



Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular Letter
CR/493

17 November 2022

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: **Update of BR space software and SNS databases to version 9.1**

By Circular Letter [CR/464](#) dated 24 July 2020, the Radiocommunication Bureau informed administrations about updates of BR space software and SNS databases, to reflect some changes to Annex 2 to Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations that were decided at the World Radiocommunication Conference, Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019 (**WRC-19**).

As mentioned in that circular letter, further updates to tables relating to orbital elements for non-geostationary satellite networks are required in order to be able to precisely define multiple orbital configurations.

The Bureau is pleased to inform that the next incremental update to the BR space software and SNS databases, version 9.1 (SNS 9.1), that includes the fields required to precisely define multiple orbital configurations for non-geostationary satellite networks, is now available on the ITU website <https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/space-software/en> and distributed on BR IFIC (Space services) 2985/29.11.2022 and subsequent releases.

Starting with BR IFIC (Space services) 2985/29.11.2022, the IFICXXXX.mdb, SPS_ALL_IFICXXXX.mdb and 30B_XXXX.mdb databases (where 'XXXX' represents the number of that specific BR IFIC) will be made available in SNS 9.1 format in each issue of the BR IFIC (Space services). The detailed description of the database format for SNS 9.1 can be found in Section III of the Preface to the BR IFIC (Space Services) distributed with No. 2985/29.11.2022.

Submission of satellite notices to the Bureau

As from 29 November 2022, administrations are requested to use the new BRSoft 9.1 when submitting to the Bureau all notices under Articles 9 and 11, Appendices 30, 30A and 30B and Resolutions 49 (Rev.WRC-19), 552 (Rev.WRC-19) and 553 (Rev.WRC-15) in application of the procedures of the Radio Regulations related to space services. To manage the transition between versions 9.0 and 9.1, it will be possible to submit notices in both SNS 9.0 and SNS 9.1 formats until 15 January 2023 (see Annex 1 for more details on the transitional arrangements).

As noted in §3.4 of the Rules of procedure on the receivability of space services notices, administrations are encouraged to run the validation software (BR-SIS Validation 9.1) themselves prior to submitting electronic Appendix 4 notices to the Bureau in order to identify any missing mandatory information or mistake and to resolve any inconsistencies in the notices before they are submitted.

Please note that from SNS 9.1 onwards, all service area information (item C.11.a of Annex 2 to Appendix 4) for coordination and notification notices shall be submitted in GIMs format. Only for notices concerning advance publication, the service area information can still be captured using Spacecap.

Administrations should ensure that the submission database conforms to the format published in Section III, Chapter 1, of the Preface (Space services). Electronic notices submitted to the Bureau that do not conform to the SNS 9.1 structure received on or after 15 January 2023 will be returned to the notifying administrations, except SpaceCom databases/comments because of the reason mentioned below.

Transitional Arrangements

Administrations are reminded that, in accordance with the Rules of procedure on receivability, all notices under Articles 9 and 11, Appendices 30, 30A and 30B and Resolutions 49 (Rev.WRC-19), 552 (Rev.WRC-19) and 553 (Rev.WRC-15), as well as comments related to a BR IFIC, shall be submitted using the ITU web interface “e-Submission of satellite network filings” available at:

<https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/space-e-submission>

As mentioned above, it will be possible to submit notices in both SNS 9.0 and SNS 9.1 format from 29 November 2022. However, from 15 January 2023, the system will only accept uploading filings in SNS 9.1 format. Please see Annex 1 for more details on the transitional arrangements.

Administrations are advised to use the BRSoft conversion tool BR-SIS SRSCovert as necessary during the transition period to convert the data contained in an existing SNS 9.0 database into the new SNS 9.1 format, and to run the validation software (BR-SIS Validation 9.1) again.

It should be noted that the Bureau’s software application for submitting comments, SpaceCom 9.1, will work only with databases in SNS 9.1 format. Since the database for special sections published up to 2985/29.11.2022 is distributed in SNS 9.0 format, and comments on those special sections are to be provided within 4 months as from the date of publication of the respective BR IFICs, administrations should use SpaceCom 9.0 to prepare their comments on the databases in SNS 9.0 format.

Support and Contacts

The Bureau remains at your administration’s disposal, via the brmail@itu.int address, for any clarification it may require with respect to the content of this circular letter.

More information will be made available at the website of the Space Services Department:

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/space>

Queries relating to the software's installation and functionality may be addressed to the ITU contact person, Mr. Miroslav Ćosić, telephone: +41 22 7306260, e-mail brsas@itu.int.

Mario Maniewicz
Director

Annex 1 (1 page)

Distribution:

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

Annex 1

Transitional arrangement for notice submissions through “e-Submission for satellite network filings”

It will be possible to submit notices in either SNS 9.0 or SNS 9.1 formats, up to 14 January 2023.

For notices still in SNS 9.0 format, please note that:

- Information concerning the multiple orbital configurations for a non-geostationary satellite network should be provided in an attachment that clearly defines the orbits, beams that will operate with each specific configuration.
- if a notice does not contain all of the mandatory information as defined in Appendix 4 as revised by WRC-19, the notice will be considered not receivable, further processing of the notice will remain in abeyance and a date of receipt will not be established until the complete information is received.

As from 15 January 2023, the system will only accept upload of filings in SNS 9.1 format.