



Radiocommunication Bureau

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Circular Letter
CR/220

20 September 2004

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU¹

Subject: Post-conference activities resulting from the decisions of the first session of the Regional Radiocommunication Conference for planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in parts of Regions 1 and 3, in the frequency bands 174 - 230 MHz and 470 - 862 MHz (RRC-04): actions towards the establishment of the list of existing and planned assignments of primary services other than broadcasting.

To the Director-General

Dear Sir/Madam,

1. In accordance with the decisions of the first session of the Regional Radiocommunication Conference for planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in parts of Regions 1 and 3, in the frequency bands 174 - 230 MHz and 470 - 862 MHz (RRC-04), which was held in Geneva from 10 to 28 May 2004, the Radiocommunication Bureau informed your Administration on the results of RRC-04 and brought to the attention of your Administration the first list of existing and planned assignments of primary services other than broadcasting (see Circular Letter CR/216 of 19 July 2004). In that circular letter the Bureau indicated that it will provide administrations with another list of existing and planned assignments of primary services, other than broadcasting, entered into the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) between 31 December 1989 and 10 May 2004. This circular letter addresses the issues regarding the establishment of the second list.

2. RRC-04 considered the issues regarding the protection of the primary service, other than broadcasting, in the frequency bands 174 - 230 MHz and 470 - 862 MHz and adopted the definition of existing and planned assignments that are to be taken into account in the design of the new plan for digital terrestrial broadcasting in the frequency bands 174 - 230 MHz and 470 - 862 MHz. According to this definition (§ 1.7.2 of Chapter 1 of the Report of the first session of the conference refers), the existing and planned assignments of primary services other than broadcasting have been divided into three categories, notably:

¹ This Circular-letter is primarily addressed to the Member States of Region 1 (except Mongolia) and to the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is for information only for other Member States.

- i) assignments notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau and recorded in the MIFR by 31 December 1989 with a favourable finding with respect to the applicable provisions of the Radio Regulations (RR), and without complaint of harmful interference received by the Radiocommunication Bureau;
- ii) assignments notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau and recorded or considered as being recorded in the MIFR between 31 December 1989 and 10 May 2004 with a favourable finding with respect to the applicable provisions of the RR, and without complaint of harmful interference received by the Radiocommunication Bureau;
- iii) assignments notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau after 10 May 2004 which have been successfully coordinated by 31 October 2005.

3. This circular letter deals with the second category of assignments (i.e. assignments notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau and recorded in the MIFR between 31 December 1989 and 10 May 2004 with a favourable finding). Based on the decisions of RRC-04, the Bureau extracted, from the MIFR, the frequency assignments to stations of terrestrial services that qualify to be in this category, and the extracted data in the form of a MS Access container (mdb format), as well as the summary information in a pdf format, can be found on the CD-ROM attached to this circular letter. Administrations are invited to study their frequency assignments included on this CD-ROM and, in accordance with Resolution COM5/1, Annex 2, Note 1 of RRC-04, they are requested to indicate to the Bureau those frequency assignments from this list that are to be taken into account in the planning process. It is recalled that, in accordance with the decisions of RRC-04, administrations would need to indicate explicitly the frequency assignments that are to be taken into account in the planning process. If no explicit indication is submitted from the notifying administration concerned by 31 October 2005, the concerned assignments will not be taken into account in the planning process even though they were eligible for protection.

4. With respect to the frequency assignments that are dealt with in this circular letter (indicated as category ii) in paragraph 2 above), as well as with respect to the other two categories of frequency assignments to existing and planned assignments of primary services other than broadcasting, the Bureau wishes to make the following observations:

4.1 As indicated in footnote 5 associated with § 1.7.2 of Chapter 1 of the Report of the first session of the RRC-04 (see Annex to Resolution 1 from RRC-04), those frequency assignments from category ii) above, which will be included in the planning process in accordance with the indications from the responsible administrations, will be examined with respect to the existing and planned broadcasting assignments and allotments in order to identify incompatibilities, which should be resolved between administrations concerned. The compatibility assessment will be based, inter alia, on the use of the service type code. As this data element does not form part of the Appendix 4 data, it would need to be provided, by the administrations concerned, for those frequency assignments that would need to be taken into account in the planning process. The Bureau considered this issue and concluded that the most appropriate manner would be if the administrations concerned provided this element at the time of the indication of its frequency assignments from this list that are to be taken into account in the planning process. For this purpose, the Bureau is developing a specific form of notice (R06), which will be communicated through a separate circular letter.

4.2 The form of notice R06 would need to be used to indicate the frequency assignments that are to be taken into account in the planning process from the lists attached to this circular letter and to Circular Letter CR/216, as well as for providing information on the service type code and for update of the coordination information with respect to the frequency assignments of these two categories. The Bureau is also considering the manner in which it could be used in the context of the frequency assignments referred to as category iii) in paragraph 2 of this circular letter (see paragraph 6 hereunder).

5. To facilitate the examinations of the concerned assignments from category ii), for each Member State from the Planning Area, separate national extracts (if assignments exist) in the form of a MS Access container have also been included on the CD-ROM, for appropriate follow-up action.

6. The third category of existing and planned assignments of primary services other than broadcasting that are described in § 1.7.2 of Chapter 1 of the Report (i.e. the frequency assignments notified after 10 May 2004) will be dealt with in a separate circular letter.

7. The Bureau uses this opportunity to inform administrations on the following actions that have been undertaken by the Bureau on issues that are relevant for consideration of existing and planned assignments of primary services other than broadcasting in the context of the RRC activities:

7.1 In order to facilitate the activities of the administrations, and in line with the concept of coordination distances referred to in Annex 1.2 of the RRC-04 Report (in particular § 1.2.3), a procedure has been established by the Bureau to calculate the distance from any principal site to the nearest points of the boundaries of all geographical areas located within a circle around that principal site with a radius of 1 000 km. It also applied this approach to typical stations. If the zone, where the typical stations are located, is represented by a geographical area, then the boundaries of this geographical area are used for the calculation of the 1 000 km distance. If the zone, where the typical stations are located, is a circular area, then points at every degree around the edge of the circular area are used to indicate the shortest distance (worst case). This information is now available in the relevant frequency assignments (including the transactions in progress) that are included in the regular BR International Frequency Information Circular, as well as in the frequency assignments included in the attached CD-ROM. Administrations may use this information to identify possibly affected administrations on the basis of the agreed (bi-lateral or multi-lateral) coordination distances and by using the guidelines given in Resolutions COM4/7 and GT-PLN/3 of RRC-04.

7.2 The information about actual distances to the nearest points of the boundaries of geographical areas has been inserted in item *Remarks* of the relevant frequency assignment/notice in the format "DIST/ARS/135, OMA/200, IRQ/287..." with the following meaning:

DIST/ *The information contained in this remark is given in the format "geographical area/distance" and indicates the ITU codes of the geographical areas that are at a distance of less than 1000 km from the transmitter site of the terrestrial assignment/notice to the nearest points of the boundary of these geographical areas, followed by a stroke and the distance value.*

8. The Bureau remains at the disposal of your administration for any clarification you may require with respect to the subjects covered in this circular letter.

Yours faithfully,

V. Timofeev
Director
Radiocommunication Bureau

Attachment: 1 CD-ROM

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