



## Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular Letter  
CCRR/81

17 April 2026

### To Administrations of Member States of ITU

Subject: **Draft Rules of Procedure**

At its 101<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) agreed on the schedule for the approval of draft new and modified rules of procedure contained in [Document RRB26-2/1](#). Accordingly, the Bureau prepared a set of draft new or modified rules of procedure annexed to this Circular Letter:

- **Annex 1:** Addition of new rules of procedure on No. **11.28.1** and consequential modification to existing rules of procedure on No. **11.43A**;
- **Annex 2:** Modification to existing rules of procedure on No. **21.16**;
- **Annex 3:** Addition of new rules of procedure on Resolution **679 (WRC-23)**;
- **Annex 4:** Addition of new rules of procedure on Nos. **5.564A** and **5.565**.

In accordance with No. **13.17** of the Radio Regulations, these draft RoP are made available to administrations for comments before being submitted to RRB pursuant to No. **13.14**. As indicated in No. **13.12A d)** of the Radio Regulations, any comments that you may wish to submit should reach the Bureau no later than **1 June 2026, 1600 UTC** in order to be considered at the 102<sup>nd</sup> RRB meeting, scheduled for 29 June – 3 July 2026. Comments should be sent by e-mail to [rrb@itu.int](mailto:rrb@itu.int).

The Radiocommunication Bureau remains at the disposal of your Administration for any clarification you may require.

Mario Maniewicz  
Director

### Annexes: 4

Distribution:

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

## Annex 1

Addition of new rules of procedure on No. **11.28.1** and consequential modification to existing rules of procedure on No. **11.43A**

### Rules concerning

#### ARTICLE 11 of the RR

##### ADD

###### **11.28.1**

This provision intends to allow Administrations to consult each other in case the notification of a satellite system not subject to coordination under Section II of Article 9 contains changes to the characteristics initially submitted in the advance publication of information. However, this provision does not address modifications submitted under No. **11.43A** to the notified characteristics of such a system.

The Board therefore decided that, when an administration that believes modifications submitted under No. **11.43A** to the already-recorded characteristics of satellite networks or systems not subject to the coordination procedure under Section II of Article 9 may cause unacceptable interference to its existing or planned satellite networks or systems provides comments to the notifying administration with a copy to the Bureau, the Bureau shall publish any such comments received on its website. The Board also noted that both administrations shall thereafter cooperate to resolve any difficulties.

##### MOD

###### **11.43A**

##### NOC 1 - 6

[7 For satellite networks or systems not subject to Section II of Article 9, see also the Rules of Procedure on No. 11.28.1.](#)

**Reasons:** *The intent of No. 11.28.1 is to allow administrations to comment when they believe that modifications made at notification to the characteristics of satellite networks or systems belonging to another administration (differing from those initially published in the API) may cause unacceptable interference to their existing satellite networks or systems.*

*Except for modifications stated under No. 9.2, assignments already recorded in the MIFR can be modified under No. 11.43A without needing to undergo the procedure of No. 9.1. This would mean that any modification of characteristics to already recorded assignments will not be open to commenting from other administrations under No. 9.3 or No.11.28.1, even if the other administrations believe the modification may cause unacceptable interference to their existing or planned satellite networks or systems.*

*The proposed rules of procedure are to enable administrations to submit comments (copied to the Bureau) on modifications to already-recorded assignments of satellite networks or systems belonging to another administration.*

**Effective date of application of this Rule:** *Immediately after approval*

## Annex 2

### Modification to existing rules of procedure on No. 21.16

#### Rules concerning

#### ARTICLE 21 of the RR

##### MOD

|       |
|-------|
| 21.16 |
|-------|

##### Application of power flux-density (pfd) limits to steerable beams

##### NOC 1 – 3

4 In addition to § 3 above, if frequency assignments to non-geostationary satellite networks or systems operating in the mobile-satellite service (space-to-Earth) in the frequency band 1 518 – 1 525 MHz exceed the pfd limits of Article 21 that apply to the territory of the United States in Region 2 between the longitudes 71° W and 125° W, the Bureau will establish a favourable finding only if the notifying administration provides a commitment that the space station will not transmit in this frequency band whenever it is visible from any location within the abovementioned territory of the United States or if it states that the applicable pfd limits will be met by applying a method, the description of which is submitted to the Bureau.

(...)

**Reasons:** For non-geostationary satellite networks or systems operating in the mobile-satellite service (MSS) (space-to-Earth) in the frequency band 1 518 – 1 525 MHz, two different sets of Article 21 limits apply: one to the territory of the United States in Region 2 between the longitudes 71° W and 125° W, and another to all other territories of the United States in Region 2. The first set is significantly more stringent compared to limits in adjacent frequency bands. The Bureau has noted an increase in unfavourable findings in this band due to non-compliance with the stricter limit. Even when taking into account the alternative allocation under No. 5.344, which excludes those areas from the service area of non-GSO MSS satellite systems, it remains technically challenging for these systems to comply with the limit when steerable antennas are directed to adjacent territories, as it is not practically feasible to provide enough transmitting antenna back lobe attenuation toward points within these territories.

Therefore, to ensure that the limit will be met, the Bureau accepts statements from the notifying administration that, in the frequency band 1 518 – 1 525 MHz, the space station will not transmit whenever it is visible from any point in the territory of the United States in Region 2 between the longitudes 71° W and 125° W. When these statements are provided by the administration, they are also published in the CR/C special sections. Alternatively, the notifying administration can provide a description of a method that will be used to ensure compliance with these pfd limits.

Once the appropriate Rule of Procedure is adopted, the Bureau plans to incorporate into the SpaceCap software an option allowing the notifying administration to indicate its commitment to not transmit as explained in the new paragraph of the Rule of Procedure.

**Effective date of application of this Rule:** Immediately after approval.

**Annex 3****Addition of new rules of procedure on Resolution 679 (WRC-23)****Rules concerning****RESOLUTION 679 (WRC-23)****Use of the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz, 18.8-20.2 GHz and 27.5-30 GHz by the inter-satellite service****ADD**

To ensure a consistent application of Resolution **679 (WRC-23)**, the Board decided that the same action prescribed in *further resolves* 5 also applies to the Advance Publication Information submitted for a geostationary satellite network receiving in the frequency band 27.5-30 GHz or a non-geostationary satellite system receiving in the frequency bands 27.5-29.1 GHz and 29.5-30 GHz and transmitting in the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz and 18.8-20.2 GHz. Accordingly, the Bureau shall return the Advance Publication Information to the notifying administration when no recorded frequency assignments in the fixed-satellite service with typical earth stations can be identified in the relevant frequency bands for the associated geostationary satellite network or non-geostationary satellite system, or when the Advance Publication Information is not submitted in accordance with Resolution **679 (WRC-23)**.

**Reasons:** No. **5.521A**, which is associated with the primary allocation to the inter-satellite service (ISS) in the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz, 18.8-20.2 GHz and 27.5-30 GHz, refers to Resolution **679 (WRC-23)**. This Resolution lists in its resolves 1 some of the conditions applicable to a non-GSO space station subject to this Resolution communicating with a geostationary or non-geostationary ISS space station within the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz, 18.8-20.2 GHz, and 27.5-30 GHz.

Furthermore, resolves 1.3 of Resolution **679 (WRC-23)** limits the use of inter-satellite links by geostationary or non-geostationary space stations transmitting in the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz and 18.8-20.2 GHz and receiving in the frequency band 27.5-30 GHz to satellite networks or systems with recorded assignments in the relevant allocations to the FSS (space-to-Earth) or (Earth-to-space) in those frequency bands. Moreover, throughout the Resolution, references are made to either FSS or ISS space stations.

In accordance with *further resolves* 1b) or 1c), the notifying administration for a non-GSO ISS space station transmitting in the frequency band 27.5-30 GHz towards a GSO network or in the frequency bands 27.5-29.1 GHz and 29.5-30 GHz towards a non-GSO system and receiving in the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz and 18.8-20.2 GHz shall send to the Bureau the relevant Appendix 4 Advance Publication Information (API) containing the characteristics of the non-GSO ISS space station ("lower orbit") and the name of the associated notified GSO FSS network or non-GSO FSS system(s) ("higher orbit") with which it intends to communicate.

However, Resolution **679 (WRC-23)** does not contain similar provisions for the corresponding GSO satellite network or non-GSO satellite system. In accordance with No. **9.2** (complemented by No. **9.2.1**), the use of inter-satellite links between a geostationary space station and a non-geostationary space station that is not subject to the coordination procedure under Section II of Article 9 requires the application of the advance publication procedure; therefore, the Appendix 4 data items related to the API have also to be submitted for the GSO satellite network receiving in the frequency band 27.5-30 GHz or the non-GSO satellite system

*(“higher orbit”) receiving in the frequency bands 27.5-29.1 GHz and 29.5-30 GHz and transmitting in the frequency bands 18.1-18.6 GHz and 18.8-20.2 GHz.*

*Further resolves 5 of Resolution **679 (WRC-23)** requires the Bureau, upon examination of the Appendix 4 data items of the API submitted by a notifying administration under further resolves 1b) or 1c), to return the information when no recorded frequency assignments with typical earth stations in the relevant frequency bands can be identified for the associated geostationary satellite network or non-geostationary satellite system in the fixed-satellite service (FSS). Accordingly, the Bureau is required to return to the notifying administration an API submitted under further resolves 1b) or 1c) if the notification of the associated geostationary satellite network or non-geostationary satellite system, with typical earth stations in the FSS, was received but the corresponding frequency assignments are not yet recorded into the Master Register.*

***Effective date of application of this Rule: Immediately after approval.***

## Annex 4

### Addition of new rules of procedure on Nos. **5.564A** and **5.565**

#### Rules concerning

#### ARTICLE 5 of the RR

##### ADD

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| <b>5.564A</b> | <b>and</b> |
| <b>5.565</b>  |            |

1 Since the frequency range 275 - 3 000 GHz is not allocated to any radiocommunication service and Nos. **5.564A** and **5.565** do not create frequency allocations, the Board decided that, when recording frequency assignments in this range, the finding concerning the conformity with the Radio Regulations is unfavourable with respect to No. **11.31** (symbol 13A1 = N) independently of the compliance with Nos. **5.564A** and **5.565**. No examination with respect to Nos. **11.32**, **11.32A** and **11.33** is performed and no findings are formulated (consequently, the symbol 13A of the frequency assignment is N--).

2 If the frequency assignment complies with Nos. **5.564A** or **5.565** then it will be recorded with the following symbols:

the symbol used in column 13B1 (Reference to a provision of the Radio Regulations) will be "5.564A" or "5.565", respectively;

the symbol used in column 13B2 (Remarks concerning Findings) will be U (a symbol created for this purpose and described in the Preface as follows: "This frequency assignment is recorded in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) for information only, following its notification in the frequency bands that are not allocated to any radiocommunication service under Article 5 of the Radio Regulations, but identified for certain service applications in footnote RR **5.564A** or RR **5.565**.");

column 13B3 (Date relating to a review to be made) will be left blank since no date has been determined to review Nos. **5.564A** or **5.565** by a WRC.

3 If the frequency assignment does not comply with the identification in either of the footnotes, the finding formula for the frequency assignment will be:

N-- for 13A1, 13A2 and 13A3

X/5.564A or X/5.565 for column 13B1

Finding remark "Return to ADM" in column 13C

And it will be returned to the notifying administration under No. **11.36**.

4 If the notifying administration insists on its recording, it will be recorded under:

N-- for 13A1, 13A2 and 13A3,

"X/5.564A" or "X/5.565" for column 13B1,

W for column 13B2 (W is a symbol created for this purpose and described in the Preface as follows: “This frequency assignment is recorded in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) for information only, following its notification in the frequency bands that are not allocated to any radiocommunication service under Article 5 of the Radio Regulations, nor identified in footnote RR5.564A or RR5.565.”);

column 13B3 will be left blank.

**Examples:**

Frequency assignments to stations in the fixed or land mobile services are completely within the frequency bands 275-296 GHz, 306-313 GHz, 318-333 GHz and 356-450 GHz, which are identified for these services:

recorded with the following finding: **13A:** N--; **13B1:** 5.564A; **13B2:** U

Frequency assignments to stations in the fixed or land mobile services are completely or partially within the frequency bands 296-306 GHz, 313-318 GHz and 333-356 GHz, which are not identified for these services:

returned to the notifying administration with the following finding: **13A:** N -- ; **13B1:** X/5.564A ; **13B2:** -: **13C:** Return to ADM

If the notifying administration resubmits the notice for its recording in the MIFR for information only:

recorded with the following finding: **13A:** N--; **13B1:** X/5.564A, **13B2:** W

Frequency assignments to stations in the radio astronomy service completely within the frequency bands 275-323 GHz, 327-371 GHz, 388-424 GHz, 426-442 GHz, 453-510 GHz, 623-711 GHz, 795-909 GHz and 926 - 945 GHz, which are identified for this service:

recorded with the following finding: **13A:** N--; **13B1:** 5.565; **13B2:** U

Frequency assignments to stations in the Earth exploration-satellite service (passive) or the space research service (passive) completely within the frequency bands 275-286 GHz, 296-306 GHz, 313-356 GHz, 361-365 GHz, 369-392 GHz, 397 399 GHz, 409-411 GHz, 416 434 GHz, 439-467 GHz, 477-502 GHz, 523 527 GHz, 538-581 GHz, 611-630 GHz, 634 654 GHz, 657-692 GHz, 713 718 GHz, 729-733 GHz, 750-754 GHz, 771-776 GHz, 823 846 GHz, 850 854 GHz, 857-862 GHz, 866-882 GHz, 905-928 GHz, 951-956 GHz, 968 973 GHz and 985-990 GHz, which are identified for these services:

recorded with the following finding: **13A:** N--; **13B1:** 5.565; **13B2:** U

All other cases:

returned to the notifying administration with the following finding: **13A:** N--; **13B1:** X/5.565; **13B2:** - : **13C:** Return to ADM.

**Reasons:** The frequency range 275-3 000 GHz is not allocated to any radiocommunication service and Nos. **5.564A** and **5.565** do not create frequency allocations. Therefore, the proposed rules of procedure describes the Bureau actions when treating frequency assignments above 275 GHz.

**Effective date of application of this Rule:** Immediately after approval.

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