



Radio Regulations Board (RRB)

S. K. Kibe
Chairman of RRB, 2014



Brief History of RRB

- ✓ 1947: International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) with 11 Members (Full Time) created by ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.
- ✓ 1965: ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Montreux) reorganized IFRB to 5 Members.
- ✓ 1992: Additional Plenipotentiary Conference decided to replace full time IFRB with a part- time RRB.
- ✓ 1994 : PP-94 elected 9 Members of Part-time RRB.
- ✓ 1998- RRB Members increased to 12 by PP-98;

Composition of RRB

RRB draws its mandate from ITU Constitution, Convention and the Radio Regulations

- ✓ 12 Members of RRB elected by the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference for a term of 4 years, for maximum of 2 terms
 - 2 Members each from ITU administrative Regions A,B and C
 - 3 Members each from ITU administrative Regions D and E
- ✓ The Director, Radiocommunication Bureau is the Executive Secretary for the Board;
- ✓ The Bureau provides the secretarial support.

Current Members

(01.01.2011 – 31.12.2014)

Region A:

- Mr. R. Terán (Argentina) & Ms. Julie Napier Zoller (USA)

Region B:

- Mr. A. Magenta (Italy) & Mr. M. Zilinskas (Lithuania)

Region C:

- Mr. B. Nurmatov (Kyrgyzstan) & Mr. V. Strelets (Russian Federation);

Region D:

- Mr. S. Koffi (Ivory Coast), Mr. S. K. Kibe (Kenya) and
- Mr. M. Bessi (Morocco);

Region E:

- Mr. P. K Garg (India), Mr. Y. Ito (Japan) &
- Mr. A. R. Ebadi (Malaysia)



Meetings of the Board

- ✓ Not more than 3 meetings a year, with at least two-thirds of its members present;
- ✓ Meeting chaired a Member, who is elected by the Members of the RRB for 1 year.
- ✓ RRB endeavors to take its decisions unanimously . Vote may be taken as last resort with at least two-thirds of the Members present. Each Member entitled to one vote;
- ✓ BR Director is the Executive Secretary Board, and is accompanied by the necessary experts from the staff of the BR.

Responsibilities of RRB

- ✓ To consider and approve Rules of Procedure (RoPs);
- ✓ At the request of an administration, RRB considers:
 - Appeals from administrations for BR decisions;
 - Interference issues between countries;
- ✓ To consider and decide on any issue that may be requested by a Member, Director or an administration
- ✓ To prepare a report to WRC's,
 - RRB activities since last WRC
 - Proposals for inclusion of RoP's into the Radio Regulations
 - Report on implementation of Res. 80 and any other Resolution
- ✓ To implement decisions of WRC or by the Council;
- ✓ **RRB's FINAL Decisions, may only be overturned by a WRC**

Mandate from the ITU Constitution

- Article 14- (Nos. CS 93 to CS 101)- **Composition and Functions of the Board**
- CS 98 - In the exercise of their Board duties, the Members of the Radio Regulations Board shall serve, not as representing their respective Member States nor a Region, but as **Custodians of an international public trust**. In particular,
 - ✓ each Member of the Board shall refrain from intervening in decisions directly concerning the Member's own administration.

Mandate from the ITU Convention

- **Article 10 (Nos. CV 140 to CV 147-** Additional duties and working methods of the Board)

- **Resolution 119: Methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radio Regulations Board**

- to continue to review periodically its working methods and internal processes and develop appropriate changes in its methods and decision-making processes and their overall effectiveness in order **to attain a higher degree of transparency**, and report the results to the next WRC through the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR);
- to continue to include in the Summary of its decisions (RR No.13.18 of the Radio Regulations);
 - i. The reasons for each decision taken by the Board;
 - ii. Comments received from administrations on the Rules of Procedure

Mandate from the Radio Regulations (1)

- **RR Article 6:** Special Agreements- RR No. 6.6 (rarely used);
- **RR Article 7:** Application of procedures- RR Nos. 7.1, 7.5 to 7.7
- **RR Article 11:** RR Nos. 11.47- 11.49
- **RR Article 13:**
 - ✓ Section 0- Development of RoPs
 - ✓ Section II- Deletion of assignments from MIFR (RR No. 13.6)
 - ✓ Section III- Maintenance of RoPs
 - ✓ Section IV- Board documents
- **RR Article 14:** Review of a finding of the BR (RR No. 14.5 to RR No.14.8)

Mandate from the Radio Regulations (2)

➤ **Additional responsibilities assigned by WRC-12**

- RR No. 13.6 (Mod) to approve all decisions of the BR to remove assignments from MIFR.
- Limited and qualified extension of regulatory time-limit for bringing into use of frequency assignments to a satellite in case of co-passenger delay **and** in the case of *force majeure*.
- WRC-12 instructed the RRB to approve RoP's on the practices of the BR in a number of areas.

Rules of Procedure (RoP's)

- ✓ RoP's used in the application of Radio Regulations, Regional agreements, Resolutions and Recommendations.
- ✓ Three types of RoP's
 - PART A :Rules concerning Radio Regulations
 - PART B: Rules standardizing and informing on the practices of the BR
 - PART C: Rules defining RRB working methods

Rules of Procedure (RoP's) (2)

- ☐ Rules of Procedure to govern the activities of Board and Bureau in the application of RR provisions (RR No. 13.12);
- ☐ Rules of Procedure only in case of clear need (RR No. 13.0.1);
- ☐ Draft Rules of Procedure prepared by Bureau and circulated to all members administrations for comments, if any
- ☐ Draft RoP's along with comments from members placed before the RRB at its meeting, for approval;
- ☐ If a significant change, proposed by administration or by Board Member(s), is accepted by the Board, the BR may be instructed to re-circulate the draft RoP's for comments (minor changes may not require re-circulation);
- ☐ RoP's require review after each WRC.

Time limits for receipt of documents from Administrations

- Submissions from Administrations should reach the Bureau 3 weeks before Board's meeting;
- Any submissions received from Administrations later than three- week deadline will normally not be considered at the same meeting and will be placed on the agenda of the following meeting;
- Comments on the draft Rule of Procedure must reach the Bureau 4 weeks before the Board's meeting (RR No. 13.12A) for those to be considered;
- Board can not accept 'Confidential' documents as it has to work in a transparent manner. Administrations can provide extracts of all necessary, supporting information/material, without the need for their 'confidentiality'.

SALIENT ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESENT BOARD (1)

- ✓ Satellite networks; considered requests for:
 - Requests for extension of regulatory time limits for satellite frequency assignments (also related to RR No. 11.49):
 - Requests for consideration of orbital arc limitations for various satellite networks ,
 - Appeals against cancellation of assignments under RR No. 13.6;
 - Requests considerations of cases under *force majeure* category (after WRC-12) and issue of confidential documents;
 - Change of 'Notifying' administration of various inter-governmental Satellite systems;
 - Resolution 80 Issues: '*Regular use*' issue decided by WRC-12

SALIENT ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESENT BOARD (2)

- ✓ Advice to WRC-12
 - Comprehensive review of RoP's arising from the decisions of WRC-12:
- ✓ Broadcasting services;
 - Assisted to resolve cases of interference between Broadcast stations of neighbouring countries;

'Transparency', a hallmark of Board

➤ **Transparency essential for Board's activities**

- ✓ CS 95: Development of Rules of Procedure in a
- ✓ transparent manner (also Resolution 119);
- ✓ CS 98: Board Members custodians of an
- ✓ international public trust

➤ **All documents of the Board are posted on RRB website**

- ✓ Agendas, contributions + others
- ✓ Summary of Decisions
- ✓ Minutes of Meeting

CONCLUSION

- ✓ RRB Members perform a service to the Union independently of their administrations and on a part-time basis, without personal, commercial, national or political interest
 - Approve Rules of Procedure
 - Decide on appeals by administrations
 - Advise and implement decisions of ITU Conferences
- ✓ RoP's govern the BR activities in application of the Radio Regulations
- ✓ Development of RoP's an open and transparent process, open to comments



THANK YOU!