AGENDA ITEM 1.13: to consider the results of ITU-R studies in accordance with Resolution 551 (WRC-07) and decide on spectrum usage of the 21.4-22 GHz band for the broadcasting satellite service and the associated feeder link bands in Regions 1 and 3

ISSUE: Resolution 551 (WRC-07), “Use of the band 21.4-22 GHz for the broadcasting-satellite service and associated feeder-link bands in Regions 1 and 3,” calls for continuation of technical and regulatory studies on harmonization of spectrum usage, including planning methodologies, coordination procedures or other procedures, and broadcasting-satellite service (BSS) technologies in the 21.4-22 GHz band and associated feeder-links, considering that a priori planning is not necessary and should be avoided if it prevents flexible use of the band and that interim arrangements are on a first-come, first-served basis. Resolution 551 (WRC-07), also calls for WRC-11 to review the results of the studies and decide the usage of the 21.4-22 GHz band and the associated feeder link bands in Regions 1 and 3.

BACKGROUND: Region 1 and 3 countries proposed this item for the WRC-11 agenda. WARC-92 allocated the band 21.4-22 GHz in regions 1 and 3 to the BSS on a primary basis beginning April 1, 2007. In Regions 1 and 3, the BSS shares with the fixed service (FS) and mobile service (MS), which are also allocated in the band on a primary basis; in Region 2 the band is allocated only to the FS and MS on a primary basis. No. 5.530 (WRC-07) subjects the BSS allocation to the provisions of Resolution 525 (WRC-07), the Annex of which sets out interim procedures for the introduction of BSS high definition television (HDTV) systems in this band. While Resolution 525 (WRC-07) subjects BSS (HDTV) systems to applicable procedures under Articles 9 and 14, it exempts them from coordination procedures with terrestrial systems under RR 9.11 until definitive procedures are established by the next conference. Resolution 525 (WRC-07) also specifies that other services operating in the band may do so on condition of not causing harmful interference to BSS (HDTV) systems and that they cannot claim protection from such systems, thus effectively making the BSS (HDTV) systems “super-primary” in this band in Regions 1 and 3. In addition, footnote No. 5.347A states that Resolution 739 (WRC-07), that calls for administrations to take all reasonable steps to ensure compatibility with radio astronomy observations in bands adjacent or neighboring to certain satellite downlink bands, applies to this band. Table 1 of Resolution 739 (the list of band pairs that is applicable to geostationary satellite systems) includes the pair 21.4-22.0 GHz (BSS) and 22.21-22.5 GHz (radio astronomy service).

U.S. VIEW: The United States supports the protection of existing services from in-band interference and unwanted emissions. (August 8, 2008)