



The main activity recently was the attendance of three of our directors and the secretary at the APG 2012-3 Meeting in Bangkok keeping in mind the importance of attending these meetings in preparation for WRC 2012. Very shortly the Wireless Institute of Australia will be celebrating its centenary and this huge landmark for organised radio societies.

A Word from the Chairman of IARU Region 3

Michael Owen VK3KI

Reflections following the APG

Director Shizuo Endo JE1MUI usually represents IARU Region 3 at the meetings of the APG with Director Peter Lake ZL2AZ, but instead I attended with Shizuo what was grandly called the 3rd meeting of the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-2012 (APG 2012 – 3) held in Bangkok, Thailand from Monday 8 to Friday 12 March 2010.

Jay Oka was a member of the Japanese delegation, nominated by JARL to represent the amateur services and Peter Lake ZL2AZ was a member of the New Zealand delegation, representing the amateur service.

There were 285 participants and some 23 administrations represented.

We have reported directly to societies after the meeting concluded, and beyond noting the conclusion of the APG in respect of WRC Agenda item number 1.23 (the proposal for a secondary allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415 – 526.5 kHz.) I do not cover the matters covered in our previous reports which also refer to a number of other agenda items that could affect the amateur services indirectly.

The conclusion in respect of that agenda item was:

“APT supports the studies carried out by the relevant ITU-R Working Parties which show that sharing by the amateur service with some of the other services in the band 415-526.5 kHz is possible in some circumstances. However, APT is of the view that further studies are necessary to demonstrate that sharing with the incumbent services in this band is feasible.”

I offer the following observations:

- The APG has adopted procedures that make achieving a common position very much more likely today than in the period of preparation for WRC 2003, when unless there was strong support, no position was the likely outcome.
- Many administrations in Region 3 now regard the APG as being of much more importance than they did in 2002, when the third meeting of the APG for WRC 2003 was held, and devote significant resource to the meetings.
- The whole process of the APG, (partly, I suspect, because of the mix of countries in the APT), is very similar to the process of WRC.

I have reached the conclusion that the right way to regard the work of the APG is to regard it as an essential part of the WRC cycle.

It is the three IARU regional organisations that have the responsibility of representing the amateur service at the Regional Telecommunication Organisations - the RTO's – including the APT. In Issue 12 of this Newsletter, of January 2009, I identified the various RTO's writing about their growing importance and talking, in a rather theoretical way, of the challenges they present.

In fact, this is the third time I have discussed one or other aspect of this matter. In Issue 14 of this Newsletter, of July 2009, I talked of the previous APG, the need for the better exchange of information between the IARU organisations and the need to speak with one voice.

I now think that in calling for a better exchange of information, I was rather missing the point.

Having seen the preparation for this APG, and being very aware of the conclusion of the APG that in respect of Agenda Item 1.23 that *“further studies are necessary to demonstrate that sharing with the incumbent services in this band is feasible”* I offer the following comments:

- *Agenda Item 1.23, because of the differences in Regional use of that part of the spectrum, and because of broad range of possibilities the actual agenda item offers, is an agenda where the amateur service could have difficulties simply because rather than a single solution, differing supporting solutions may be offered;*
- *Given that the responsibility for representing this issue before the RTOs and the ITU R entities is spread between four separate and ultimately independent bodies, achieving a completely consistent global position is extremely difficult;*
- *That effective coordination of a truly global position not only between the four IARU bodies but also including those member societies playing a role in their national preparation, now for the APG as well as the WRC, is critically important;*
- *Effective coordination of a truly global position almost certainly requires more than just information exchange.*

Host of the High Speed Telegraphy World Championships 2011

Following the decision made at the last HSTWC, the IARU Region 1 HST Working Group is looking for an IARU Region 3 Member Society to host the next (9th) IARU High Speed Telegraphy World Championship in 2011. Societies willing to undertake the organization of this event can obtain full details of requirements from

HST WG Chairman Oliver Tabakovski Z32TO
Bul. Partizanski odredi 74/41
1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia or
E-mail: oliver.z32to@gmail.com

WIA Centenary Award

A limited issue amateur radio operating award is available to celebrate the 100th year of the Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA), the world's oldest national radio society.

To qualify for an award certificate contact is required with the Centenary of Organised Amateur Radio in Australia special event station VK100WIA which has a distinctive QSL card.

The WIA, through its affiliated radio clubs, will operate this unique and callsign from 1 May to 31 October 2010. The callsign will also be used

in Australia's capital city, Canberra, where the WIA Annual General Meeting and associated events will be held 28-30 May.

It will be on all amateur bands available to VK radio amateurs including the popular HF bands and the WIA Centenary Award is expected to be well sought after.

Full details of the award are available on the WIA's website www.wia.org.au

Another Devastating Earthquake in China

China experienced another major quake with severe loss of lives. Many radio amateurs were involved in relief and emergency communication duties.

Severe Storm hits NE India and Bangladesh

A very severe cyclonic storm with flooding hit the border area between North East India and Bangladesh. That area is a sensitive area and there are not many licensed amateurs but some activity did take place with existing operators.

WRC-12 –Region 3 preparations

As reported earlier, WRC-12, which will be held in Geneva from January 23-February 17, 2012, will review the international treaty that governs Radiocommunication -- the ITU Radio Regulations <<http://www.itu.int/publ/R-REG-RR-2008/en>>.

The WRC-12 conference will be preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-12), also to be held in Geneva, January 16-20, 2012.

Societies in Region 3 have started work on putting together submissions towards WRC-12

APG 2012-3 Meeting

Chairman Michael Owen VK3KI and Director Shizuo Endo JE1MUI attended the session of APG in Bangkok in March 2010. Director Peter Lake ZL2AZ was also there as part of the New Zealand delegation and so also Jay Oka JA1TRC secretary of IARU Region 3. A number of other amateurs attended the APG Meeting as part of their country national delegations. They also work hard to support amateur radio within their country policy briefs

There was a very large attendance at the meeting demonstrating the importance of these meetings as essential preparations towards a workable submission at WRC-12

Region 3 will continue to be represented at all APG meetings.

Intruder Watch Enforcement Zone

Keeping a watch out for intruders on our precious frequencies is something that EVERY radio amateur should be doing while trawling through the bands on a regular basis.

Most societies have a Monitoring Coordinator who collects and forwards reports to the Regional Coordinator of non-amateur transmissions on frequencies that have been allocated to us hams.

Region 3 IARUMS Coordinator Peter Young VK3MV is the one who does the collating of such received data and welcomes additional inputs from any radio amateur who may chance upon suspect traffic on our bands.

Individual societies are urged to increase the number of volunteers listening on amateur bands for intruders

VK IARUMS reflector email to subscribe intruders@wia.org.au

Region 3 Award

In spite of reminding our members there is still not much interest in this very easy to achieve award. Some salient features are:

1. The Award is available to licensed amateurs and SWLs.
2. Contacts made after April 5, 1982 are eligible.
3. QSL cards not required.

Full details are available from: <http://www.nzart.org.nz/awards/iaru-region-iii-log.pdf>

We have had very little support for this award and it is recommended that all amateurs in the region do participate

Reminder- 2012 International YL Meet in Adelaide

This very popular meeting is a great place for YL's (and in many cases their OM's) to meet and share their experiences. Tentative dates for this event are being looked at in May 2012

Expansion of 40 Metre band

Reports have been received that most countries have now assigned the additional spectrum 7.1 to 7.2 MHz exclusively to the radio amateurs

Full details are available at:

Region 1: <http://www.iaru-r1.org>

Region 3: <http://iaru-r3.org/news/7MHz200903.htm>

Region 2: Already have use of the full spectrum 7.0 to 7.3 MHz

Unfortunately we have had reports of some broadcasters still using portions of the expanded band. Efforts are on to get them to move and one success story is of a broadcaster from Kuwait being persuaded to shift out.

The Region 3 Web Site: Go to: <http://www.iaru-r3.org>

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