



Radiocommunications Agency  
*Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and  
Innovation*

## **WRC-12 AI 1.15**

### **Resolution 358 [COM 6/3]**

On-board communication  
stations in the maritime  
mobile service in the UHF  
bands

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The Netherlands



## Elements of the Resolution

- In the bands between 450 and 470 MHz, only six frequencies are currently identified in No. **5.287** for on-board communication stations;
- Technical characteristics of equipment identified in Recommendation ITU-R M.1174;
- On-board communication stations are intended:
  - for use for internal communications on board a ship, or
  - between a ship and its lifeboats and life-rafts during lifeboat drills or operations, or
  - for communication within a group of vessels being towed or pushed, as well as for line handling and mooring instructions





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## What is “the issue? ”

- that on board many ships the existing channels are congested to the extent that ship and port operations are impacted by cross transmissions;
- that it is important that the services to which the frequency band is currently allocated need to be protected,
- that No. **5.286AA** identifies the frequency band 450-470 MHz for use by administrations wishing to implement International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT)





## An easy Agenda item?

- There is always a wish!
- No. 5.287 → “frequencies **may** be used” ;
- Not only maritime communications on the 6 frequencies, mentioned in No. 5.287;  
“mixed picture”: land mobile applications; maritime mobile applications and in several CEPT countries: frequencies are in use by the railways, in use for governmental communications etc.
- Expected “regional” diversity on views?





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## No. 5.287

" ....the frequencies 457.525 MHz, 457.550 MHz, 457.575 MHz, 467.525 MHz, 467.550 MHz and 467.575 MHz may be used by on-board communication stations..."

**456-459**      FIXED  
MOBILE 5.286AA  
5.271 **5.287** 5.288

**460-470**      FIXED  
MOBILE 5.286AA  
Meteorological-satellite (space-to-Earth)  
**5.287** 5.288 5.289 5.290





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## What should WRC-15 do?

Consider, based on the results of ITU-R studies, the need to possibly identify additional UHF channels within the bands already allocated to the maritime mobile service for on-board communication stations;





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## What should we (= WP 5B) do?

- conduct, in time for WRC-15, studies to determine the spectrum requirements and potential frequency bands for on-board communication stations, taking into account the protection of services to which the frequency band is currently allocated,
- to contribute to these studies, and besides this:
- IMO, IEC and CIRM are also invited to provide their views on the issue and to contribute to the work.







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## Why this Agenda Item?

- CEPT discussions;
- several Administrations: “existing channels are congested”;
- port services, e.g. crane and barges, are also dependent upon the existing channels for on-board vessel communication to conduct normal operations;
- additional activities in the port environment are increasing the usage of the existing channels;
- adoption of digital technology in these channels for on-board vessel communication would improve performance.







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## Thoughts on how to solve these problems

- to authorize the introduction of digital technology into the existing channels identified for on-board vessel communication;
- to identify additional UHF channels for on-board vessel communication.





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## How to start up?

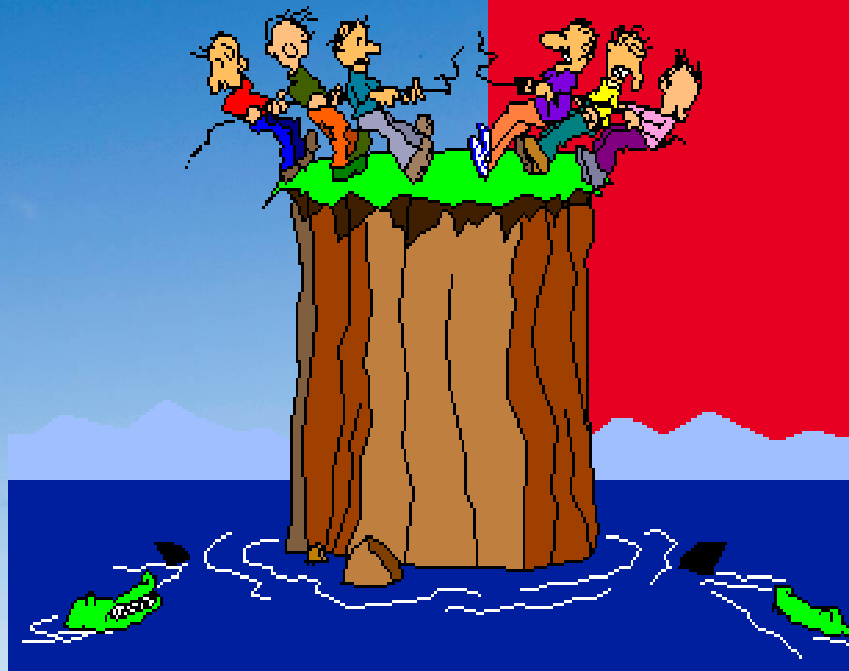
- start with an inventory on present occupancy of No. 5.287, cf. MIFR, and an inventory of the present use of the 450 – 470 MHz band;
- develop a Work Plan for the work to be done;
- initiate / continue our own (internal) discussions and
- start (a.s.a.p.) to attract the other “players” in the field, such as IMO, IEC and CIRM.





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## A future WRC-scene?





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Thank you

