AGENDA ITEM 9.1, ISSUE 9.1.7

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL ON WRC-19

(Items on the Agenda: 3.1 (SGT-3))

(Document submitted by the Coordinator)

SGT-3 – Satellite services

Coordinator: Brandon MITCHELL – USA

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Rapporteur Agenda Item:

Alternate Rapporteur Agenda Item:
Agenda Item 9.1, Issue 9.1.7: Resolution 958 (Rev.WRC-15): to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention, on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-15 on the urgent studies required in preparation for WRC-19 on the unauthorized operation of earth station terminals (Res. ITU-R 64 (RA-15)).

Background Information: The Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-15) approved Resolution ITU-R 64, titled “Guidelines for the management of unauthorized operation of earth station terminals”. The resolves of this resolution invited ITU-R study groups concerned:

1. to conduct studies to examine whether there is a need for possible additional measures in order to limit uplink transmissions of terminals to those terminals authorized in accordance with No. 18.1;

2. to study the possible methods that will assist administrations in managing the unauthorized operation of earth station terminals deployed within their territory, as a tool to guide their national spectrum-management program.

Resolution 958 (WRC-15) identifies topics requiring urgent study for inclusion in the Report of the Director for WRC-19. In the Annex to this resolution, Section 2 raises the issue of unauthorized operation of uplink terminals.

a) whether there is a need for possible additional measures in order to limit uplink transmissions of terminals to those authorized terminals in accordance with No. 18.1; and

b) the possible methods that will assist administrations in managing the unauthorized operation of earth station terminals deployed within its territory, as a tool to guide their national spectrum management programme, in accordance with Resolution ITU-R 64 (RA-15).

This issue concerns the operation of unlicensed uplink terminals in an administration’s territory. For some administrations, the use of these terminals causes interference into legitimate satellite service users as well as terrestrial systems. These administrations may not have the resources or technical capabilities to identify and geo-locate the unauthorized uplink terminals. An objective of this issue is to determine whether there is any need for regulatory measures to inhibit the use of unauthorized uplink terminals. So far, studies have shown that this issue can be resolved within the administration by methods not requiring modification of the Radio Regulations. Some administrations may require better spectrum management training and internal spectrum monitoring to identify unauthorized uplink transmissions. The development of ITU-R reports or handbooks may assist administrations in the management of their satellite spectrum resources to prevent or limit the unauthorized use of uplink terminals and enable the administration to locate and terminate the unauthorized transmissions.

Article 18 of the Radio Regulations already addresses the licensing of uplink transmissions of terminals. In particular RR No. 18.1 states that “No transmitting station may be established or operated by a private person or by any enterprise without a licence issued in an appropriate form and in conformity with the provisions of these Regulations by or on behalf of the government of the country to which the station in question is subject.”
Preliminary Proposal:

**NOC**  USA/9.1/9.1.7/1

Radio Regulations (WRC-15) Volumes 1, 2 and 4

**SUP**  USA/9/1/9.1.7/2

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 958 (WRC-15) No. 2

Urgent studies required in preparation for the 2019 World Radiocommunication Conference

2) Studies to examine:
   a) whether there is a need for possible additional measures in order to limit uplink transmissions of terminals to those authorized terminals in accordance with No. 18.1;

   b) the possible methods that will assist administrations in managing the unauthorized operation of earth station terminals deployed within its territory, as a tool to guide their national spectrum management programme, in accordance with Resolution ITU-R 64(RA-15).

**Reasons:** Earth station licensing and related issues are national matters and no changes to the Radio Regulations are necessary as Article 18 sufficiently addresses the required international regulatory measures. Instead, better training and monitoring capability, along with ITU developed reports and handbooks, can assist administrations in inhibiting the use of unauthorized uplink earth terminals and can enable administrations to locate and terminate the unauthorized transmissions.