



# IARU Region 3

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To: Liaison Officers of all IARU Region 3 Member Societies  
(ARANC/ARCOT/ARM/ARRL/ARSI/BARL/BDARA/  
CORA/CRSA/CTARL/FARA/HARTS/JARL/KARL/  
MARTS/NZART/ORARI/PARA/PARS/PIARA/PNGARS/  
RAST/RSGB/RSSL/SARTS/SIRS/VARC/VARS/WIA)

CC: Secretaries of IARU, IARU Regions 1 and 2  
(K1ZZ/G3BJ/W6ROD)  
All Directors of IARU Region 3  
(ZL2AMJ/VK2BPN/HL1IFM/JJ1OEY/9V1UV)  
All Coordinators of IARU Region 3  
(VU2UR/ZL2NN/HL1AQQ)

## Report on WRC-2003

Dear Colleagues:

Your IARU Region 3 Directors are pleased to report on the recently concluded World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). It was a conference of great importance and special significance for the amateur radio community and will go down in history as one in which much was achieved by the amateur service.

Amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 will gain 100 kHz in less than six years from now, 7.1 to 7.2 MHz, making the 40-metre band 7.0 to 7.2 MHz on a world-wide basis. The way is open for a later WRC to consider a further addition and for which we must start the preparations. The conference also agreed to an extensive rewrite of Article 25, the international regulations for the Amateur and Amateur-satellite services.

Your IARU Region 3 Directors wish to express appreciation to the many Member Societies that met up with their administrations to canvas support for agenda item 1.23, the re-alignment of the 7 MHz band and for support for other items. Those discussions and deliberations did play a very useful role and helped to reach consensus through compromise. The response by Member Societies to the call to lobby support was very heartening. Your Directors are pleased because it reflects that Member Societies are supportive and committed to the amateur cause.

IARU Region 3 Directors and the Secretary played active roles in the proceedings of this momentous conference. IARU Region 3 Secretary Keigo Komuro JA1KAB who was on the Japanese delegation was

Chairman : J. F. C. Johnson ZL2AMJ      Secretary: Keigo Komuro JA1KAB  
Directors : P. J. Naish VK2BPN      Y. S. Park, HL1IFM      Y. Sekido JJ1OEY      K. C. Selvadurai 9V1UV

Chairman of Sub-Working Group 4C3 for the revision of Article 25. Y S Park HL1IFM, a member of the Korean Delegation, was active behind the scenes in directing support for the amateur cause. Fred Johnson ZL2AMJ, Chairman / Director IARU Region 3, who was on the New Zealand delegation was Chairman of an informal drafting group reporting to the Sub-Working Group 4C1 for agenda item 1.23 on the re-alignment of the 7 MHz band.

Considering the great significance of this conference, your Directors deem it appropriate to submit a comprehensive report on WRC 2003 despite it running into many pages.

Please make additional copies of the attached report for members of the management council of your society so that they too may be fully informed of what has been achieved. Please also store the report in a manner that will facilitate frequent reference to it in the future as it is a document that will require further study and reference from time-to-time.

It is pertinent to note that the new international regulations governing the amateur and amateur-satellite services, Article 25 of the Radio Regulations, as adopted by the conference, have already come into effect. Therefore Member Societies should meet their administrations to discuss an early implementation for the benefit of the radio amateurs in their country. The provision relating to proficiency in Morse code being no longer a mandatory requirement for an amateur licence is one of them.

The stand taken by your administration at WRC on agenda item 1.23, the realignment of the 7 MHz band is shown on the sheet attached and could in some instances be different to Member Society expectations. In such an event, it may be prudent to discuss the matter again with your administration so that your society may better understand the concerns of your administration. In that way, if issues of this nature arise again later, there will be a greater chance of an understanding between your society and your administration. Further, the strengthening of the relationship with your administration will augur well for the future.

It is possible that some administrations may sympathetically consider granting amateurs under their authority earlier access to the 7.1 to 7.2 MHz band on a non-interference basis. The only way to ascertain the response is by discussion and inquiry. So your Directors suggest that, by developing a close relationship with your administration, it may be possible to gain this facility even before April 2009. Your Directors will be delighted to learn of any success. So please do keep the IARU Region 3 Secretariat informed.

Given the wide range of topics discussed at WRC, notwithstanding the many pages in the report, it is possible that Member Societies may have matters on which they wish to have clarification or elaboration. Please feel free to communicate with the IARU Region 3 Secretariat. Your Secretary and Directors will gladly respond.

Yours sincerely,



Keigo Komuro, JA1KAB  
Secretary IARU Region 3