

RESOLUTION 4 (REV.WRC-03)

Period of validity of frequency assignments to space stations using the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits¹

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2003),

considering

- a) that rational and efficient use must be made of the frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite orbit and that account should be taken of the provisions of Resolution 2 (Rev.WRC-03) relating to the use by all countries, with equal rights and equitable access to the frequency bands and the associated satellite orbits for space radiocommunication services;
- b) that limiting the period of validity of frequency assignments to space stations using the geostationary-satellite orbit and other satellite orbits is a concept which would promote the attainment of these objectives;
- c) that amortizing the considerable investments made in connection with the development of space radiocommunications is a heavy burden for all administrations and that these investments should be spread over a predetermined and realistic period;
- d) that every effort should be made to encourage administrations in a position to do so to develop techniques designed to improve the utilization of the frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite orbit and other satellite orbits with a view to increasing the total radiocommunication facilities available to the world community;
- e) that an experimental procedure to gain experience from application of the new concept of notifying the period of validity of an assignment in space radiocommunication was introduced by WARC-79 and has been used by the Radiocommunication Bureau and administrations since then but that it is not possible to impose on administrations a statutory period identical in all cases;
- f) that administrations should be left to propose the period of validity themselves in the light of their operational service requirements and of the common interest, however the period of validity shall take into account, *inter alia*, the operational lifetime of the satellite systems, including space and earth stations, and the type of service provided,

¹ This Resolution does not apply to the frequency bands covered by the Allotment Plan contained in Appendix 30B.

resolves

1 that, until this Resolution is reviewed by the next competent world radiocommunication conference, frequency assignments to space radiocommunication stations located on the geostationary-satellite and other satellite orbits, noting *considering e)* and *f)*, shall not be considered perpetual and shall be dealt with as follows:

1.1 a frequency assignment to a space station² shall be deemed definitively discontinued after the expiry of the period of operation shown on the assignment notice, reckoned from the date on which the assignment was brought into service. This period shall be limited to that for which the satellite network was designed. The Bureau shall then invite the notifying administration to take steps to cancel the assignment. If the Bureau receives no reply within three months following the expiry of the period of operation, it shall insert a symbol in the Remarks Column of the Master Register to indicate that the assignment is not in conformity with this Resolution;

1.2 if a notifying administration which wishes to extend the period of operation originally shown on the assignment notice of a frequency assignment of an existing space station² informs the Bureau accordingly more than three years before the expiry of the period in question and if all other basic characteristics of that assignment remain unchanged, the Bureau shall amend as requested the period of operation originally recorded in the Master Register and publish that information in a special section of the Bureau's International Frequency Information Circular (BR IFIC);

1.3 if, at least three years before the expiry of the period of operation recorded in the Master Register of a frequency assignment to an existing space station², an administration initiates the coordination procedure specified in No. 9.7 to bring into service a new space station using the same assigned frequency and the same orbital position but with different technical characteristics, and if the Bureau finds after the notification that the new assignment conforms with the provisions of No. 11.31 and does not increase, in relation to the preceding assignment, the probability of interference to the detriment of a frequency assignment recorded in the Master Register or involved in the coordination procedure, the new assignment shall be given a favourable finding and shall be entered in the Master Register;

1.4 a notifying administration which wishes to modify a basic characteristic of a frequency assignment of a space station² recorded in the Master Register shall initiate, in any case other than those covered by *resolves* 1.2 and 1.3, the appropriate modification procedure in accordance with the provisions of Nos. 11.43A to 11.46;

2 that, for the application of the provisions of *resolves* 1.1 above, the information concerning the period of validity of frequency assignments to space stations shall be notified in addition to that contained in Appendix 4;

3 that the application of this Resolution shall not prejudice in any way the decisions of future radiocommunication conferences,

² The expression "space station" may apply to more than one satellite provided that only one satellite is in operation at any particular moment and that the stations installed on board successive satellites have identical basic characteristics.

invites ITU-R

to undertake studies with respect to the implementation of this Resolution,

invites the next competent world radiocommunication conference

to take cognizance of the results of ITU-R studies undertaken as a result of this Resolution and take action, as appropriate,

instructs the Secretary-General

to bring this Resolution to the attention of the Council.