of Frequency Allocations in Article 5 or the footnotes thereto and, where appropriate, that it complies with other technical or operating conditions laid down in other Articles or Appendices of the Radio Regulations (power limits, authorized classes of

5.8 When the first examination (under No. 11.31) is concluded favourably, the assignment is recorded in the Master Register, or examined further, if appropriate, from the viewpoint of its conformity with the coordination procedures (No. 11.32) or with a world or regional allotment or assignment plans (No. 11.34). Following such examinations, the assignment in either recorded in the Master Register (if the finding is favourable) or returned to the administration (if the finding is unfavourable), after publication of the finding in BRIFIC. The administrations are normally advised to complete the coordination procedure with the identified administrations, or to apply the relevant plan modification procedure. However, in some specific cases, administration may resubmit the notice without completing the coordination or plan modification procedure and the concerned assignment may be recorded in the Master Register under specific conditions.

5.9 The recording in the Master Register does not mean an end of activities of the notifying administration in respect to the concerned frequency assignment. The notifying administration should remain in close cooperation with the licensing authority and any change in the characteristics of the concerned assignment has to be notified to the BR, so as to reflect them in the Master Register, if necessary after additional coordination with the administrations of countries concerned. Furthermore, notifying administration should remain in close contact with the monitoring authority so as to check whether the concerned frequency assignment is operated in compliance with the notified characteristics and whether other elements (e.g. frequency tolerance) are kept within the limits prescribed by the Radio Regulations. Notifying administration should also initiate appropriate monitoring programmes with a view to detect any operational or technical irregularities in the operation of frequency assignments from other administrations, and to initiate appropriate actions in this regard, so as to ensure interference-free operation for stations under its jurisdiction.

5.10 It is to be noted that similar notice may need to be sent in other format, for updating of other international service documents (e.g. List of coast stations). The notifying administration should ensure submission of consistent information to all for dealing with different aspects of frequency management and dissemination of information on frequency uses, on a permanent basis.

6 Assistance to administrations

6.1 Radio Regulations contain specific provisions relating to the provision of assistance to administrations in the application of the radio regulatory procedures, in particular to those administrations in need of special assistance (No. 7.6). Further instructions to the Bureau, in this respect, are contained in Article 13 (Nos. 13.1 to 13.3) and they concern:

- provision of assistance in applying the procedures of Articles 9 and 11, Appendices 30, 30A and 30B;
- studies and recommendations in resolving a case of harmful interference;
- studies and recommendations in resolving a case of alleged contravention or nonobservance of the Radio Regulations.

6.2 Similar provisions exist in other places of the Radio Regulations, as well as in various Regional Agreements, which provide for the possibility of continuing assistance by the Radiocommunication Bureau to administrations in the application of different steps of the relevant procedures, and, more generally, in all domains regarding the use of the frequencies. Some of these possibilities, where assistance may be requested, are listed below:

- application of the procedure of Article 12 (Seasonal planning of the HFBC), including the coordination of requirements submitted by the administration of a developing country (No. 12.12);
- application of the procedures of Appendix 25 (updating of the allotment plan for HF duplex radiotelephony) under the conditions stipulated in Nos. 25/1.3-25/1.3.3 and 25/1.11-25/1.12, i.e. selection of a suitable channel, carrying out the complete procedure on behalf of the administration concerned, helping in obtaining agreement from the administrations which failed to respond or which communicated their disagreement including the cases of continuing disagreement;
- selection of appropriate allotment in the aeronautical-mobile (OR) service in the bands governed by Appendix 26 (provisions of No. 26/7.1);

- application of Recommendation No. 402, concerning the use of worldwide frequencies in the aeronautical-mobile (R) service: the Bureau may provide advice in determining the best choice of frequencies from a technical viewpoint ("*invites* 1") or in coordinating the requirements for worldwide frequencies of an administration or group of administrations in a worldwide allotment area ("*invites* 3");
- application of Article 4 of the Regional Agreement concerning the LF/MF broadcasting (Geneva, 1975), concerning the modification of the frequency assignment plan annexed thereto and more specifically in obtaining agreement from other administration (paragraphs 3.5.1 and 3.5.2);
- application of Article 4 of the Regional Agreement concerning the MF maritime mobile service in Region 1 (Geneva, 1985), concerning the modification of the frequency assignment plan annexed thereto (paragraph 4.13).

6.3 The Bureau assigns special attention to the requests for assistance and treats them with some kind of priority, within the limits of the available resources. Attention is also paid to the training of senior staff of administrations in the field of spectrum management and utilization. This later kind of assistance is provided through the organization of regular biennial Seminars on the frequency management and the use of the RF spectrum and the GSO orbit, as well as through special training, within the Radiocommunication Bureau, of officials from administrations in the domain of the radio-regulatory procedures.

8-10 June 2004