



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION  
WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICAN OFFICE

Nineteenth Meeting of the AFI Satellite Network Management Committee (SNMC/19)  
(Accra, Ghana, 14-18 November 2011)

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APPENDIX

RECOMMENDATION 724 (WRC-07)

Use by civil aviation of frequency allocations on a primary basis  
to the fixed-satellite service

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2007),

*Considering*

- a) that remote and rural areas often still lack a terrestrial communication infrastructure that meets the evolving requirements of modern civil aviation;
- b) that the cost of providing and maintaining such an infrastructure could be expensive, particularly in remote regions;
- c) that satellite communication systems operating in the fixed-satellite service (FSS) may be the only medium to satisfy the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) communication, navigation, surveillance and air traffic management (CNS/ATM) systems, where an adequate terrestrial communication infrastructure is not available;
- d) that the use of VSAT systems, operating in the FSS and being deployed on a large scale in aeronautical communications, has the potential to significantly enhance communications between air traffic control centres as well as with remote aeronautical stations;
- e) that establishing and utilizing satellite communication systems for civil aviation would also bring benefits for developing countries and countries with remote and rural areas by enabling the use of VSAT systems for non-aeronautical communications;
- f) that in the cases identified in *considering e)* it is necessary to draw attention to the importance of aeronautical communications as opposed to non-aeronautical communications,

*Noting*

- a) that the FSS is not a safety service;
- b) that Resolution **20 (Rev.WRC-03)** resolves to instruct the Secretary-General "to encourage ICAO to continue its assistance to developing countries which are endeavouring to improve their aeronautical telecommunications ...",

*Recommends*

- 1 that administrations, in particular in developing countries and in countries with remote and rural areas, recognize the importance of VSAT operations to the modernization of civil aviation telecommunications systems and encourage the implementation of VSAT systems that could support both aeronautical and other communication requirements;
- 2 that administrations in developing countries be encouraged, to the maximum extent possible and as necessary, to expedite the authorization process to enable aeronautical communications using VSAT technology;
- 3 that arrangements should be made to provide for urgent service restoration or alternative routing in case of a disruption of a VSAT link associated with the aeronautical communications;
- 4 that administrations implementing VSAT systems in accordance with *recommends 1 to 3* should do so in satellite networks operating in frequency bands with a primary allocation to the satellite services;



5 to invite ICAO, noting Resolution **20 (Rev.WRC-03)**, to continue its assistance to developing countries to improve their aeronautical telecommunications, including interoperability of VSAT networks, and provide guidance to developing countries on how they could best use VSAT technology for this purpose,

*Requests the Secretary-General*  
to bring this Recommendation to the attention of ICAO.