

RESOLUTION 366 (WRC-23)

**Improving the utilization and channelization of maritime radiocommunication
in the MF and HF bands, including potential revisions
to Article 52 and Appendix 17**

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Dubai, 2023),

considering

- a)* that the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) has finalized studies to remove narrowband direct-printing (NBDP) frequencies for distress and safety communications from Article 5 and Appendices 15 and 17;
- b)* that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) decided to remove NBDP for distress and safety communications from the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) in MF and HF bands;
- c)* that ITU-R has finalized studies on the implementation of the automatic connection system (ACS) using digital selective calling (DSC) in MF and HF maritime mobile frequency bands;
- d)* that the implementation of the ACS will ensure simple and reliable access to the required radio links for ship stations;
- e)* that IMO has implemented the ACS in performance standards for shipborne MF and MF/HF radio installations for GMDSS,

recognizing

- a)* that Article 52 identifies frequencies and channelling arrangements in the MF band in some Regions;
- b)* that Appendix 17 identifies frequencies and channelling arrangements in the HF bands for the maritime mobile service (MMS);
- c)* that some HF bands lack channels in Appendix 17 for inter-ship operation;
- d)* that the implementation of the ACS may require revision of Article 52 and Appendix 17 channel plans for more working channels on an international basis,

noting

- a)* that this conference reviewed MF and HF bands in Article 5 and Appendices 15 and 17 to remove NBDP frequencies for distress and safety communications;

b) that this conference reviewed MF and HF bands in Article 5 and Appendix 17 to introduce the ACS;

c) that there is no global inter-ship channel in the MF band, and some HF bands lack channels for inter-ship operation in Appendix 17,

resolves to invite the ITU Radiocommunication Sector to complete in time for the 2031 world radiocommunication conference

studies on possible revisions to the Article 52 and Appendix 17 channel plans to identify additional working channels on an international basis to improve the use of maritime radiocommunication in the MF and HF bands,

invites the 2031 world radiocommunication conference

to consider, based on the results of studies, possible revisions to the Article 52 and Appendix 17 channel plans in the maritime mobile MF and HF bands to improve use and efficiency,

invites administrations

to participate actively in the studies described in *resolves to invite the ITU Radiocommunication Sector to complete in time for the 2031 world radiocommunication conference* and provide the information required for the studies by submitting contributions to ITU-R,

invites relevant international organizations

to participate actively in the studies by providing requirements and information that should be taken into account in ITU-R studies,

instructs the Secretary-General

to bring this Resolution to the attention of IMO and other international and regional organizations concerned.