

UPDATES to the

Rules of Procedure

(Edition of 2021)

Approved by the Radio Regulations Board*

Revision (Circular No.)	Date	Part	AR/AP	RR No. or other reference	Pages to be removed	Pages to be inserted
1 See CR/479	15 October 2021	A1	AR05	5.418C	13	13 (rev.1)
		A1	AR05	5.485	20	20 (rev.1)
		A1	Receivability		6-7	6(rev.1)-7(rev.1)
		A1	AR09	9.11A	11	11(rev.1)
		A1	AR11	11.31	8	8(rev.1)
		A1	AP04		1-2	1(rev.1)-2(rev.1)
		A1	RES32 ¹		–	1(rev.1)
		A1	RES49		1	–
		A11			–	1(rev.1)-2(rev.1)
		C1			2	2(rev.1)
		Table of content			1-2	1(rev.1)-2(rev.1)
2 See CR/484	7 April 2022	A1	Extension of the reg. time- limit		–	1(rev.2)-2(rev.2)
		A1	Simultaneous BIU		–	1(rev.2)
		A1	AR11	11.43A	24	24(rev.2)
		A1	AR11	11.43B	25	25(rev.2)
		A11			1-2	–
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* The new Rules or modifications to the existing Rules of Procedure take effect immediately or as otherwise indicated.

¹ Effective date of application of the Rule: 23 November 2019.

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(ADD RRB21/479)

Rules concerning the extension of the regulatory time-limit for bringing into use satellite assignments

WRC-12 took the following decision related to the extension of the regulatory time-limit for bringing into use satellite assignments (see paragraph 3.20 of the Minutes of the 13th Plenary meeting, Doc. CMR12/554):

“3.20 The **Chairman of Committee 5**, introducing Document 525, said that it covered four issues relating to agenda item 7 and one relating to agenda item 8.1.2. The first issue relating to agenda item 7 concerned the extension of the regulatory time-limit for bringing into use satellite assignments due to launch delays beyond the control of the administration. Committee 5 had discussed certain proposals to create a new WRC resolution to allow limited and qualified extensions in the case of co-passenger delays and to expand such extensions in the case of *force majeure*. However, recognizing that there were a number of concerns with creating a resolution, and that such cases could be brought to the Radio Regulations Board or to future conferences on a case-by-case basis, the committee had not pursued the discussion. ...”

WRC-15 took the following decision related to the extension of the regulatory time-limit for bringing into use satellite assignments (see paragraph 3.19 of the Minutes of the 7th Plenary meeting, Doc. CMR15/504):

“3.19 (...) In considering the issue of satellite launch failure, WRC-15 confirms the decision taken by WRC-12 (at its thirteenth meeting) that the Board may address requests for a time-limit extension based on either a co-passenger issue or force majeure taking into account internationally applicable rules and practices in this regard so long as any extension is “limited and qualified”.”

WRC-19 took the following decision related to the situations of co-passenger delay and the use of electric propulsion (see paragraph 3.16 of the Minutes of the 8th Plenary meeting, Doc. CMR19/569):

“3.16 (...) On section 4.3.4 Situations of co-passenger delay, WRC-19 decided that the Board shall consider the provision of the following information as required when dealing with a request for extension of regulatory deadlines due to co-passenger delay:

- a summary description of the satellite to be launched, including the frequency bands;
- the name of the manufacturer selected to build the satellite and the contract signature date;
- the status of the satellite construction, including the date it began and whether it was expected to be completed prior to the initial launch window;
- the name of the launch service provider and the contract signature date;
- the initial and revised launch window;

- sufficient detail to justify that the request for extension is due to co-passenger delay (e.g. a letter from the launch service provider indicating that the launch is delayed because of a delay affecting the co-passenger satellite);
- sufficient detail to justify the length of the requested extension period; and
- any other relevant information and documentation.

When considering requests that qualify as force majeure or co-passenger delay, WRC-19 instructs the RRB to continue to take into account the use of electric propulsion on a case-by-case basis when deciding on the length of the extension, based on the merits of each individual case.”

(ADD RRB22/484)

Rules concerning the simultaneous bringing into use or bringing back into use of multiple geostationary satellite networks with a single satellite¹

For operational purposes such as, for example, risk of collision, telemetry, tracking, and command operation, coordination agreement, etc., a satellite may have to shift a little from the notified nominal orbital position (including the ± 0.1 degree tolerance for space stations on board geostationary satellites in the fixed-satellite service or broadcasting-satellite service) to provide the required services. In that particular instance, when requesting clarification under Nos. **11.44**, **11.44B**, **11.49** or **13.6** of the Radio Regulations on the bringing into use, bringing back into use or continuing use of the notified characteristics of a satellite network, the Board decided that the Bureau shall consider that a satellite located at no more than 0.5 degree of the notified longitude of the nominal position of the satellite network would be considered as fulfilling Nos. **11.44**, **11.44B**, **11.49** or **13.6** requirements, as appropriate, under the conditions that:

1. the space station is associated with one or more satellite network filings at one single orbital position,
2. the space station has the capability to maintain its position within the ± 0.1 degree of its nominal positions,
3. no unacceptable interference be reported when the satellite's excursion is exceeding this tolerance (up to maximum 0.5 degree), and
4. this operation does not cause more interference or require more protection than if the space station was operating within the ± 0.1 degree tolerance of the notified orbital position.

In addition, the Board decided that the Bureau shall consider that a satellite located at no more than 0.5 degree from several notified nominal positions of satellite networks could be used for the bringing into use, bringing back into use or continuing use of the notified characteristics of frequency assignments of these satellite networks under Nos. **11.44**, **11.44B**, **11.49** or **13.6** only if the bandwidths of these frequency assignments do not overlap. Conditions 2 to 4 listed above also apply.

¹ See also the provisions of Annex 7 "Orbital position limitations" of Appendix **30** and Resolution **548 (Rev.WRC-12)** "Application of the grouping concept in Appendices **30** and **30A** in Regions 1 and 3"

2.2.2 For the Agreements that contain no indication as to bringing into use assignments that are not in accordance with the relevant Plan (i.e. in the bands governed by the Regional Agreements ST61, GE84 and GE89) the notice shall be returned to the administration with a suggestion to apply the necessary procedure or make the necessary modifications to the notice, in order to be in conformity with the Plan. However, if the administration insists on reconsideration of the notice, the assignment shall be recorded with a favourable finding under No. **11.31** together with the name(s) of the administration(s) whose Plan assignments are likely to be affected, indicating that with respect to this (these) administration(s) the recorded assignment will be operated under the conditions of not causing harmful interference to, and not claiming protection from harmful interference caused by, a station operating in conformity with the Plan.

2.2.3 The submissions governed by the GE06 Agreement, which are not in accordance with the broadcasting Plans or the List of assignments to other primary terrestrial services, shall be treated in accordance with the applicable procedures, as stipulated in Article 5 of the GE06 Agreement.

11.36

See comments under the Rules of Procedure relating to No. **4.4** concerning frequency bands which are prohibited from any other use than that indicated in the Radio Regulations.

11.37

An assignment can be recorded in the Master Register with reference to No. **4.4** only in the case of an unfavourable finding with respect to No. **11.31** e.g. non-conformity with the Table of Frequency Allocations (see No. **11.36**). This implies that No. **4.4** is also applicable to non-conformity with the coordination requirement under No. **9.21** when this provision is referred to in a footnote of the Table (see No. **11.31.1**). A consequence of the above is that an assignment which is in conformity with the Table of Frequency Allocations but for which the relevant coordination procedure (e.g. Nos. **9.7** to **9.19**) has not been completed cannot be recorded under No. **4.4**. There are other provisions (e.g. Nos. **11.32A**, **11.33** and **11.41**) which may lead, in given circumstances, to recording when the coordination has not been successfully effected.

11.41 and 11.41.2

The provisions of No. **11.41.2** require the notifying administration, when submitting notices in application of No. **11.41**, to indicate to the Bureau that efforts have been made to effect coordination with those administrations whose assignments were the basis of the unfavourable findings under No. **11.38**, without success. In the absence of such an indication, a resubmission under No. **11.41** after a notice is returned under No. **11.38** shall be considered as not receivable and returned to the administration.

11.43A

1 Modification of a space network may take place during the coordination process; this case is covered in the comments under the Rules of Procedure concerning Nos. **9.27** (§ 2), **9.58**, **11.28** and **11.32**. (MOD RRB22/484)

2 If the modification concerns the notification of assignment(s) in frequency band(s) not covered by other assignment(s) already recorded in the Master Register, No. **11.43A** does not apply and it will be processed under No. **11.2** or **11.9**, as appropriate.

The purpose of the examination under No. **11.43A** is to determine whether the coordination requirements remained unchanged or, where appropriate, whether the probability of harmful interference has not increased (see also the Rules of Procedure concerning Nos. **11.28** and **11.32**). In these cases, the provisions of No. **11.43B** apply with the effect of maintaining unchanged the status (Findings) and the date of receipt of the assignment. If, due to the modifications, new coordination requirements are identified by comparing the level of interference (such as $\Delta T/T$) resulted from consideration of the initial characteristics and that of modified characteristics, then an unfavourable finding shall be given and the Form of Notice shall be returned to the notifying administration. The notifying administration should be requested to apply Section II of Article **9**. The findings with respect to No. **11.32** are determined on the basis of the coordination agreements effected to meet the new coordination requirements. In the case, where the provisions of Nos. **11.32A** and **11.33** are applicable and the examinations show an increase in the probability of harmful interference compared with that which resulted from the initial examination, then the finding is unfavourable and the notice shall be returned in accordance with provision No. **11.38**. See also the Rules of Procedure under No. **11.43B**. (MOD RRB22/484)

3 The reference in Nos. **11.44**, **11.44.1**, **11.47** and **11.48** to the seven year regulatory period should be considered as five years from the date of receipt by the Bureau of the notification of the modification referred to in No. **11.43A**. (See also the comments made under the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **11.44B**).

4 Modification of an earth station by changing the associated space station or the associated beam so far as No. **11.32** is concerned is covered in the comments under the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **11.32** in § 2.2.2 and 2.2.3.

5 When the modification of a frequency assignment to an earth station is examined in application of Nos. **9.15**, **9.17** and **9.17A**, the coordination distance is calculated in each azimuth and the coordination under Nos. **9.15**, **9.17** and **9.17A** is required only with those countries on whose territory the coordination distance is increased owing to the modification (see comments under the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **9.27** (§ 3.1 and 3.2)).

6 When the modification of a frequency assignment is examined in application of No. **9.19**, the power flux-density of the transmitting station (terrestrial station or FSS earth station) with modified characteristics is calculated at the edge of the BSS service area and the coordination under No. **9.19** is required only with those countries where the power flux-density limit at the edge of the BSS service area is increased as the result of modification of characteristics of the transmitting station and is above the permissible level (see comments under the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **9.27** (§ 3.1 and 3.2)).

11.43B

1 This provision specifies that a change in the characteristics shall be examined when appropriate with respect to Nos. **11.32** to **11.34**, as appropriate.

1.1 In the case of the examination of space networks under No. **11.32** or **11.32A**, the comments under the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **11.43A** indicate the cases which should not be considered as modifications but as first notifications (with new date of receipt). These examinations should be carried out by checking the application of § 6 *a*) to 6 *c*) of Appendix **5** (see also §§ 2.3 and 2.4 *c*) of the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **9.27**). In cases where there is no calculation method and/or criteria to check the application of these provisions, the Bureau shall treat these modifications as new notifications of assignments. Number **11.43B** refers to an increase in the probability of harmful interference. The probability of harmful interference (*C/I*) is calculated in the examination of Nos. **11.32A** and **11.33** only. The examination of No. **11.32** is made using the threshold/condition specified in Appendix **5**. When there are no technical criteria in the threshold/condition specified in Appendix **5**, Administrations may provide an analysis using appropriate calculation methods and/or criteria (including those developed in the ITU-R) to the Bureau for verification of the applicability of §§ 6 *a*) to 6 *c*) of Appendix **5** for the examination under No. **11.32**. (MOD RRB22/484)

1.2 It should be noted that in the examination under No. **11.32A**, assignments published under No. **9.38** or **9.58** but not yet notified are also taken into account. Therefore, for practical reasons, in application of this provision, these assignments shall be also taken into account in addition to assignments already recorded in the Master Register.

2 This provision makes reference to the “*original date of entry in the Master Register*”. The Board considers this date to be the date of receipt of the original notice. However, with respect to the notices received prior to 1 January 1999, the Board considers this date equivalent to the date recorded in Column 2A, 2B, or 2D, as appropriate.

11.43C

The Board concluded that the resubmitted assignments will be recorded only if the finding with respect to No. **11.31** remained favourable.

11.44

The information concerning the date of bringing into use is to be provided in the following occasions:

- in AP4 notice forms when submitted under No. **11.15**; and
- in the confirmation of the date of bringing into use under Nos. **11.44.2, 11.47, 11.44B, 11.44C, 11.44D** and **11.44E**.

It should be noted that the information concerning the date of bringing into use shall be provided for each assignment or group of assignments. (See also the Rules of Procedure concerning No. **11.44B, 11.44C, 11.44D** and **11.44E**).

11.44B, 11.44C, 11.44D and 11.44E

1 These provisions concern the bringing into use of a frequency assignment to a space station. In order to consider such a frequency assignment as having been brought into use, the notifying administration has to inform the Bureau, within thirty days from the end of the ninety-day period defined in Nos. **11.44B** or **11.44C**, or from the end of the period referred to in No. **11.44** for cases related to Nos. **11.44D** or **11.44E**, of the deployment information specified in these provisions.

2 The Board carefully studied the relationship between the various provisions related to bringing into use of frequency assignments for a satellite network or system under Nos. **11.43A, 11.44, 11.44.2, 11.44.3, 11.44B, 11.44B.1, 11.44B.2, 11.44C, 11.44C.1, 11.44C.2, 11.44C.3, 11.44C.4, 11.44D, 11.44D.1, 11.44D.2, 11.44D.3, 11.44E, 11.44E.1** and **11.47** and concluded that the Bureau will apply the following procedure.