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| **World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC‑15) Geneva, 2-27 November 2015** |  |
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| **PLENARY MEETING** | **Document 430-E** |
| **23 November 2015** |
| **Original: English** |

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| MINUTES  OF THE  SIXTH PLENARY MEETING |
| Wednesday, 18 November 2015, at 1400 hours |
| **Chairman:** Mr F.Y.N. DAUDU (Nigeria) |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | Report of the Credentials Committee (Committee 2) | 307 |
| 2 | Reports by the Chairmen of Committees 3, 4, 5 and 6 | 308, 312 |
| 3 | Seventh series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B7) | 306 |
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| 5 | Eighth series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B8) | 313 |
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| 8 | Harmful interference caused by Italy to the broadcasting services of its neighbouring countries | – |

# 1 Report of the Credentials Committee (Committee 2) (Document 307)

1.1 The **Chairman of Committee 2** said that the committee had held its first meeting on 4 November 2015, at which it had set up a working group to verify credentials. The working group had met twice and had presented its conclusions to the second meeting of the committee on 17 November. To date, of the 158 Member States represented at WRC‑15, 135 had submitted credentials that had been found to be in order. A further seven copies of credentials and one copy of transfer of powers had been reviewed and found to be in order, and the annex to Document 307 would be revised accordingly upon receipt of the original documentation. He recommended that the plenary authorize him, as Chairman of Committee 2, to verify credentials, transfers of power and proxies after Document 307 had been approved by the plenary, and to inform the plenary accordingly.

1.2 The **Chairman** took it that the plenary could approve the report contained in Document 307 and its annex, as proposed by the Chairman of Committee 2.

1.3 It was so **agreed**.

1.4 The **Chairman** further took it that the plenary authorized the Chairman of Committee 2 to verify credentials, transfers of powers and proxies received after the present meeting and to submit the conclusions in that respect to the plenary.

1.5 It was so **agreed**.

1.6 The **Chairman** thanked the Chairman of Committee 2, its vice-chairmen and participants for their work.

# 2 Reports by the Chairmen of Committees 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Documents 308, 312)

2.1 The **Chairman of Committee 3** said that the committee was continuing to consider possible budgetary implications of decisions taken by other committees, which would be presented in his final report to the plenary.

2.2 The oral report by the Chairman of Committee 3 was **noted**.

2.3 The **Chairman of Committee 4** said that two of the committee’s three working groups had completed their work, with the exception of consideration of agenda item 1.5, for which an ad hoc group had been set up. The outcome of the committee’s work on agenda item 1.4 was to be found in Document 306, to be considered by the plenary on first reading at the current meeting. Work on agenda item 1.16 had been completed that morning. Work on agenda item 1.2 had been concluded at the subworking group level and one issue was outstanding on agenda item 1.3. Although much remained to be done on agenda item 1.1, he was hopeful that progress would be made.

2.4 The oral report by the Chairman of Committee 4 was **noted.**

2.5The **Chairman of Committee 5** said that the committee had held only one meeting since the previous plenary meeting. The outcome of its work on agenda item 1.14 was set out in Document 313, to be considered by the plenary on first reading at the current meeting. The committee had decided to establish an ad hoc group on agenda item 1.12 and was awaiting the conclusion of discussions by regional groups before considering further agenda item 1.10.

2.6 The oral report by the Chairman of Committee 5 was **noted.**

2.7 The **Chairman of Committee 6** said that Working Group 6A had concluded its work and Working Group 6B was continuing to work on agenda items 6 and 10. Substantial progress had been made on agenda items 2, 4, 8 and 9.2, and a number of the outcomes were contained in Document 306, to be considered by the plenary on first reading at the current meeting. In response to a comment from the **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran**, she said that the committee was making every effort to ensure that the *resolves* sections of its draft resolutions were unambiguous to facilitate the conduct of studies. Efforts were also being made to ensure that the titles of new agenda items were clear.

2.8 The oral report by the Chairman of Committee 6 was **noted.**

2.9 The **Chairman of Committee 6** said that Document 308 set out in annex the committee’s conclusions under agenda item 9.2 pertaining to application of provision No. 9.19 of the Radio Regulations to terrestrial services, and new data items for HAPS gateway links.

2.10 The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran**, noting that the situation with respect to pfd values had been unsatisfactory for a long time, suggested that the Director of BR should be instructed to bring the matter to the attention of the relevant ITU‑R study groups and provide pfd values for the regions concerned. The data elements listed in BR Circular Letter CR/345 might also be studied and relevant findings presented to the next WRC. It would also be preferable to replace “would continue” in section B of the annex to Document 308 with “may wish to continue”.

2.11 The **Chairman of Committee 6** said that the concerns expressed by the delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran were addressed by the phrase “the Conference invites the relevant ITU‑R Study Groups to identify the applicable pfd values” in paragraph A 2 of the annex.

2.12 The **Chairman** suggested that, with that explanation, the plenary endorse the conclusions of Committee 6 in annex to Document 308, and therefore agree as follows:

A) Application of provision No. 9.19 of the Radio Regulations to terrestrial services

The conference agreed:

1 to confirm the current Bureau’s practice for application of provision No. **9.19** of the Radio Regulations related to coordination of transmitting terrestrial stations with respect to typical earth station included in the service area of a space station in the broadcasting-satellite service in the bands shared with equal rights between these services as follows:

“Since the pfd threshold values are only available for the band 11.7-12.7 GHz, and given the fact that different propagation conditions and criteria may apply to the other bands, in examination of frequency notices for terrestrial stations under No. **9.19** the Bureau currently establishes coordination requirements using only frequency overlap as the coordination threshold for the following bands: 620-790 MHz, 1 452-1 492 MHz, 2 310-2 360 MHz, 2 520-2 670 MHz, 17.7-17.8 GHz, 40.5-42.5 GHz and 74-76 GHz.”

2 the conference invites the relevant ITU‑R Study Groups to identify the applicable pfd values and calculation methods for establishing coordination requirements under No. **9.19** in the relevant frequency bands, including 620-790 MHz, 1 452-1 492 MHz, 2 310-2 360 MHz, 2 520-2 670 MHz, 17.7-17.8 GHz, 40.5-42.5 GHz and 74-76 GHz.

B) New data items for HAPS gateway links

The conference agreed that no changes are required to the Radio Regulations to include the data items listed in BR Circular Letter CR/345 of 8 May 2013 for the notification of high-altitude platform stations (HAPS) gateway links in the bands 6 440-6 520 MHz and 6 560-6 640 MHz in some countries pursuant to No. **5.457** and the associated Resolution **150 (WRC‑12)**.

Administrations wishing to implement HAPS gateway links in the bands 6 440-6 520 MHz and 6 560-6 640 MHz would continue to use the data elements listed in the above-mentioned Circular Letter on a provisional basis till a competent World Radiocommunication Conference includes the required data items in Appendix 4 to the Radio Regulations.

2.13 It was so **agreed**.

2.14 The **Chairman of Committee 6** said that Document 312 set out in annex the WARC and WRC resolutions which, after consideration of the relevant proposals under agenda item 4, the committee had agreed should be retained with no change.

2.15 The **Chairman** suggested that the plenary endorse the conclusions of Committee 6 in annex to Document 312.

2.16 It was so **agreed.**

# 3 Seventh series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B7) (Document 306)

3.1 The **Chairman of the Editorial Committee** said that Document 306 comprised a series of texts presented by Committees 4 and 6 in Documents 292, 300 and 305. Proposals for no change had not been considered by the Editorial Committee and were not included in Document 306.

Article 5 (MOD Table 5 003-7 450 kHz, ADD 5.A14, MOD 5.288, MOD 5.327A, MOD 5.391, MOD 5.443B, MOD 5.447E, MOD 5.504B, MOD 5.511C, MOD Table 18.4-22 GHz, MOD 5.530A, SUP 5.530C, MOD 5.543A, MOD 5.551H); Article 16 (MOD 16.2); Article 19 (MOD 19.48, MOD 19.83, MOD 19.99, MOD 19.102, MOD 19.108A, MOD 19.111); Article 22 (MOD 22.5A, MOD Table 22-1D, MOD 22.5C.11); Article 51 (MOD 51.35, MOD 51.41); Article 52 (MOD 52.112, MOD 52.149, MOD 52.153, MOD 52.181, MOD 52.192, MOD 52.195, MOD 52.213, MOD 52.224, MOD 52.229, MOD 52.234, MOD 52.240, MOD 52.264); Article 54 (MOD 54.2); Article 57 (MOD 57.1); Appendix 5 (Annex 1 - MOD 1.2.1, MOD 1.2.3.2); Appendix 7 (Annex 4 - MOD 1; Annex 5 - MOD 2.1; Annex 6 - MOD 4); Appendix 15 (MOD Table 15-2); MOD Resolution 5 (Rev.WRC‑03); MOD Resolution 33 (Rev.WRC‑03); MOD Resolution 34 (Rev.WRC‑03); MOD Resolution 42 (Rev.WRC‑12); MOD Resolution 507 (Rev.WRC‑12); MOD Resolution 528 (Rev.WRC‑03); MOD Resolution 539 (Rev.WRC‑03); MOD Resolution 608 (WRC‑03); MOD Resolution 739 (Rev.WRC‑07)

3.2 **Approved.**

MOD Resolution 749 (Rev.WRC‑12)

3.3 The **Chairman of the Editorial Committee** said that the square brackets would be removed from noting b) once the revision of Resolution 224 had been considered by the conference. He pointed out that recognizing k) should refer to “Resolution 224 (Rev.WRC‑07)”, not “Resolution 224 (Rev.WRC‑15)”, as the reference was a historical one.

3.4 On that understanding, MOD Resolution 749 (Rev.WRC‑12) was **approved**.

MOD Resolution 901(Rev.WRC‑07)

3.5 **Approved.**

MOD Resolution 906 (Rev.WRC‑12)

3.6 The **Chairman of Committee 6** proposed that, for ease of translation and understanding, the term “notice types” should be replaced with “notices” throughout the text.

3.7 It was so **agreed**.

3.8 The **delegate of Saudi Arabia** proposed that, in the interests of clarity, *further considering c)* should refer to the latest WTDC, and should therefore read “WTDC-14”.

3.9 It was so **agreed**.

3.10 MOD Resolution 906 (Rev.WRC‑12), as amended, was **approved**.

SUP Resolution 649 (WRC‑12)

3.11 **Approved.**

SUP Resolution 755 (WRC‑12)

3.12 In response to a question fromthe **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran**, the **Chairman of Committee 6**, supported by the **delegate of France**,explained that the suppression of Resolution 755 (WRC‑12) was being proposed as all the transitional measures provided for in the text had been implemented. A number of other WRC‑12 resolutions pertaining to that frequency band were being retained.

3.13 The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran** said that he would be prefer the resolution to be retained as he was not clear which other WRC‑12 resolutions pertaining to that sensitive frequency band had been retained.

3.14 The **Chairman** suggested that Resolution 755 (WRC‑12) should be retained pending further consideration of its suppression by Committee 6.

3.15 It was so **agreed**.

3.16 Except for SUP Resolution 755 (WRC‑12), the seventh series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B7) (Document 306), as amended, was **approved**.

# 4 Seventh series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B7) – second reading (Document 306)

4.1 Except for SUP Resolution 755 (WRC‑12), the seventh series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B7) (Document 306), as amended on first reading, was **approved** on second reading.

# 5 Eighth series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B8) (Document 313)

5.1 The **Chairman of the Editorial Committee** introduced Document 313 containing texts submitted by Committee 5 in Document 310.

Article 1 (MOD 1.14); Article 2 (MOD 2.5)

5.2 **Approved.**

ADD Resolution COM5/1 (WRC‑15) – Definition of time-scale and dissemination of time signals via radiocommunication systems

5.3 The **Chairman of the Editorial Committee** noted that the Editorial Committee had deemed the phrase “reference time-scale” to be more appropriate than “standard time-scale”, which had been one of the options originally put forward by Committee 5.

5.4 The **delegate of Saudi Arabia**, referring to *recognizing c)* and noting that the CCIR no longer existed, said that it would be useful to indicate to the reader when the current definition of the international reference time-scale UTC had been developed.

5.5 The **Chairman** suggested that the relevant date should be inserted in *recognizing c)* by the Editorial Committee.

5.6 It was so **agreed**.

5.7 The **delegate of Spain** suggested that, in the interests of clarity, the *resolves* section should be amended to read: “that until WRC‑23, UTC, as described in Recommendation ITU‑R TF.460-6 and which for most practical purposes associated with the Radio Regulations is equivalent to mean solar time at the prime meridian (0º longitude), formerly expressed in GMT, shall continue to apply”.

5.8 The **delegates of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation** and **the United Kingdom** and the **Chairman of Committee 5** said that they would prefer the text in Document 313, which was the result of a delicate compromise, to be retained as it stood.

5.9 The **delegate of Spain** said that he was prepared to withdraw his proposal.

5.10 ADD Resolution COM5/1 (WRC‑15), was **approved**, subject to the insertion of the relevant date in *recognizing c)* and to an editorial amendment in the Chinese version.

SUP Resolution 653 (WRC‑12)

5.11 **Approved.**

5.12 The eighth series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee for first reading (B8) (Document 313), as amended, was **approved**.

# 6 Eighth series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B8) – second reading (Document 313)

6.1 The eighth series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee (B8) (Document 313), as amended on first reading, was **approved** on second reading.

# 7 Approval of minutes – third and fourth plenary meetings (Documents 237 and 272)

7.1 The minutes of the third and fourth plenary meetings (Documents 237 and 272) were **approved**.

# 8 Harmful interference caused by Italy to the broadcasting services of its neighbouring countries

8.1 The **delegate of Slovenia** made the following statement:

“Slovenia would like to present some concerns related to chapter 7.4.2.2 of the Director’s report on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector dealing with harmful interference caused by Italy to the broadcasting services (sound and television) of its neighbouring countries.

Slovenia is deeply concerned at the delay in the schedule for solving television harmful interference cases; the activities were announced two years ago and we still cannot detect any improvement in the spectrum. On the other hand, Slovenia appreciates the Italian efforts to start these activities and expects the activities will continue until all harmful interference cases to all Slovenian stations are solved.

Unfortunately, there are still a lot of harmful interference cases to Slovenian sound broadcasting stations operating according to the Geneva 1984 Agreement that remain unsolved. Slovenia is fully aware that there is a big need for frequencies for FM radio stations on both sides of the border; however, we believe that the Geneva 1984 Agreement should be respected and that spectrum usage should be based on available resources, respecting ITU rules and international agreements.

Slovenia would like to emphasize that harmful interference caused by Italian non-coordinated stations results in severe economic damage to Slovenia.

Slovenia understands that some interference cases might need a longer time to resolve; however, detailed reports of hundreds of cases of harmful interference were presented to the Italian Administration back in 2003. Slovenia regrets that practically no interference cases have been solved and urges immediate actions to eliminate harmful interference.

Slovenia would appreciate it if the issue referred to in chapter 7.4.2.2 of the Director's report on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector dealing with harmful interference caused by Italy to the broadcasting services (sound and television) of its neighbouring countries remains open until the next WRC, where the progress should be presented. We suggest including a renewed action plan to eliminate harmful interference to the broadcasting services (sound and television).”

8.2 The **delegate of Italy** made the following statement:

“Italy regrets and apologizes for the delay in solving the harmful interference with its neighbouring countries.

Mr Chairman, I have to admit that I am a bit surprised at this declaration from Slovenia, due to the fact that Italy has already started to have bilateral meetings establishing a “road map” with all neighbouring countries, first considering the most critical cases and then the less critical ones. This process will take some time and it is still in progress. In recent years, Italy has met regularly with its neighbouring countries within the framework of the radiospectrum policy group and radiospectrum committee meetings of the European Union and, at each meeting, Italy gives updated information about interferences cases and about the interference measures carried out in cooperation with neighbouring countries. Italy also regularly sends the RRB a report entitled “road map” with an update of the situation regarding interference cases.

The new national plan of frequency assignments approved by Agcom, the national agency responsible, has excluded the use of interference channels in the border areas with Slovenia, Croatia, Malta and France and these channels will therefore be switched off. Italy is making a great effort to achieve a complete solution of this matter, and this problem has high priority for the Italian Administration. It is also a priority at the high political level, with the Italian Parliament approving two laws dedicated to the issue over the last two years. On Friday, 30 October 2015, the Ministry of Economic Development adopted an official act establishing a process and a time schedule for the final release of all interfering channels. This process started on 2 November, and includes different steps that will be completed by the end of April 2016 with the switch off of all interfering TV channels.

FM interference with our neighbouring counties was discussed within the framework of the radiospectrum policy group meeting held in Brussels on 15 October. Given the heavy use of analogue FM both in Italy and in its neighbouring countries, Italy has asked to hold bilateral and multilateral meetings with all parties to establish the real needs for FM frequencies and to find a solution.”

8.3 The **Director of BR** said that the problem was an extensive one that had been discussed at length at WRC‑12 and at every meeting of RRB since then. He was pleased to report that the legislative and regulatory measures necessary to resolve the issue were now being taken by the Italian authorities. The reverse auction process, through which the Government would buy out the assignments creating most of the harmful interference, had recently begun and was expected to be completed by the end of 2015. He suggested that the conference should encourage the Director of BR and RRB to continue their efforts in collaboration with the Administration of Italy and all affected administrations to find a definitive solution as soon as possible.

8.4 The **delegate of Croatia**,noting that his Administration was also affected, called on all parties concerned to work towards resolution of the longstanding problem.

8.5 The **Chairman** suggested that the plenary should note the statements made and endorse the suggestion made by the Director of BR.

8.6 It was so **agreed**.

**The meeting rose at 1540 hours.**

The Secretary-General: The Chairman:

H. ZHAO F.Y.N. DAUDU