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| **World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) Geneva, 2-27 November 2015** |  |
| **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION** |  |
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| **PLENARY MEETING** | **Document 272-E** |
| **13 November 2015** |
| **Original: French/English** |

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| MINUTES  OF THE  FOURTH plenary meeting |
| Wednesday, 11 November 2015, at 1400 hours |
| **Chairman:** Mr F.Y.N. DAUDU (Nigeria) |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | Reports by the Chairmen of Committees 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 | 160, 225, 227, 230 |
| 2 | Report from the Radiocommunication Assembly, Geneva, 2015 | 216 |
| 3 | Third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B3) | 228 |
| 4 | Third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B3) – second reading | 228 |
| 5 | Organization of work | – |
| 6 | Minute of silence in memory of the victims of a fire at a concert in Bucharest | – |
| 7 | Statement by the delegate of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic | – |

# 1 Reports by the Chairmen of Committees 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Documents 160, 225, 227 and 230)

1.1 The **Chairman of Committee 2** reported that since the previous plenary meeting, the secretariat had received 24 new credentials, bringing the total number of credentials to 119. Those credentials would be examined at the committee’s next meeting, which was due to be held on 17 November. No transfers of powers and no proxies had been received thus far. In conclusion, he reminded delegations that had not yet deposited their credentials to do so not later than 16 November at 1800 hours.

1.2 The oral report of the Chairman of Committee 2 was **noted.**

1.3 The **Chairman of Committee 3** said that the report of his committee would be finalized during the final week of the conference, and urged the chairmen of all the committees to inform him fully regarding any decisions liable to have financial implications. Introducing Document 160, he emphasized that the document was intended to draw the attention of the conference to the relevant provisions of the Convention and Constitution.

1.4 The oral report of the Chairman of Committee 3 and Document 160 were **noted**.

1.5 The **Chairman of Committee 4** reported that the committee, which had held its fourth meeting on the previous day, had completed its work on global flight tracking and had transmitted its conclusions to Committee 7 for subsequent submission to the present meeting of the plenary in Document 228. Work under agenda item 1.1 had been completed, as had work under item 1.18 and issue 9.1.7 under agenda item 9.1. The committee was pursuing its work under the other agenda items allocated to it.

1.6 Introducing Document 227, the first report from Committee 4, the Chairman of Committee 4 emphasized that the committee had agreed that no changes were required to the Radio Regulations as far as agenda item 1.1 was concerned for the frequency bands listed in the document in question.

1.7 The **Chairman** having proposed that the plenary approve the report of the Chairman of Committee 4, the **delegate of Saudi Arabia** said that he did not object to the document being submitted to the plenary for approval, but considered that it should first have been referred to the Editorial Committee. The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran** shared that view.

1.8 Document 227 was **approved**.

1.9 The **Chairman of Committee 5** said that the committee, which had held one meeting since the previous plenary meeting, had approved a number of documents pertaining to agenda item 1.7 and to issue D under agenda item 7; it had also discussed the definition of radio stations operating in the meteorological aids service and clarified the use of frequencies assigned to space research (deep space). The committee had concluded its work with regard to the satellite networks CSDRN-M and LAOSAT-128.5E.

1.10 With regard to Document 230, the Chairman of Committee 5 explained that the committee had agreed on changes to be made to Resolutions 907 and 908 (WRC-12) and had communicated the result of its work to the Editorial Committee for subsequent submission to the present plenary meeting in Document 228. Committee 3 had also been informed of the possible consequences of those changes. Committee 5 in addition requested that the conference instruct the Radiocommunication Bureau to develop and implement the tools and means described in the clauses “*instructs the Radiocommunication Bureau*” and “*instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau*” of the two Resolutions in question, preferably by 1 January 2017 and no later than 30 June 2017.

1.11 With regard to work under agenda item 9.2, the committee had endorsed the decisions of the RRB regarding the reinstatement of the frequency assignments of the CSDRN-M satellite network and the extension to 31 December 2015 of the period for bringing into use of the frequency assignments to the LAOSAT-128.5E satellite network.

1.12 Document 230 was **approved**.

1.13 The **Chairman of Committee 6** noted that Working Group 6B had set up four ad hoc groups to study the items to be included in the agenda of future WRCs. Working Group 6A was pursuing its work under agenda item 8 and continued to receive relevant proposals. The initial results of work under agenda items 2 and 4 would be submitted to the present plenary meeting within the framework of Document 228. Lastly, studies were being pursued regarding item 9.2.

1.14 Introducing Document 225, the speaker drew attention to the committee’s conclusion that no changes were required to the titles of Articles 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 47, 49, 50, 52 and 53 of the Radio Regulations, provided that the ITU secretariat took the necessary action to facilitate browsing of the Radio Regulations by introducing headers on each page of Volume 1 indicating the title of the relevant chapter. In addition, as was indicated in Document 228 submitted by Committee 7 to the present plenary meeting, it was proposed that Resolution 67 (WRC-12) be suppressed and Article 2 modified.

1.15 The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran** recalled that it was difficult for smaller delegations, especially those from developing countries, to participate in the work of all the committees, and that it would be desirable to limit the number of items included on the agenda of the next WRC to the minimum that was necessary. It was not necessary to have an agenda item for every point that could be dealt with within the framework of ITU’s current activities, and issues requiring a decision by the conference could be included in the report of the Director under agenda item 9.1.

1.16 The **Chairman of Committee 6** assured the participants that the committee was aware of that difficulty and took account of it in its work.

1.17 The **delegate of Saudi Arabia** indicated a change that was needed in the Arabic version of the paragraph dealing with item 9.1.

1.18 His comment was **noted**.

1.19 Document 225 was **approved**.

# 2 Report from the Radiocommunication Assembly, Geneva, 2015 (Document 216)

2.1 The **Chairman of RA-15** reiterated that the assembly had been successful thanks to the spirit of cooperation shown by all those taking part. Annex 1 to Document 216 showed the status of ITU‑R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations and Annex 2 listed the new or revised Resolutions and Recommendations and a proposal to modify Appendix 7 to the Radio Regulations. He thanked all those taking part in the work of RA-15 for their contributions to the assembly’s success.

2.2 The **delegate of Saudi Arabia** congratulated the Chairman of RA-15 for his conduct of the work of the assembly and expressed appreciation for the assembly’s success.

2.3 The **delegate of Israel** proposed that, in future, a column be added presenting the status of Recommendations incorporated by reference to indicate which were obligatory and which were not.

2.4 The **delegate of Armenia** considered the table sufficiently detailed and that any addition would risk making it more complex.

2.5 Document 216 was **noted**.

# 3 Third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B3) (Document 228)

3.1 The Chairman of the Editorial Committee introduced Document 228.

3.2 The **Chairman** invited the meeting to consider Document 228 for first reading.

**Article 1 (ADD 1.108A, ADD 1.108B); Article 2 (MOD 2.1); Article 4 (ADD 4.24); Article 5 (MOD Table 890-1 300 MHz, ADD 5.A25, MOD Table 4 800-5 570 MHz, MOD 5.444, MOD 5.444A, MOD 5.444B); MOD Resolution 114 (Rev.WRC-12); MOD Resolution 417 (Rev.WRC-12); MOD Resolution 741 (Rev.WRC-12); MOD Resolution 748 (Rev.WRC-12)**

3.3 Approved.

MOD Resolution 907 (WRC-12)

3.4 **Approved**, on the understanding that the expression “the next world radiocommunication conference” in *instructs the Radiocommunication Bureau* 4 referred to WRC‑19.

**MOD Resolution 908 (WRC-12); ADD Resolution COM4/2 (WRC-15) – Use of the frequency band 1 087.7-1 092.3 MHz by the aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service (Earth-to-space) to facilitate global flight tracking for civil aviation; SUP Resolution 67 (WRC-12)**

3.5 Approved.

3.6 The third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B3) (Document 228) was **approved**.

# 4 Third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B3) – second reading (Document 228)

4.1 The third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B3) (Document 228) was **approved** on second reading.

4.2 The **delegates of Egypt** and **Mexico** indicated that they would transmit editorial comments regarding the Arabic and Spanish versions of certain texts to the Editorial Committee.

4.3 The **Secretary-General** made the statement reproduced in Annex A to the present minutes.

4.4 The **Chairman** congratulated all delegations on the speed with which they had been pressing forward with the conference’s work programme in committees and working groups alike, which had already made it possible for a number of important texts to be approved. He hoped that they would continue to work at such a rapid pace, thereby assuring the success of WRC-15.

4.5 The **delegate of Malaysia** conveyed her government’s thanks to ITU, to BR and to all Member States for their diligence in addressing the issue of global flight tracking. The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran** paid particular tribute to the work of the Director of BR in that regard.

# 5 Organization of work

5.1 The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran** suggested setting a time-limit for the presentation of new contributions, as had been done at past conferences, so as not to leave the work programme in flux. The deadline he proposed was Friday, 13 November, at 1800 hours (local time). It would not apply to texts submitted by the chairmen of working groups or committees or by the Chairman of the Conference. The **delegate of the United States** said that the proposal would be acceptable on the understanding that it would not apply to texts reflecting compromises made during the course of deliberations.

5.2 The **Chairman** proposed that the meeting decide that contributions which were liable to reopen debate on points that had already been the subject of an agreement at any level whatsoever would no longer be accepted after 1800 hours (local time) on Friday, 13 November.

5.3 It was so **agreed**.

# 6 Minute of silence in memory of the victims of a fire at a concert in Bucharest

6.1 The conference observed a minute of silence in memory of the many people who had lost their lives in a blaze at a rock concert in Bucharest.

# 7 Statement by the delegate of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

7.1 The **delegate of the Lao People's Democratic Republic** thanked the Director of BR and his staff, and the Chairman of RRB and all RRB members, for extending the deadline for bringing the LAOSAT-128.5E satellite network into use. He also thanked the administrations that had supported his administration’s request, and said that his administration undertook to continue to work with ITU and all parties concerned.

**The meeting rose at 1510 hours.**

The Secretary-General: The Chairman:  
H. ZHAO F.Y.N. DAUDU

**Annexes:** 1

**Original**: English

ANNEX A

Statement by the Secretary-General

Dear colleagues,

WRC-15 has just approved the allocation of spectrum for global flight tracking. I believe this accomplishment merits our recognition, as the ITU has responded in record time to the expectations of the global community on this major issue. Normally, it would take four years to carry out the necessary studies for a new allocation to be considered at a WRC.

This time, it took us only one year to respond to this need since the Plenipotentiary Conference approved Resolution 185 (Busan, 2014), following the disappearance and tragic loss of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 in March 2014 with 239 people on board.

I would like to thank all those that have contributed to the considerable work carried out over the past year to allow for this achievement. I would like to recognize Malaysia in particular, as well as the chairmen and participants to the work of ITU-R Study Groups 4 and 5 and their corresponding working parties. My thanks go also to ITU-T, which organized a very timely expert dialogue in 2014 related to real-time monitoring of flight data. Finally, my recognition goes to the Member States, industry, experts and all those that have engaged in the work performed towards providing a solution to this important issue.

Thanks to these efforts, the allocation of frequencies for reception of ADS-B signals from aircraft by space stations will enable real-time tracking of aircraft anywhere in the world. This is a major achievement that should make us proud, even more so in view of our unprecedented responsiveness. Let me reassure you that ITU will continue working with ICAO and other international organizations to further enhance safety in the skies.

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