

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

General Secretariat



30 June 2003

Ref: DM-1043
Contact: T. Gavrilov
Tel: +41 22 730 5325
Fax: +41 22 730 5785
Email: gavrilov@itu.int

To: The United Nations (CV259)
Regional telecommunication organizations (CV260)
Intergovernmental organizations operating satellite systems (CV261)
Specialized agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (CV262)
Recognized operating agencies (CV229/262A)
Scientific or industrial organizations (CV229/262A)
Financial or development institutions (CV229/262A)
Regional and other international telecommunication, standardization, financial or development organizations (CV231/262A)
Organizations of an international character representing Sector Members referred to in CV229 and CV231 (CV262A)

Subject: **Regional Radiocommunication Conference for planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in parts of Regions 1 and 3, in the frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz (RRC-04)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that, following the adoption of Resolution 1185 (modified) by Council-03, a Regional Radiocommunication Conference for planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in parts of Regions 1 and 3, in the frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz (RRC-04) will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 10 to 28 May 2004. The agenda of the Conference is contained in Council Resolution 1185 (modified) in **Annex 1**.

Pursuant to Articles 23 and 24 of the Convention of the ITU, I am pleased to invite your organization/entity to send observers to RRC-04. I would kindly ask you to let me know by **1 December 2003** if you intend to participate by returning **Annex 2** to this letter, duly completed. For the subsequent registration of each participant, you may use the attached registration form (**Annex 3**).

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that, as from **1 January 2004**, the modified provision No. 476 of the ITU Convention will enter into force, which stipulates: "The organizations referred to in Nos. 269A (currently numbered 259) to 269E (currently numbered 262A) of this Convention and other organizations of an international character (unless they have been exempted by the Council, subject to reciprocity) and Sector Members which participate, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, in a plenipotentiary conference, in a conference, assembly or meeting of a Sector of the Union, or in a world conference on international telecommunications, shall share in defraying the expenses of the conferences, assemblies and meetings in which they participate on the basis of the cost of these conferences and meetings and in accordance with the Financial Regulations. Nevertheless, Sector Members will not be charged separately for their attendance at a conference, assembly or meeting of their respective Sectors, except in the case of regional radiocommunication conferences.

Yours faithfully,

Yoshio UTSUMI
Secretary-General

Annexes: 3

ANNEX 1

RESOLUTION 1185 (MODIFIED)

(approved at the tenth Plenary Meeting¹)

Regional Radiocommunication Conference for planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in parts of Regions 1 and 3², in the Frequency Bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz

The Council,

considering

- a) the proposals contained in the letter of consultation of 17 August 2000 (see letter DM-1163 from the Secretary General) carried out in accordance with the provisions No 310 and 301 of the ITU Convention, concerning the convening of a Regional Radiocommunication Conference (RRC) for the revision of parts of the Regional Agreement for the European Broadcasting Area, Stockholm, 1961 (European Broadcasting Agreement, Stockholm, (1961)),
- b) the results of the above consultation contained in letter DM-1173 of 9 October 2000 from the Secretary General;
- c) the results of consultation with the Member States pertaining to the planning area of the Regional Agreement Relating to the Planning of VHF/UHF Television Broadcasting in the African Broadcasting Area and Neighbouring Countries, Geneva 1989, hereinafter referred to as the Geneva 1989 Agreement³, carried out in accordance with Resolution 1180 from Council-2001, whereby these Member States agreed to convene a Regional Radiocommunication Conference to revise the Geneva 1989 Agreement;
- d) the results of consultation with the Member States of the European Broadcasting Area and with the Member States pertaining to the planning area of the Geneva 1989 Agreement, carried out in accordance with Resolution 1180 from Council-2001, whereby these Member States agreed to merge the Regional Radiocommunication Conferences to revise the Stockholm 1961 Agreement and the Geneva 1989 Agreement, and to undertake simultaneously the planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in the bands 174 – 230 MHz and 470 – 862 MHz;

¹ *Note by the Secretariat*: the consultation procedure for the final adoption of the Agenda by the Member States concerned, as envisaged by CV123, is underway (see letter DM-1031 of 30 May 2003).

² See *resolves 1* of this Resolution

³ The Planning Area of the Geneva 1989 Agreement is defined in Article 1, paragraph 1.8 of the Agreement.

e) Resolution 117 (COM5/3) (Marrakesh, 2002), which extended the planning area to cover the territories of the following Member States that are not or only partially covered by the planning areas of both the Stockholm 1961 and Geneva 1989 Agreements:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation (the part of the territory to the west from longitude 170°E), Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

f) Resolution 77 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002), on Future conference and assemblies of the Union, which resolves that the second part of the RRC will take place at the earliest in late 2005, and that place and date are to be decided by Council after the first part of the RRC.

resolves

1 to convene a Regional Radiocommunication Conference for planning of the digital terrestrial broadcasting service in Region 1 (parts of Region 1 situated to the west of meridian 170°E and to the north of parallel 40°S) and in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz, in two sessions, separated by about two years;

2 that the first session of the RRC will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 10 to 28 May 2004 with the following agenda:

2.1 to produce a report to the second session to include:

- a) the technical basis for the work of the second session of the RRC ;
- b) the necessary bases to facilitate planning exercises prior to the second session of the RRC;
- c) the form in which the requirements of administrations should be submitted,

2.2 to decide upon the final date by which the requirements should be submitted to the ITU by administrations,

2.3 to make a proposal to Council on the date and duration of the second session of the RRC within the limits of *resolves 3*,

2.4 to make a proposal to the Council on the recommended course of action with respect to those parts of the Stockholm 1961 and Geneva 1989 Agreements that will be dealt with in the new regional agreement for the frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz,

3 that the second session of the RRC will be held at the earliest in late 2005 for a maximum of five weeks, place⁴ and date to be chosen by Council at its 2004 session, to establish a new regional agreement for the planning area referred to in “resolves 1” above and for the concerned frequency bands, including:

3.1 the preparation, on the basis of proposals from administrations, of the report of the first session of the Conference and taking into consideration the report from the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau on the intersessional work, of an agreement and an associated frequency plan for terrestrial digital broadcasting in the frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz, taking account of the following non-exhaustive list of items:

- a) planning principles;

⁴ The Council noted the announcement of the administration of Spain to host the second session of the RRC

- b) protection of existing⁵ and planned⁶ analogue broadcasting stations and mechanisms, including time periods, for the migration from the analogue to the digital broadcasting situation;
 - c) protection of other existing⁷ and planned⁸ services in the bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz;
 - d) definition of terms to be used in the agreement;
 - e) propagation characteristics and methods of forecasting field strength values in the VHF and UHF bands;
 - f) planning criteria (including protection ratios), planning methods and network configurations (e.g. single-frequency networks, multi-frequency networks);
 - g) inter-service and intra-service sharing and compatibility criteria, including frequency bands adjacent to the frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz;
- 3.2 regulatory procedures relating to modifications of and additions to the Plan;
- 3.3 co-ordination procedures for the transition from analogue to the digital broadcasting situation;
- 3.4 regulatory procedures pertaining to the sharing of the frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-862 MHz between broadcasting and other services to which these frequency bands are also allocated;
- 3.5 the relationship between the agreement to be established by the second session and the Stockholm 1961 and the Geneva 1989 Agreements with a view to harmonizing the scope of application of each of these three agreements;
- 4 to convene two conferences of a short duration, in parallel, immediately after the second session of RRC referred to in resolves 3 above, to revise or abrogate, as appropriate, the relevant parts of the Stockholm 1961 and the Geneva 1989 Agreements in accordance with *resolves* 3.5 above,
- 5 to establish a Planning Project Team, open to administrations, assisted by the Radiocommunication Bureau to undertake the planning exercises prior to the second session of the RRC,
- 6 to abrogate Council Resolution 1180 (Rev.2002),
instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau
1. to provide assistance, including the preparation and organisation of the RRC;
 2. to develop planning tools, with the assistance from the Planning Project Team and the administrations, *inter alia* in order to assist administrations in their preparation for the second session of the RRC;
 3. to make the necessary arrangements for convening meetings of the Planning Project Team and to provide the necessary assistance,

⁵ Existing stations will need to be defined by the First session of the RRC

⁶ Planned stations will need to be defined by the First session of the RRC

⁷ Existing stations will need to be defined by the First session of the RRC

⁸ Planned stations will need to be defined by the First session of the RRC

invites the ITU-R Study Groups and the Special Committee on Regulatory and Procedural Matters

to carry out, as a matter of urgency, the relevant technical, operational and regulatory studies and to prepare a report for submission to the first session of the RRC,

instructs the Secretary-General

- 1 to take the necessary steps for convening the RRC;
- 2 to bring this Resolution to the attention of all Member States,

invites the Administrations having territories in the planning area

1. to participate actively in the preparatory work for the RRC;
2. to support the Radiocommunication Bureau in the development of the planning tools, *inter alia* by providing available software.

ANNEX 2

REGIONAL RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE (RRC-04)

(Geneva, 10 - 28 May 2004)

Entity/ Organization:	<input type="text"/>	Will participate at RRC-04:	<input type="text" value="Yes"/>	<input type="text" value="No"/>	Probable number of participants:	<input type="text"/>
----------------------------------	----------------------	--	----------------------------------	---------------------------------	---	----------------------

CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

We wish to receive **one copy** of documents in:

English

French

Spanish

(delete as appropriate)

Address to which these documents should be sent:

(Place)

(Date)

(Signature)

To be returned by **1 December 2003** to the:

International Telecommunication Union
Office V.434 / BR Secretariat/DMU
1211 GENEVA 20 / Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 730 66 00

