



*Radiocommunication Bureau*

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Circular Letter  
CR/214

25 June 2004

## To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

**Subject:** Resolutions adopted by the first session of the 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)

### To the Director-General

Dear Sir/Madam,

1. In accordance with Council Resolution 1185 (modified, 2003), the first session of the 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), was held in Geneva from 10 to 28 May 2004. The Conference adopted several Resolutions dealing with various issues, including the Report relating to the basis for the work of the second session of the RRC and the necessary bases to facilitate planning exercises prior to the second session. Some of these Resolutions (Resolutions COM5/2, GT-PLN/1 and GT-PLN/2) are addressing issues that are within the responsibilities of the Council and, as requested by RRC-04, these Resolutions have been brought to the attention of the Council, at its 2004 session (see Council Document C04/46). Other Resolutions (Resolutions COM4/2, COM4/3, COM4/4, COM4/5, COM4/6 and COM4/7) are calling for ITU-R studies and they will be brought to the attention of the ITU-R membership. Finally, some Resolutions (Resolutions 1, COM4/1, COM5/1, GT-PLN/3 and PLN/1) are dealing with specific issues concerning the membership preparation for the second session of RRC and they are attached to this Circular Letter\*.

2. In this connection, it is recalled that, pursuant to No. 159E of Article 28 of the ITU Constitution, expenses incurred by regional conferences referred to in No. 43 of the Constitution shall be borne by all Member States of the region concerned in accordance with their class of contribution. Consequently, RRC-04 established some specific arrangements, which would provide for efficient preparations of the Member States from the planning area, while establishing mechanisms for transparent tracing of the expenditures associated with the RRC activities. These arrangements are dealt with in the Resolutions annexed to this Circular Letter.

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\* *The versions of these Resolutions, which are attached to this Circular Letter, include the corrections introduced by the ITU Secretariat, as announced during the last plenary meeting of RRC-04.*

3. In bringing the Resolutions, attached to this Circular Letter, to the attention of the administrations of the planning area, the Bureau wishes to point out the following:
  - 3.1 **Resolution 1** includes, in its Annex, the Report established by RRC-04 relating to the basis for the work of the second session of RRC, the necessary bases to facilitate planning exercises prior to the second session, and the form in which the requirements of administrations should be submitted. RRC-04 urged the Member States of the planning area to consider this Report, as well as the other Resolutions produced by this session, in their preparations for the second session. RRC-04 invited the second session of RRC, when establishing the new regional agreement for the planning area and for the frequency bands 174–230 MHz and 470–862 MHz and associated frequency plans for terrestrial digital broadcasting in these frequency bands, to take into account the Report annexed to Resolution 1;
  - 3.2 **Resolution COM4/1** deals with the protection of digital terrestrial broadcasting from BSS networks operating in the band 620–790 MHz. You may wish to note that this subject was also dealt with in Resolution 545 (WRC-03) and will be considered by WRC-07 under its agenda item 1.11 (see Resolution 802 (WRC-03));
  - 3.3 **Resolution COM5/1** deals with the overall-scope of the intersessional activities relating to the planning exercises. You may wish to note that RRC-04 resolved to establish an Intersessional Planning Group (IPG), open to participation on the same basis as the Regional Radiocommunication Conference (RRC). The terms of reference of the IPG are indicated in *resolves* 1 of Resolution COM5/1. RRC-04 invited the administrations of the Member States and ITU-R Sector Members belonging to the planning area of RRC to actively participate in the meetings of IPG. You will note that Annex 2 to Resolution COM5/1 contains a detailed schedule of activities, with the indication of the milestones for each activity. Each of these activities would be the subject of a separate communication from the BR to the administrations of the Member States concerned.
  - 3.4 **Resolution GT-PLN/3** deals with the interim procedure for the coordination of assignments to primary services other than broadcasting with existing and planned assignments/allotments of the broadcasting service, in the bands 174–230 MHz and 470–862 MHz. It is to be noted that this procedure is addressed to the administrations of the Member States from the planning area wishing to ensure protection to their “existing and planned” assignments of primary services other than broadcasting, which are notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau after 10 May 2004. The Bureau will continue to apply the standard procedures for these assignments, as stipulated in the Radio Regulations, with a view to their recording in the Master Register. However, only the frequency assignments for which this interim procedure referred to in Resolution GT-PLN/3 has been successfully completed will be included in the reference situation and will be subject to protection, when establishing the plans for digital terrestrial broadcasting, unless otherwise agreed between the administrations concerned, on a bilateral or multilateral basis.
  - 3.5 **Resolution PLEN/1** deals with the establishment of the mechanism to facilitate the preparations of the Member States from the planning area with respect to regulatory/procedural issues. In this connection, RRC-04 resolved to establish a Regulatory/Procedural Group (RPG) with a working party to study regulatory/procedural matters relating to the relevant parts of the RRC-06 agenda, and the agendas of the short conferences, associated with RRC-06, to revise the Regional Agreements Stockholm, 1961 and Geneva, 1989. The terms of reference of the RPG are indicated in *resolves* 1 and 2 of Resolution PLEN/1. RRC-04 invited administrations of the Member States and ITU-R Sector Members belonging to the planning area of the RRC to actively participate in the

meeting of RPG and its working party. RRC-04 instructed the Director of the BR to make the necessary arrangements for convening the meeting of RPG and its working party, and to provide the necessary assistance and information where required. These arrangements will be dealt with in a separate communication.

4. You may also wish to note that, pursuant to Resolution COM5/2 of RRC-04, the Council, at its 2004 session, adopted Resolution 1224, by which it established the agenda of the second session of RRC. Pursuant to CV42, the Council also decided that the second session of RRC will be held in Geneva, from 15 May to 16 June 2006. The relevant consultations in this respect, as envisaged by CV47, are underway.

5. The information referred to in this Circular Letter is primarily addressed to the Member States belonging to the planning area (all Member States from Region 1, except Mongolia, and the Islamic Republic of Iran). The content of the Resolutions from RRC-04, which are included in the Annex to this Circular Letter, are brought to the attention of the Member States outside the planning area for information only.

6. The Bureau remains at the disposal of your administration for any clarification you may require with respect to the subjects covered in this Circular Letter.

Yours faithfully,

V. Timofeev  
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Annex: 1 CD-ROM

Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of the ITU
- Members of the Radio Regulations Board