UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

SEP 26 2002

Mr. Donald Abelson
Chief of the International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Abelson:

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration, on behalf of the Executive Branch Agencies, has approved the release of an additional draft Executive Branch (NTIA) proposal for WRC-03. This proposal considers the federal agency inputs toward the development of U.S. Proposals for WRC-03.

The enclosed proposal addresses Resolution **801**, which is the preliminary agenda for WRC-06. This proposal adds an agenda item that would consider an upgrade of the radiolocation service in the 9 000-9 200 MHz and 9 300-9 500 MHz bands to primary. This proposal is forwarded for your consideration and review by your WRC-03 Advisory Committee. Jim Vorhies from my staff will contact Alexander Roytblat and reconcile any differences between NTIA and FCC views.

Sincerely,

Fredrick R. Wentland
Acting Associate Administrator
Office of Spectrum Management

Enclosure

United States of America

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Proposal for Resolution 801
Upgrade Radiolocation 9 000-9 200 MHz and 9 300-9 500 MHz to Primary

Agenda Item 7.2: to recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next WRC, and to give its views on the preliminary agenda for the subsequent conference and on possible agenda items for future conferences, taking into account Resolution **801 (WRC-2000)**;

Background Information: Working Party 8B is conducting studies in accordance with Question ITU-R 226/8, titled, "Characteristics of and Protection Criteria for Radars Operating in the Radiodetermination Service." Working Party 8B has also developed a Preliminary Draft New Recommendation on Characteristics of and Protection Criteria for Radars Operating in the Radiodetermination Service in the Frequency Band 8 500-10 500 MHz.

The frequency band 9 000-9 200 MHz is allocated to the aeronautical radionavigation service on a primary basis, limited to ground-based radars and associated airborne transponders, and the radiolocation service on a secondary basis. Also, in several countries, the band 9 000-9 200, is allocated to the radionavigation service on a primary basis (**5.473**). In the band 9 200-9 500 MHz, search and rescue transponders (SART) may be used (**5.474**). The band 9 300-9 500 MHz is allocated to the radionavigation service on a primary basis, and to the radiolocation service on a secondary basis. Also, in the band 9 300-9 500 MHz, the aeronautical radionavigation service is limited to airborne weather radars and ground-based radars; and, in addition, ground-based radar beacons permitted in the band 9 300-9 320 (**5.475**).

The 9 000-9 500 MHz range is optimum for the radars due to antenna, signal propagation, target detection, and large necessary bandwidth characteristics.

Airborne radiodetermination radars currently operating in these bands are: search & track radars, search radars, ground-mapping & terrain-following radars, track radars and surface search radars. Shipborne Radiodetermination Radars used in this band include: search & navigation radars (shipborne and shore-based), track radars, low altitude & surface search radars, maritime radionavigation radars, and surface surveillance & navigation radars. Beacons and Ground-Based Radiodetermination Radars are currently operating in these bands and include: rendezvous beacon airborne and ground based transportable radars, ground based transportable tracking radars and ground based transportable precision approach and landing radars.

It is necessary to upgrade the radiolocation service to primary in the band 9 000-9 200 MHz and 9 300-9 500 MHz in order for existing and planned radar systems to achieve their maximum potential and perform their required missions. There is a trend towards frequency-agile type radar systems in this band that will suppress or reduce interference and requiring larger bandwidths for the radars to function. Emerging requirements for higher target resolution necessitate wider contiguous emission bandwidths. An upgrade is required to provide radar system developers, manufacturers and investors confidence that their systems will have the regulatory assurance to operate worldwide.

Proposal:

USA/ / 1 ADD

2.xx To consider upgrading the allocation to the radiolocation service in the frequency range 9 000-9 200 MHz and 9 300-9 500 MHz to primary.

Reasons: To provide necessary spectrum for existing and planned radar systems to operate in the 9 000-9 500 MHz range.