

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Agenda Item 7: *to consider possible changes, and other options, in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, an advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks, in accordance with Resolution 86 (Rev. WRC-07) to facilitate rational efficient, and economical use of radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary –satellite orbit*

Background Information: WRC-12 modified No. **11.49** to expand the time an administration is allowed to suspend the use of frequency assignments to a space station from a two-year time period to three years. In addition, in the modified No. **11.49**, administrations do not need to inform the Bureau of suspensions lasting less than six months, but must inform the Bureau of suspensions lasting longer than six months as soon as possible, but in any case no later than six months from the start date of the suspension. Although WRC-12 made clear its intention that qualifying suspensions would be reported quickly, it did not specify the consequences for the assignments of an administration that failed to report a qualifying suspension by the six-month deadline. Upon considering how the results of WRC-12 would be implemented in practice, the Bureau proposed a Rule of Procedure (RoP) that would have cancelled the suspended frequency assignments if the Bureau did not receive a notification of the suspension before or at the end of the six-month period. Although this would have been a legitimate reading of the obligation, the suppression of frequency assignments for the late reporting of a suspension could be viewed as inconsistent with the WRC-12 decision for administrations to have a maximum of three years from the suspension date to resume use of their frequency assignments. As a result, at its 61st meeting, the Radio Regulations Board did not include cancellation of an assignment for a late notification of suspended use in the adopted Rules of Procedure.

To address this issue, and encourage both the prompt reporting of qualifying suspensions and the limitation of the total suspension period to three years from inception to resumption of use, this proposal supports creating an incentive to administrations to inform the Bureau as soon as possible within the initial six-month period of the suspension. Under this proposal, if an administration informs the Bureau of a suspension beyond six months from the start of the suspension, then the maximum suspension period will be reduced by an amount equal to twice the delay beyond six months in providing this information. As an example, informing the Bureau of a suspension at the seven-month point (i.e., one month beyond the six-month period) will reduce the maximum suspension period by two months (i.e., to two years and ten months). The standard for bringing back into use in No. **11.49.1** would continue to apply unchanged.

In conjunction with the proposed modification of No. **11.49** below, to promote transparency for notifying administrations and their operators, and to allow another means of confirmation that the suspension information has been received in a timely manner, it is important that the Bureau regularly update the List of Suspended Satellite Networks to include all No. **11.49** information promptly upon receipt, and to appropriately modify the format of the List to include a column with the deadline for resumption of operation determined by application of No. **11.49**.

Proposal:

MOD USA/AI 7/1

ARTICLE 11

Notification and recording of frequency assignments^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7} (WRC-07)

Section II – Examination of notices and recording of frequency assignments in the Master Register

11.49 Wherever the use of a recorded frequency assignment to a space station is suspended for a period exceeding six months, the notifying administration shall, ~~as soon as possible, but no later than six months from the date on which the use was suspended,~~ inform the Bureau of the date on which such use was suspended. When the recorded assignment is brought back into use, the notifying administration shall, subject to the provisions of No. **11.49.1** when applicable, so inform the Bureau, as soon as possible. The date on which the recorded assignment is brought back into use²² shall be not later than three years from the date on which the use of the assignment was suspended provided that the notifying administration informs the Bureau of the suspension within six months from the date on which the use was suspended. If the notifying administration informs the Bureau of the suspension more than six months after the date on which the use of the assignment was suspended, this three-year time period shall be reduced. In this case, the amount by which the three-year period shall be reduced shall be equal to twice the amount of time that has lapsed between the end of the six-month period and the date that the Bureau is informed of the suspension. (WRC-~~1215~~)

Reasons: To add regulatory procedures when an administration notifies the Bureau of a suspension beyond the initial six-month period.

NOC USA/AI 7/2

²² **11.49.1**

Reasons: To clarify that no changes are proposed for No. **11.49.1**.