UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Agenda Item 1.14: to consider requirements for new applications in the radiolocation service and review allocations or regulatory provisions for implementation of the radiolocation service in the range 30-300 MHz, in accordance with Resolution 611 (WRC-07)

Background Information: Resolution 611 (WRC-07) resolves to consider a new primary allocation to the radiolocation service for new applications in a portion of 30-300 MHz, with bandwidths no larger than 2 MHz. The results of ITU-R studies should confirm compatibility with existing services and applications in the bands where the new radiolocation service plans to operate. The ITU-R studied technical characteristics, protection criteria, and other factors to determine whether radiolocation systems could operate compatibly with systems operating in accordance with Article 5 of the Radio Regulations.

The 30-300 MHz band is allocated to and used by a wide variety of services, including the fixed, mobile, aeronautical mobile (R), aeronautical radionavigation, broadcasting, and amateur services, as well as a range of space services. For example, the maritime mobile service utilizes safety channels for aircraft Search and Rescue (SAR) operating on channels 16 (156.800 MHz ± 37.5 kHz) and 70 (156.525 MHz ± 12.5 kHz) and the aircraft SAR and satellites operating on Automatic Identification System (AIS) channels AIS 1 (161.975 MHz ± 12.5 kHz) and AIS 2 (162.025 MHz ± 12.5 kHz), and there are space research and satellite service allocations in the 137-138 MHz, 148-149.9 MHz and 149.9-150.05 MHz bands.

Based on contributions to ITU-R meetings and other regional groups, the primary frequency band of interest within the ITU-R is 154-156 MHz. The new allocation would support applications in the radiolocation service for aerospace surveillance, tracking and maneuvering spacecrafts. Contributions to the ITU-R have not effectively demonstrated compatibility with primary services in or adjacent to the 154-156 MHz range (particularly in the adjacent bands that effect safety and distress applications). ITU-R studies have not shown compatibility with existing services. Also, additional compatibility studies may be necessary to ensure that the primary services for amateur broadcasting and amateur satellites operating globally will not encounter unacceptable interference.

Within Region 2, several primary radiolocation allocations exist within the 30-300 MHz range and any additional allocation may create unacceptable interference with existing services and hinder future technological development and efficient spectrum use.

The proposed “no change” to Article 5 of the Radio Regulations covers Region 2 only and will ensure protection to services and systems within Region 2. Conversely, it may be appropriate for WRC-12 to consider a country specific footnote within the 154-156 MHz range in order to accommodate future radiolocation services without changing the Table of Frequency Allocations of the Radio Regulations.

Proposal:
ARTICLE 5

Frequency Allocations

Section IV – Table of Frequency Allocations

Reasons: No change to the Radio Regulations in Region 2 is necessary, as there are several existing primary radiolocation allocations within the 30-300 MHz range. Compatibility studies regarding existing primary services, particularly the safety and distress services, mobile-satellite service, fixed-satellite service, and the amateur service, need further inquiry to be confident that unacceptable interference will not occur.

RESOLUTION 611 (WRC-07)

Use of a portion of the VHF band by the radiolocation service

Reasons: Consequential to completion of agenda item 1.14 at WRC-12.