



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1



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| Subject: | Prioritisation and Budgeting for Spectrum Protection and Development | | |
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1. Introduction

Prioritisation is proposed for amateur frequency protection and development. If necessary this should take precedence in any decision making over other more 'optional' activities.

2. Background

It is quite clear from a message to Member Societies, that decisions are required to move the budget of IARU Region 1 back to a more sustainable position.

Without doubt a major priority for IARU (and for National Societies) must be protection and acquisition of amateur and amateur satellite radio frequency allocations. This is requiring increased effort at all levels including the ITU, Regional Telecommunications Organisations and related EMC and Standardisation bodies (such as CISPR, ETSI, etc.).

The ITU has 193 member states, but a high proportion of these are in Region 1. This is also reflected in that four out of the six major Regional Telecommunications Organisations (RTOs) are also based in Region 1. Their influence on policy and positions (along with other international bodies) is increasingly important compared to national level. Summary statistics for the RTOs are below: -

| Regional Organisation | Region | Member States |
|--|--------|---------------|
| CEPT | 1 | 48 |
| ATU – African Telecommunications Union | 1 | 44 |
| ASMG – Arab Spectrum Management Group | 1 | 22 |
| RCC | 1 | 11 |
| CITEL | 2 | 35 |
| APT - Asia-Pacific Telecommunity | 3 | 38 |

At present, there is a significant IARU Region 1 effort aimed at CEPT (the largest block) but even that is constrained by resources and available volunteers. We remain relatively weak in the other Region 1 RTOs and other key bodies. It is important to recognise that ITU et al often work by consensus and not majority vote, so it is not sufficient to just convince one or two countries or RTOs, further increasing the effort required if favourable results for the future of amateur radio are desired.

3. Key Points and Proposal

The ERC, EMCC and PRC are closely associated with this and their budgets should be at least maintained, if not increased when considering the overall savings that may be necessary. This should be matched with a review and recruitment effort of skilled volunteers (along with considerations of their availability, succession planning, electronic working methods, etc.)

In contrast, activities that might be worthy but could equally be undertaken independently of direct IARU-Region 1 involvement, should be reduced or divested to save and focus resources.

4. Recommendations

Refocus IARU Region 1 activities in the light of latest circumstances and the need for a sustainable long term budget.