



Agenda Item 3: Air Navigation Matters
3.2 Follow-up on the implementation of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance Based Air Navigation Plan (RPBANIP) in Eastern Caribbean:

ICAO FINAL POSITION FOR THE ITU RADIO COMMUNICATION CONFERENCE 2012 (WRC-2012)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents the ICAO final position for the ITU WRC-2012, the results of the WRC-2012 Conference, the support given by the States and the agreements achieved in the sub-regional working groups meetings recommending several actions to follow-up by the States and the coordination with ICAO for the next ITU Radio Communication Conference.	
References:	
• ICAO Assembly resolution A36-25. • NACC/DCA/3 Meeting Report (Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 8 - 12 September 2008). • ICAO NAM/CAR/SAM Regional Preparatory Meeting for ITU WRC-2012 (NCSRPM), (Mexico City, Mexico, 21 - 22 April, 2010). • GREPECAS/16 Meeting Report; (Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 28 March to 1 April 2011). • Performance Objective No. 8 – <i>Protection and optimum use of radiofrequency spectrum</i> of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (NAM/CAR RPBANIP). • NACC/WG/3 Meeting Report (Guatemala City, Guatemala, 9 - 13 May 2011). • NACC/DCA/4 Meeting Report (San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 20 - 24 June 2011).	
Strategic Objectives	<i>This working paper is related to Strategic Objectives A and C.</i>

1. Introduction

1.1 In mid-2011, ICAO updated its position for the WRC-2012 with several updates which were disseminated to all focal points who were nominated by their States.

1.2 The NACC/WG/3 Meeting invited the States/Territories/International Organizations to follow-up all the reviews and the final version of this position with its National Authorities in charge of Radiofrequencies Spectrum Management.

1.3 The ITU Radio Communication Conference 2012 (WRC-12), was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 23 January to 17 February 2012.

1.4 Three aviation coordination meetings were organized by the ICAO delegation during the conference. About seventy-five aviation experts attended those meetings. Support for the ICAO Position was coordinated during the meetings, taking into account the developments during the conference. Coordination and promotion of the ICAO policy during the conference was also performed on a more bilateral basis, including individuals, various industry groups and representing spectrum administrations.

2. States Support to the ICAO Position for the WRC-2012

2.1 The follow-up to this support is given through the implementation of activities contained in the Performance Objective of No. 8 - *Protection and optimum use of radiofrequency spectrum* under the NAM/CAR RPBANIP and the ICAO NAM/CAR/SAM Regional Preparatory Meeting (NCSRPM) for ITU WRC-2012. (Mexico City, Mexico, 21-22 April 2010) and the coordination with focal points designated by the States.

2.2 The Fourth Meeting of the NACC Directors of Civil Aviation (NACC/DCA/4) recognized the importance of the radiofrequency spectrum as a scarce resource with finite capacity limits with constantly increasing demand, and a critical aspect for civil aviation safety, the effective implementation of existing and future communications, navigation and surveillance systems and air traffic management.

2.3 The NACC/DCA/4 reiterated the support of the States to the ICAO ITU World Radio Communication Conference 2012 (WRC-12) as required in the Resolution A36-25 – *Support of the ICAO policy on radio frequency spectrum matters*, GREPECAS Conclusion 15/46 – *CAR/SAM Regional Action Plan for the Preparation and Support of the ICAO Position for WRC-12*, and NACC/DCA Conclusion 3/6 – *NAM/CAR States Support to the ICAO Position for the ITU WRC-12*

2.4 In this sense, the NACC/DCA/4 agreed to replace the NACC/DCA Conclusion 3/6 with the following conclusion:

CONCLUSION 4/3 SUPPORT TO ICAO POSITION FOR THE ITU WRC-2012

To support the ICAO Position for the ITU Radio Communication Conference 2012 (WRC-2012), that States/Territories/International Organizations of the NAM/CAR Regions:

- a) follow-up and coordinate with their National Radiofrequency Spectrum Management Authorities on the revised ICAO position;
- b) continue participation in the ITU meetings in support of the ICAO position; and
- c) actively participate in the WRC-2012 Meeting to support the ICAO position.

3. Results of WRC-2012 regarding ICAO Position

3.1 In general, the conference results conformed to the ICAO Position. The results of the WRC-12 are presented in **Appendix A** of this paper, highlighting:

- **WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.3:** spectrum requirements to support the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in non-segregated airspace.
A new allocation to the aeronautical mobile (route) service (AM(R)S) in support of UAS was agreed in the band 5 030 – 5 091 MHz, the core band for the operation of the microwave landing system (MLS).
The new AM(R)S allocation, in addition to serving the needs of the UAS, reinforces the claim of aviation to remain the prime user of this band while preserving the current priority access for the MLS. An existing allocation to the aeronautical mobile satellite (route) service (AMS(R)S) in the band 5 000 – 5 150 MHz was similarly modified to be limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems.
- **WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.4:** to finalize new allocations made to the aeronautical mobile (route) service during WRC-07 (112 – 117.975 and 960 – 1164 MHz). These new allocations will be shared with existing allocations to the Aeronautical Radio Navigation Service (ARNS) in a manner which does not burden existing and future implementations of ARNS systems. The new allocations pave the way for more efficient and flexible aeronautical use of these frequency bands while adding a layer of protection for civil aviation use by means of the new radio regulatory requirement; that systems using these bands need to be ICAO standardized.

Also no additional allocation was made in support of the new aeronautical airport surface system keeping the 59 MHz wide allocation assigned in WRC-07.

- **WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.7:** issue of access to the bands 1 545 - 1 555 MHz and 1 646.5 - 1 656.5 MHz for AMS(R)S users. A satisfactory consensus was found and several provisions were approved that, taken together, achieve the purpose of strengthening AMS(R)S access, as requested by the ICAO Position.

3.2 A significant element in the ICAO preparatory activities for this conference was the early awareness and involvement of Member States in the development of the ICAO Position. Major factors contributing to this achievement included:

- the early development and dissemination of the draft ICAO Position by ICAO and the assigned Points of Contact (PoC) – **Appendix B** to this paper;
- the active participation by ICAO experts in the preparatory work of the ITU, including the relevant meetings of the ITU-R;
- increased participation by ICAO experts in the meetings of the regional telecommunication organizations (APT, CEPT, CITEL, ATU). The involvement and assistance of the regional offices proved important in supporting the development of proposals by the regional telecommunication organizations to the conference which were in line with the ICAO Position;

- the organization of ACP working group meetings and ICAO radio frequency seminars in the regions;
- the implementation of Assembly Resolution A36-25; and
- the active participation of the ICAO delegation at the conference itself, during which the ICAO Position was often challenged, allowed ICAO to counter and refute numerous proposals that would adversely impact aeronautical spectrum.

4. Preparation for the ICAO Position for the WRC-2015

4.1 An expeditious start of the ICAO preparatory activities for the next conference in 2015 is now essential. The ACP Working Group F will develop an initial draft of the ICAO Position by December 2012, for approval by 2013. A number of aviation-relevant items were put on the agenda for WRC-15, including the issues outlined below:

- Appropriate frequency spectrum needs to be identified and made available for Wireless avionics intra-communications (WAIC) on a worldwide basis (WAIC) system.
- In support of additional spectrum requirements to support UAS operations in a safe manner in non-segregated airspace, an agenda item was assigned to WRC-15 to develop regulatory actions to support the use of FSS frequency bands for UAS command and control links, while ensuring the safe operation of UAS in non-segregated airspace, consistent with the provision of a safety service, making reference to No. 4.10 in the Radio Regulations.
- WRC-12 approved a new Resolution, addressing the support of civil aviation VSAT communications in the 3.4 – 4.2 GHz band (C-band) in the AFI region. The Resolution calls for ITU-R studies on technical and regulatory measures to support the existing and future aeronautical and meteorological use of VSAT in the C-band, calling for a review of the results of the studies and an action by WRC-15 as appropriate.
- the subject of spectrum requirements for new allocations for the mobile service, including broadband wireless access (BWA) and the international mobile telecommunications (IMT). It is expected that the proponents of many of the WRC-15 agenda items will consider and propose potential sharing or use of aeronautical spectrum in one or more bands.

5. Optimum use of Regional Radiofrequency spectrum

5.1 For the optimum use of radiofrequency spectrum assigned to the aviation the frequency assignments lists 1, 2 and 3 have been updated and informed to the CAR Region States through NACC State Letter Ref. EMX0075 dated 26 January 2012. The mentioned lists are available in the ICAO NACC Regional Office web page (<http://www.mexico.icao.int>) under section *Regional Data Bases – Radio Frequency Assignment Lists*. Also, additional information has been updated to these lists and the references included in the CAR/SAM Air Navigation Plan (Doc 8733) and explanatory notes of these lists.

6. Suggested actions

6.1 The meeting is invited to encourage the States to:

- a) take note of the results of the WRC-2012 as detailed in Appendix A;
- b) confirm the focal points to support ICAO position to the ITU Radio Communications World Conferences as detailed in Appendix B;
- c) inform in coordination with their National Authorities managing the radio spectrum of any relevant consideration, which may affect the use and the radio electric protection spectrum;
- d) inform any update to the frequency assignment lists, as indicated in paragraph 5.1; and
- e) continue with the participation in the ITU meetings in support to ICAO position, in order to ensure active participation supporting the ICAO position.

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APPENDIX A



International Civil Aviation Organization

ACP WG-F/26 IP01

INFORMATION PAPER

26TH Meeting of the Aeronautical Communication Panel Working Group F (ACP WG-F/26)

Agenda Item 2.

Outcome of WRC-12 – General

REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE ITU WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE (2012) (WRC-12)

(Presented by the Secretary)

SUMMARY

This information paper presents the results of the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference (2012) (WRC-12) (23 January to 17 February 2012, Geneva, Switzerland).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference (2012) (WRC-12) was held from 23 January to 17 February 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. The ICAO Delegation to the conference included an RO/CNS, ICAO WACAF Office (first two weeks), an RO/CNS, ICAO ESAF Office (final week) and two TOs/CNS from Headquarters (full time).

1.2 In total, over 3 100 delegates from 165 ITU Member States and 45 international organizations participated in the work of the conference.

1.3 Three aviation coordination meetings were organized by the ICAO Delegation during the conference. About 75 aviation experts attended those meetings. Support for the ICAO Position was coordinated during the meetings, taking into account the developments during the conference.

1.4 Coordination and promotion of the ICAO policy during the conference was also performed on a more bilateral basis, including individuals various industry groups and representing spectrum administrations.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Frequency spectrum is a finite and limited resource, managed by the International Telecommunication Union, through its World Radiocommunication Conferences, held every three to four years.

2.2 Availability of the necessary radio frequency spectrum continues to be a prerequisite for the safety of civil aviation and the effective implementation of the communications, navigation, and surveillance/air traffic management (CNS/ATM) systems. However, as demand for radio spectrum from non-aviation users keeps growing, aviation faces ever increasing competition for the limited available spectrum, in particular from mobile and broadband wireless access services. It is essential that aviation's requirements for radio frequency spectrum be strongly supported by all ICAO Member States in all international fora, where spectrum allocations are addressed, so as to ensure that aviation requirements for safety of live services are duly presented and understood.

2.3 ICAO policies and practices related to the radio frequency spectrum matters are outlined in Assembly Resolution A36-25, which urges ICAO Contracting States to support aviation requirements for spectrum and instructs ICAO to make sufficient resources available to enable increased participation in spectrum management activities.

2.4 **Summary of the main significant efforts made during the lead up to WRC-12:**

2.4.1 Development and distribution of ICAO Position:

- a) Initially developed in 2008 by ACP; reviewed by the Air Navigation Commission (179-10); submitted to ICAO Contracting States and international organizations for comment, approved by Council (187/9) on 22 June 2009;
- b) State letter E 3/5-09/61;
- c) subsequent update to reflect the progress of studies within ITU and the ACP; reviewed by the Air Navigation Commission (187-2); approved by Council (187/9) on 22 June 2009;
- d) State letter E 3/5-11/59; and
- e) ICAO Position submitted to the ITU WRC-07 on 11 August 2011 and placed on ICAO website for public reference.

2.4.2 ICAO Secretariat preparatory activities (missions) to promote the ICAO Position and spectrum policy, to secure adequate support in the preparatory work leading up to WRC-12:

- a) Support of ITU-Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) work activities, including ITU-R Study Groups 4 and 5, Working Parties 4C and 5B, CPM-11/2, RA-12; on average 9 man weeks per year.
- b) Support of the WRC-12 preparatory activities of regional telecommunication organizations¹; on average 5 man weeks per year.
- c) Meetings of ACP WG-F (frequency) in conjunction with frequency spectrum workshops for aviation professionals in the ICAO regional offices; on average 4 man weeks per year.

¹ African Telecommunication Union (ATU), Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL).

3. RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE AGENDA ITEMS RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION

3.1 Details of the results of the conference on all agenda items relevant to aviation are contained in the Appendix to this paper. In summary, the main results for civil aviation are as follows:

3.2 This WRC continued the trend set by the last conference, towards increased flexibility of aeronautical spectrum allocations. This was mainly achieved under agenda items 1.3 and 1.4 of the conference, by enabling the sharing of spectrum between aeronautical mobile (route) allocations and aeronautical radionavigation allocations, while limiting the use of such shared allocations to systems which operate in accordance with ICAO SARPs.

3.3 WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.3

3.3.1 This agenda item was to consider spectrum requirements to support the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in non segregated airspace.

3.3.2 A new allocation to the aeronautical mobile (route) service (AM(R)S) in support of UAS was agreed in the band 5 030 – 5 091 MHz, the core band for the operation of the microwave landing system (MLS). There has been very limited implementation of MLS to date, and therefore the band had lately been subject to increasing attention and interest by other frequency spectrum users. The new AM(R)S allocation, in addition to serving the needs of the UAS, reinforces the claim of aviation to remain the prime user of this band, while preserving the current priority access for the MLS. As a further measure to protect civil aviation access to this band, use of this new AM(R)S allocation is limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems. An existing allocation to the aeronautical mobile satellite (route) service (AMS(R)S) in the band 5 000 – 5 150 MHz was similarly modified to be limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems.

3.3.3 The use of fixed satellite service (FSS) spectrum allocations to support the safe integration of UAS in non-segregated airspace received much interest during the conference and several proposals were developed and addressed, some of which were of much concern to the ICAO delegation as they attempted to circumvent the fundamental principle of *safeguarding life and property*, as defined in the ITU Constitution and the Radio Regulations. FSS is not defined as a safety service, and, due to lack of effective radio regulatory measures, FSS frequency coordination and interference mitigation relies to a large extent on voluntary commercially motivated cooperation between the various FSS operators. Finally a compromise was struck, where by the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) was instructed to conduct studies to identify appropriate technical, regulatory and operational recommendations, and an agenda item for WRC-15 was agreed, addressing possible regulatory actions to support use of FSS frequency bands for UAS communication and control links, based on the results of the ITU-R studies and consistent with the requirements of a safety service. It is essential that ICAO actively contributes and participates in these studies to ensure a favourable outcome for civil aviation.

Appendix, paragraphs 3 and 12 refer.

3.4 WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.4

3.4.1 Under this agenda item, it was sought to finalize new allocations made to the aeronautical mobile (route) service during WRC-07.

3.4.2 Further regulatory measures were made to finalize the provisional allocations made at WRC-07 to the AM(R)S in the frequency bands 112 – 117.975 and 960 – 1164 MHz. These new

allocations will be shared with existing allocations to the aeronautical radionavigation service (ARNS) in a manner which does not burden existing and future implementations of ARNS systems. The new allocations pave the way for more efficient and flexible aeronautical use of these frequency bands, while adding a layer of protection for civil aviation use by means of the new radio regulatory requirement; that systems using these bands need to be ICAO standardized.

3.4.3 At WRC-07, a 59 MHz wide allocation was made to the new aeronautical air/ground airport surface communications system currently being standardized for use in the 5 GHz band. One of the tasks before this conference was whether this system needed more spectrum, and if so, whether an additional allocation could be made. Due to heavy pressures from potentially affected users of the spectrum under scrutiny, mainly GNSS interests, the conference could not come to an agreement on this issue, and no additional allocation was made in support of the new aeronautical airport surface system.

Appendix, paragraph 4 refers.

3.5 **WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.7**

3.5.1 Under agenda Item 1.7, the Conference addressed the long-standing issue of access to the bands 1 545 - 1 555 MHz and 1 646.5 - 1 656.5 MHz for AMS(R)S users. In those bands, AMS(R)S users are given priority of access over other satellite users (land mobile and maritime mobile) through appropriate provisions of the Radio Regulations. However, the practical effectiveness of the procedures for the application of those provisions was questionable. The procedures were not in the public domain (they were based on confidential agreements among satellite operators), nor were the outcomes of the application of the procedure (i.e. the final spectrum assignments to different users). The overall lack of transparency of the process had been challenged by ICAO and others on several occasions, most recently at WRC-07. WRC-07 therefore agreed that the matter should be on the agenda of WRC-12.

3.5.2 The issue remained very controversial throughout the ITU-R study cycle leading up to the conference. However, at the Conference a satisfactory consensus was found, and several provisions were approved that, taken together, achieve the purpose of strengthening AMS(R)S access, as requested by the ICAO position. Specifically, the conference introduced in the Radio Regulations a detailed Annex describing the procedures for the application of the AMS(R)S priority, and accepted the optional involvement of ICAO in the validation of the AMS(R)S traffic requirements (if requested by an AMS(R)S operator). The former provision effectively addresses the transparency issue, while the latter provides additional support for AMS(R)S operators' claims to spectrum and reinforces their position when claiming priority over other users.

Appendix, paragraph 5 refers.

3.6 A number of aviation relevant items were put on the agenda for WRC-15, including the following:

3.6.1 Wireless avionics intra-communications (WAIC) systems have been identified by the aerospace industry as a means to increase cost-efficiency and environmental friendliness while maintaining required levels of safety, through the reduction of aircraft weight through the use of wireless technology and by the introduction of sensors/ transducers on parts of the airframe hitherto not easily accessible, potentially making more efficient airframe designs possible. To support this important initiative by the aerospace industry, appropriate frequency spectrum needs to be identified and made available for WAIC on a worldwide basis.

3.6.2 In support of additional spectrum requirements to support UAS operations in a safe manner in non segregated airspace, an agenda item was assigned to WRC-15, to develop regulatory

actions to support the use of FSS frequency bands for UAS command and control links, while ensuring the safe operation of UAS in non-segregated airspace, consistent with the provision of a safety service, making reference to No. **4.10** in the Radio Regulations. See also paragraph 3.3.

3.6.3 WRC-12 approved a new Resolution, addressing the support of civil aviation VSAT communications in the 3.4 – 4.2 GHz band (C-band) in the AFI region. The resolution addresses concerns related to the increasing demand from mobile system operators and other parties for access to the bands used by civil aviation VSAT communications, which could potentially threaten the continued availability of VSAT frequencies for civil aviation use. The Resolution calls for ITU-R studies on technical and regulatory measures to support the existing and future aeronautical and meteorological use of VSAT in the C-band. While there is no specific agenda item at WRC-15 for this issue, the Resolution calls for a review of the results of the studies and an action by WRC-15 as appropriate. The results of the studies will be reported to the WRC-15 through the report of the Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau.

3.6.4 Finally, what is probably the most critical and far-reaching item on the agenda for WRC-15, is to address spectrum requirements for new allocations for the mobile service, including broadband wireless access (BWA) and the international mobile telecommunications (IMT). It is expected that the proponents of many of the WRC-15 agenda items will consider and propose potential sharing or use of aeronautical spectrum in one or more bands.

Appendix, paragraph 17 refers.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 In general, the conference results conformed to the ICAO Position. A significant element in the ICAO preparatory activities for this conference was the early awareness and involvement of Contracting States in the development of the ICAO Position. Major factors contributing to this achievement included:

- a) the early development and dissemination of the draft ICAO Position by the Secretariat and the Air Navigation Commission, assisted by ACP Working Group F and the NSP Spectrum sub-group;
- b) the active participation by ICAO experts in the preparatory work of the ITU, including the relevant meetings of the ITU-R (e.g. Study Groups 4 and 5, including the relevant Working Parties, as well as the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM));
- c) the increased participation by ICAO experts in the meetings of the regional telecommunication organizations (APT, CEPT, CITEL, ATU). The involvement and assistance of the regional offices proved important in supporting the development of proposals by the regional telecommunication organizations to the conference which were in line with the ICAO Position;
- d) organization of ACP working group meetings and ICAO radio frequency seminars in the regions;
- e) the implementation of Assembly Resolution A36-25; and

- f) active participation of the ICAO Delegation at the conference itself, during which the ICAO Position was often challenged, allowed ICAO to counter and refute numerous proposals that would adversely impact aeronautical spectrum.

4.2 An expeditious start of the ICAO preparatory activities for the next conference in 2015 is now essential. Working Group F of the Aeronautical Communications Panel will develop an initial draft of the ICAO Position by December 2012. A final review of the ICAO Position by the Air Navigation Commission, and a subsequent approval by the Council, is foreseen in 2013.

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APPENDIX

WRC-12 RESULTS OF RELEVANCE TO INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION

1. Agenda Item 1.1: To consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account Resolution 26 (Rev. WRC-07).

1.1 Under this agenda item, the ICAO Position supported the deletion of footnote No. **5.72** which allowed for the use of the bands 283.5 - 490 and 510 - 526.5 kHz by Norwegian fixed stations located north of 60°. Aeronautical Non-directional Beacons (NDB) operate in these bands. This footnote was deleted by the conference.

1.2 Footnotes Nos. **5.181**, **5.197** and **5.259** were introduced in about twenty countries in 1987 in view of the foreseen global transition from ILS to MLS and were intended to enable the introduction of the mobile service in the ILS bands as and when these would no longer be required for ILS. However, it has been apparent for a while that a global transition to MLS is not taking place as originally foreseen and that ILS will continue to be used by aviation for the foreseeable future. Therefore the existence of these footnotes is no longer justified. Most administrations have already removed their name from these footnotes at previous conferences, and this trend continued further during this conference.

1.3 The band 1 215 - 1 300 MHz is used by civil aviation for the provision of radionavigation services (primary radar) through footnote No. **5.331**. Footnote No. **5.330** also allocates the band in a number of countries to the fixed and mobile service. Given the receiver sensitivity of aeronautical uses of the band, ICAO does not support the continued inclusion of an additional service through country footnotes. Some country names were removed from Footnote No. **5.330** as a result of the conference, but the names of Djibouti, Egypt and Oman were added.

1.4 The ICAO Position supported the deletion of footnotes **5.362B** and **5.362C** which allocate the GNSS band 1 559-1 610 MHz on a secondary basis to the (terrestrial) fixed service in certain countries until 1 January 2015, after which time this allocation to the fixed service shall no longer be valid. The continued use by the fixed service constitutes a severe constraint on the safe and effective use of GNSS in some areas of the world, as coordination distances of up to 400 km between the stations of the fixed service and the aircraft would be required. Ten countries removed their names from footnotes **5.362B** and **5.362C** during WRC-12. This was a significant step forward towards achieving better worldwide protection of GNSS.

1.5 The band 4 200-4 400 MHz is reserved for use by airborne radio altimeters. Footnote No. **5.439** allows the operation of the fixed service in this band on a secondary basis. Radio altimeters are a critical element in aircraft automatic landing systems and serve as a sensor in ground proximity warning systems. The ICAO Position recommended deletion of this footnote. As a result of this conference, only one country now remains in this footnote, Iran (Islamic Republic of).

2 Agenda Item 1.2: Taking into account the ITU-R studies carried out in accordance with Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07), to take appropriate action with a view to enhancing the international regulatory framework.

2.1 The ICAO Position on this agenda item was to support new provisions or modifications to existing provisions that improve the flexibility with which spectrum allocated to aeronautical safety services can be used by aviation and/or tighten regulatory provisions that enhance the protection of aviation systems. Furthermore, the position was to ensure that any other measures taken at WRC-12 under this agenda item would not have an adverse impact on the use or protection of aeronautical systems.

2.2 No new radio regulatory measures were developed under this agenda item and Resolution 951, which described the studies to be performed under this agenda item, was suppressed. This was fully in line with the ICAO position. Also, in line with ICAO proposals, the WRC continued the trend set by the last conference, towards increased flexibility of aeronautical spectrum allocations. This was mainly achieved under agenda items 1.3 and 1.4 of this conference, by enabling the sharing of spectrum between aeronautical mobile (route) allocations and aeronautical radionavigation allocations, while limiting the use of such shared allocations to systems which operate in accordance with ICAO SARPs.

3 Agenda Item 1.3: To consider spectrum requirements and possible regulatory actions, including allocations, in order to support the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), based on the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolution 421 (WRC-07).

3.1 The ICAO Position was to support, based on the results of studies identified in Resolution 421, any modification to existing allocations, or new allocations required to accommodate UAS operations in non-segregated airspace while maintaining the safety and regularity of flight of all types of aircraft. Accordingly, the ICAO position was also to ensure that allocations used, in particular, for UAS command and control, ATC relay and sense and avoid in non-segregated airspace are in the aeronautical mobile (route) service (AM(R)S), aeronautical mobile satellite (route) service (AMS(R)S) and/or aeronautical radionavigation service (ARNS) and do not adversely affect existing aeronautical systems. Furthermore, the position was to oppose the use of this agenda item to seek new spectrum allocations to meet payload requirements.

3.2 In the preparations leading up to the conference, ITU-R studies, supported by ICAO, identified a requirement of 34 MHz of terrestrial spectrum and up to 56 MHz of satellite spectrum to support UAS line-of-sight (LOS) and beyond-line-of-sight (BLOS) command and control communications (C³) (the ITU equivalent terminology for C³ is Control and Non-Payload Communications (CNPC)).

3.2.1 For LOS links, the studies prior to the conference concentrated mainly on three potential candidate aeronautical safety bands: 960 – 1 164 MHz (DME band), 5 030 – 5 091 MHz (MLS band) and 15.4 – 15.5 GHz (ARNS band).

3.2.2 For BLOS links the main focus was on the 5 030 – 5 091 MHz band, which already has an appropriate AMS(R)S allocation which could support such use, and existing allocations to the Fixed Satellite Service in the 11/12/14 GHz (Ku) 20/30 GHz (Ka) bands.

3.3 The methods addressed during the conference concentrated mainly on the 5 GHz band for both LOS and BLOS, as well as existing FSS allocations in the Ku and Ka bands in support of BLOS. In the light of the mounting pressures from other services (IMT and BWA in particular) and the very limited implementation of MLS to date, aviation supported the shared use of the 5 GHz MLS band for the provision of both LOS and BLOS services, while maintaining a priority to MLS use in this band. On the

other hand, ICAO did strongly oppose the use of little modified FSS allocations, without additional special radio regulatory provisions to reflect the safety-of-life criticality of BLOS C³ links in support of UAS.

3.3.1 In addition to safety through technically robust links as defined in relevant ICAO SARPs, the provision of aeronautical safety services relies on the use of AM(R)S and AMS(R)S allocations. AM(R)S and AMS(R)S are defined in the Radio Regulations as services *used permanently or temporarily for the safeguarding of human life and property*, and as such, any frequency bands providing safety of life services enjoy special measures in the Radio Regulations to ensure freedom from interference and to mitigate any eventual interference through swift regulatory action by the responsible radio regulators. This is reflected in No. **4.10**.

3.4 On the other hand, FSS is not defined as a safety service, and, due to lack of existing and effective radio regulatory measures, FSS frequency coordination and interference mitigation relies today, to a large extent, on voluntary commercially motivated cooperation between FSS operators.

3.5 The results of the conference were:

3.5.1 LOS: While retaining priority to the MLS service in the 5 030 – 5 091 MHz band, this band was also allocated to the AM(R)S, limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems. Unwanted emissions from the AM(R)S in this band shall be limited to protect RNSS system downlinks in the adjacent 5 010 – 5 030 MHz band (future GNSS service and user downlink band).

3.5.2 BLOS: An existing allocation to the AMS(R)S in the 5 000 – 5 150 MHz band was slightly modified. In the bands 5 000 – 5 030 MHz and 5 091 – 5 150 MHz, the allocation was limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems. In the band 5 030 – 5 091 MHz, coordination procedures were modified from No. **9.21** to No. **9.11A** which is more appropriate for coordination with terrestrial services, and the allocation was limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems.

3.5.3 In line with WRC-07, and as reflected further under agenda item 1.4 during this conference; when making allocations to AM(R)S in bands already allocated to ARNS and used by ICAO standardized systems, it was acknowledged that compatibility between ICAO standardized systems would be taken care of within ICAO. Hence these new AM(R)S and AMS(R)S allocations are limited to internationally standardized aeronautical systems.

3.5.4 The conference did not support the allocation or use of FSS spectrum for the provision of BLOS C³, without substantive modifications to such allocations. Such required modifications were not identified at the conference. However, a study item was assigned to the upcoming ITU-R cycle; to identify technical, regulatory and operational recommendations, and an agenda item for WRC-15 was agreed; to consider, based on the result of the ITU-R studies, the possible regulatory actions to support the use of FSS frequency bands for the UAS C³ links, while ensuring the safe operation of UAS C³ links, consistent with the provision of a safety service, making reference to No. **4.10**. ICAO was invited to participate in the ITU-R studies.

3.5.5 As a consequence of the above, Resolution **421** (WRC-07) was suppressed. The above results are fully in line with the ICAO position.

4 Agenda Item 1.4: To consider, based on the results of ITU-R studies, any further regulatory measures to facilitate introduction of new aeronautical mobile (R) service (AM(R)S) systems in the bands 112 - 117.975 MHz, 960 - 1 164 MHz and 5 000 - 5 030 MHz in accordance with Resolutions 413 (Rev. WRC-07), 417 (WRC-07) and 420 (WRC-07).

4.1 Three separate issues were addressed under this item:

4.2 112 – 117.975 MHz

4.2.1 In order to support future requirements for air-ground communications, in particular to extend the current usage of the band 117.975-137 MHz in congested areas (e.g. Europe), WRC-07 made a provisional AM(R)S allocation in the 108 – 117.975 MHz band, pending further studies before WRC-12.

4.2.2 ITU-R, with the assistance of ICAO, has studied any potential compatibility issues between the analogue broadcasting and AM(R) services that may arise from the introduction of AM(R)S systems in the band 112 – 117.975 MHz. The result of these studies confirms that no harmful interference will arise from the introduction of AM(R)S in the band 112 – 117.975 MHz into analogue FM broadcasting receivers below 108 MHz and that both services can operate on a compatible basis. Regarding the compatibility with digital broadcasting service below 108 MHz, it was agreed to pursue this matter under traditional ITU-R activities and outside the WRC process.

4.2.3 Consequentially the allocation was confirmed and Resolution **413** was amended accordingly. It should be noted that this new AM(R)S allocation is shared with the ARNS in a manner that fully protects the ARNS. Furthermore, the allocation is limited to systems which meet ICAO SARPs published in Annex 10 to the ICAO Convention.

4.3 960 – 1 164 MHz

4.3.1 WRC-07 made a provisional AM(R)S allocation in the band 960 – 1 164 MHz to support the introduction of future applications and concepts in air traffic management requiring safety critical aeronautical communication. While recognizing that ICAO will take care of compatibility issues between ICAO standardized ARNS and AM(R)S systems sharing this allocation, ITU-R has conducted studies on operational and technical means to facilitate sharing between non-ICAO ARNS systems and the potential future AM(R)S systems identified to operate in the frequency band 960 – 1 164 MHz.

4.3.2 The results of the ITU-R studies provide separation distances below which site-specific compatibility studies should be performed in order to ensure that in particular the non-ICAO standardized ARNS systems operating in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine remain protected.

4.3.3 Consequentially the allocation was confirmed and Resolution **417** was amended accordingly. It should be noted that this new AM(R)S allocation is shared with the ARNS in a manner that fully protects the existing and future use of ARNS in this frequency allocation. Furthermore, the allocation is limited to systems which meet ICAO SARPs published in Annex 10 to the ICAO Convention. Coordination procedures to protect the non-ICAO ARNS system identified above, were defined in a manner which ensures that affected countries respond to coordination requests, as a non-reply is considered as acknowledgement of being unaffected.

4.4 5 GHz air/ground aeronautical surface (WiMAX) system

4.4.1 Studies for WRC-07 indicated that 60 – 100 MHz were required for the new air/ground aeronautical surface (sometimes branded as AeroMACS) system planned in the 5 GHz band. WRC-07 allocated 5 091 – 5 150 MHz to the AM(R)S. This 59 MHz wide allocation is shared with the existing ARNS, fixed satellite service (FSS), aeronautical mobile telemetry, and an aeronautical security (AS) application which was pushed by some members of the aeronautical industry during WRC-07.

4.4.2 ITU-R studies in preparation for WRC-12 have focused on two issues; a) whether more spectrum was required for this service; b) compatibility studies to identify whether the this service could share the band 5 000 – 5 030 MHz, or parts of that band, without undue impact to other existing or planned services.

4.4.3 As regards a), the outcome of further studies in ITU-R and ICAO indicated that the 59 MHz shared allocation is not sufficient. ACP WG-F has concluded that about 90 MHz would be required to provide the necessary bandwidth for all the envisaged air/ground applications to be supported by the new service. The basis for these results is a method which satisfies the present sharing conditions with the existing low earth orbit (LEO) FSS, as specified in footnote No. **5.444A**. To satisfy these stringent sharing conditions, the methodology is based on a maximum of 500 airports being visible to the satellite footprint, and only 1 transmitter being active on each frequency, at each airport at any given instant in time. Recently a different methodology was introduced in ITU-R, this methodology proposing a *frequency reuse of one*, in essence multiple transmitters being active simultaneously on the same frequency at each airport. Frequency reuse of one is a new development in the mobile or broadband industry, its standards are still immature, and the technology is unproven as regards achievable quality of service performance. The IEEE 802.16(2009) standard, which the aeronautical SARPs currently under development are based on, is technically capable of using a frequency reuse of one methodology. A recent ITU-R report indicates that such frequency reuse requires 20 to 30 dB higher transmitting power per transmitter for appropriate signal/noise shaping. This method makes no attempt at trying to satisfy existing radio regulatory sharing conditions, to protect the FSS (earth-Space) feederlink present in the band.

4.4.3.1 As regards b), the frequency band 5 000 – 5 010 MHz is used as a global navigation satellite service (GNSS) (earth-Space) feederlink for Galileo (Europe) and QZSS (Japan). 5 010 – 5 030 MHz is planned for GNSS service and user links (space-Earth). During the ITU-R studies which commenced after WRC-07, it was agreed, due to the current immaturity of GNSS user and service link requirements, to concentrate only the band 5 000 – 5 010 MHz as a potential additional frequency allocation to the new aeronautical surface service in the 5 GHz band. The agreed ITU-R studies confirm that sharing in the band 5 000 – 5 010 MHz is feasible, given similar conditions as were used to establish compatibility with the FSS in the band 5 091 – 5 150 MHz.

4.4.4 During the WRC it became apparent that an additional allocation of 10 MHz in the 5 GHz band was only supported by USA and African States, while there was very strong opposition from other Regions. Aviation in general did not appear to have a strong opinion on this issue, while the GNSS community was strongly represented. The allocation WRC-07 made to the AS within the 5 091 – 5 150 MHz band was revoked by this conference. This slightly improves the spectrum access available to the AM(R)S allocation for the air/ground aeronautical surface system in the band 5 091 – 5 150 MHz.

4.5 Overall results

4.5.1 Overall, agenda item 1.4 can be declared a success. The new AM(R)S allocations in the 108 – 117.975 MHz and 960 – 1 164 MHz bands, will be shared with existing ARNS in a manner which does not burden existing and foreseen future implementations of the ARNS. These new allocations pave the way for more efficient and flexible aeronautical use of these frequency bands, and also add a radio regulatory requirement for ICAO standardized systems in these bands. While it was not possible to get a 10 MHz wide additional allocation for the 5 GHz air/ground airport surface system during this conference, indications are that States which require additional bandwidth to support very large airports will have access to additional spectrum through use of Article 4.4 of the Radio Regulations. Also, WRC-15 will re-examine the FSS allocation currently present in the 5 091 – 5 150 MHz band.

5 Agenda Item 1.5: To consider worldwide/regional harmonization of spectrum for electronic news gathering (ENG), taking into account the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolution 954 (WRC-07).

5.1 This agenda item was to address spectrum needs associated with terrestrial portable radio equipment used by services ancillary to radio and television broadcasting. Despite considerable efforts made by the proponents for electronic news gathering, the conference did not agree to modifications to the Radio Regulations in support of this agenda item. The ICAO Position, to oppose any allocation which would adversely affect the interests of aviation, is fully covered by this outcome.

6 Agenda Item 1.7: To consider the results of ITU-R studies in accordance with Resolution 222 (Rev. WRC-07) in order to ensure long-term spectrum availability and access to spectrum necessary to meet requirements for the aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service, and to take appropriate action on this subject, while retaining unchanged the generic allocation to the mobile-satellite service in the bands 1 525 - 1 559 MHz and 1 626.5 - 1 660.5 MHz.

6.1 The ICAO position on this agenda item was to support further regulatory provisions to strengthen AMS(R)S access to the bands 1 545 - 1 555 MHz and 1 646.5 - 1 656.5 MHz including, if required, changes to No. 5.357A, No. 5.362A and Resolution 222 and taking into account the results of ITU-R studies.

6.2 Before WRC-97 the bands 1 545 - 1 555 MHz and 1 646.5 - 1 656.5 MHz were allocated exclusively to the AMS(R)S, and therefore access by AMS(R)S users was intrinsically guaranteed by the Radio Regulations. Following the WRC-97 decision to replace the exclusive AMS(R)S allocation with a “generic” allocation to the mobile-satellite service (MSS), which forced sharing of the bands with maritime and land-mobile users, such guarantee was no longer available. Instead, an alternative footnote No 5.357A was introduced to partially compensate for the loss of the exclusive allocation by giving AMS(R)S users priority of access to the band. The wording of the footnote and of the associated Resolution 222 were subsequently (WRC-2000) strengthened to state explicitly that MSS operators carrying non-safety-related traffic must yield spectrum if necessary to accommodate the spectrum requirements for AMS(R)S communications.

6.3 Since WRC-2000, the effectiveness of those provisions to ensure that AMS(R)S spectrum requirements are consistently met was challenged several times by at least one AMS(R)S operator. WRC-07 therefore agreed that the matter should be on the agenda of WRC-12.

6.4 The studies conducted by the ITU-R in preparation of WRC-12 concentrated on two main issues.

6.4.1 The first was whether the 1 545 - 1 555 MHz and 1 646.5 - 1 656.5 MHz bands (2 x 10 MHz in total) would be sufficient to accommodate the long-term spectrum requirements for the

AMS(R)S. The conclusion was that the bands would be sufficient, as long as AMS(R)S users were granted priority access to the bands (if necessary by forcing other users to vacate them).

6.4.2 The second and closely related issue was whether the regulatory provisions of footnote No 5.357A and Resolution 222 were strong enough to ensure that AMS(R)S users were indeed granted priority access to the bands. The issue had arisen because, while those provisions unequivocally supported the priority access principle, there were doubts as to the effectiveness of the procedures for their application. The doubt were mainly related to the facts that such procedures were based on regional Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) governing the assignment of spectrum to MSS operators (including AMS(R)S), and that the content of the MoU was not in the public domain. Furthermore, the assignments agreed under the provisions of the MoU were not in the public domain either. This situation had led to conflicting claims as to whether AMS(R)S requirements were being met or not. Such claims could not be arbitrated by external parties, such as ICAO, due to the intrinsic lack of transparency of the process. On this second issue, the ITU-R studies did not reach a consensual conclusion. This divergence of views was reflected in the proposals submitted to the conference. While some proposals claimed that the issue did not exist and therefore no action was required, others (in line with the ICAO position) disagreed and advocated the introduction of a more transparent process, and in particular the involvement of ICAO.

6.5 The outcome of the conference favoured the ICAO position. Specifically, the conference agreed a substantial modification of Resolution 222, introducing the following changes:

- a) administrations, if they so desire, are invited to have their AMS(R)S traffic requirements submitted to ICAO before the yearly MoU meetings in which spectrum assignments in the band are agreed for the following year;
- b) ICAO is invited to evaluate and, as appropriate, comment on the AMS(R)S traffic requirements received from individual administrations, on the basis of the known global and regional aviation traffic requirements, including the time-scale of regional and global communication requirements;
- c) a new detailed Annex to the Resolution spells out the existing procedures in detail, with substantial modifications intended to ensure the transparency of the process, such as a requirement for administrations to make known the result of the spectrum assignment meetings, and the introduction of a “Reassessment Meeting” to be held if an administration claims that their AMS(R)S spectrum requirements have not been met (with a view assess the validity of the claim and subsequently redress the situation if required).

6.6 Taken together, the changes achieve the purpose of strengthening AMS(R)S access, as required by the ICAO position. The introduction of the detailed Annex effectively addresses the long-standing issue of transparency. The optional involvement of ICAO in the validation of the AMS(R)S traffic requirements provides additional support for AMS(R)S operators’ claims to spectrum and reinforces their position in the MoU meeting

7 Agenda Item 1.9: To revise frequencies and channelling arrangements of Appendix 17 to the Radio Regulations, in accordance with Resolution 351 (Rev. WRC-07), in order to implement new digital technologies for the maritime mobile service.

7.1 This agenda item sought to facilitate the introduction of new digital technologies in the HF frequency bands, as contained within Appendix 17 of the Radio Regulations. The ICAO Position was to ensure that the introduction of new modulation techniques and/or changes to the table contained in Appendix 17, does not cause harmful interference to the AM(R)S operating according to the table

contained in Appendix 27, and operating in frequency bands adjacent to those operated by the maritime service.

7.2 Modifications were made to Appendix 17, to accommodate wide band digital transmissions, using multiples of 3 kHz channels, in accordance with Recommendation ITU-R M.1798. Updates were also made to Article 52 *Special rules relating to the use of frequencies*, accordingly. These modifications do not affect AM(R)S spectrum, hence the updates are in line with the ICAO position.

8 Agenda Item 1.12: To protect the primary services in the band 37 - 38 GHz from interference resulting from aeronautical mobile service operations, taking into account the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolution 754 (WRC-07).

8.1 Prior to WRC-12, the frequency band 37 – 38 GHz contained a generic mobile allocation, shared with the fixed service as well as space research and fixed-satellite services. There has not been any aeronautical use of this band to date, however, prior to WRC-07, some concerns were raised about the potential incompatibility of aeronautical mobile use with other users in this band.

8.2 In 2007 the aerospace industry started developing a new concept, involving very low power point-to-point transmissions onboard aircraft to replace wiring and/or add sensors/transducers in locations on the airframe hitherto difficult to reach. During this early development phase, this frequency band was seen as a potential candidate band to support wireless avionics intra-communications (WAIC) systems. See also discussion on agenda item 8.2

8.3 Later, interest in this band was dropped by the aerospace industry, as preliminary R&D efforts indicated that lower frequency bands would have more favourable characteristics for WAIC use. Furthermore, the outcome of these studies indicated no realistic possibility of aeronautical mobile applications sharing this band with other users. As a result, WRC-12 modified the 37 – 38 GHz mobile allocation to exclude aeronautical mobile. Although the ICAO position was to support the use of technical protection limits to protect other services rather than excluding the band from aeronautical mobile, this outcome is not perceived as a substantive loss of aviation spectrum.

9 Agenda Item 1.14: To consider requirements for new applications in the radiolocation service and review allocations or regulatory provisions for implementation of the radiolocation service in the range 30 - 300 MHz, in accordance with Resolution 611 (WRC-07).

9.1 Under this agenda item, WRC-12 made an additional allocation to the Radiolocation service in the frequency band 154 – 156 MHz, by footnote. This frequency band is used by the fixed and mobile services, except aeronautical mobile. Aviation is not affected by this allocation.

10 Agenda Item 1.15: To consider possible allocations in the range 3 - 50 MHz to the radiolocation service for oceanographic radar applications, taking into account the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolution 612 (WRC-07).

10.1 WRC-12 allocated certain frequency ranges in the band 3 – 50 MHz for the use of oceanographic radars, on a secondary basis, allowing this technology to be used in a uniform manner, while not interfering with existing fixed and mobile services in those frequency ranges. The frequency ranges allocated are not used by the AM(R)S, hence there is no impact on aviation by these new allocations.

11 Agenda Item 1.19: To consider regulatory measures and their relevance, in order to enable the introduction of software-defined radio and cognitive radio systems, based on the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolution 956 (WRC-07).

11.1 The ICAO position was one of concern, that the new technologies, software-defined radio (SDR) and cognitive radio systems (CRS) may cause undue interference to other users, if appropriate regulatory measures were not taken. SDR is a radio using software as building blocks rather than hardware, and could potentially be modified with relatively little effort, to work outside its intended operational parameters. CRS operate by automatically adapting their transmission or reception parameters to communicate efficiently, avoiding interference with licensed or unlicensed users. For this technology to work in practice, CRS need to be able to detect all transmitters. Many aeronautical systems however are based on ground based transmitters providing service to airborne receivers. In such a case it is very possible for a cognitive radio to be beyond the line-of-sight of the transmitter, while still being within the line-of-sight of the airborne receiver, resulting in interference to that receiver.

11.2 The conference was of the firm view that SDR is a technology and not a service. Hence the conference did not consider any changes to the Radio Regulations to support the introduction of SDR. It is expected that national type approvals and licensing conditions for transmitters will cover this issue adequately.

11.3 While being of a similar view about CRS, the conference developed a new Recommendation **COM6/1** on the deployment and use of cognitive radio systems. This Recommendation asks administrations to actively participate in ITU-R studies on the implementation of CRS systems, as described in Resolution **ITU-R 58**, developed at the Radiocommunication Assembly, 16-20 January 2012 (RA-12).

11.4 These results satisfactorily cover the concerns addressed in the ICAO position.

12 Agenda Item 1.21: To consider a primary allocation to the radiolocation service in the band 15.4 - 15.7 GHz, taking into account the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolution 614 (WRC-07).

12.1 The frequency band 15.4 – 15.7 GHz is used by a variety of civil and military radionavigation and radar systems, including weather radars and airport surface detection equipment (ASDE) for operational control of aircraft and ground vehicle movements at airports.

12.2 The results of ITU-R studies in preparation for WRC-12 indicated that the addition of an allocation to the Radiolocation service to this frequency band was feasible, given that existing services were protected with adequate separation distances.

12.3 The conference allocated the frequency band 15.4 – 15.7 GHz to the radiolocation service on a primary basis, shared with the existing allocation to the aeronautical radionavigation, as well as fixed satellite service in portions of the band. This new allocation to the radiolocation service fully protects the aeronautical radionavigation service, as it is not to cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, stations operating in the aeronautical radionavigation service. This result is fully in line with the ICAO position.

13 Agenda Item 1.22: To examine the effect of emissions from short-range devices on radiocommunication services, in accordance with Resolution 953 (WRC-07).

13.1 Short range devices (SRD) are very low power emitters used for a variety of applications, such as radio frequency identification (RFID) tags. SRDs normally operate on a license exempt basis, and per definition should not interfere with other spectrum users. However, the conclusion of ITU studies is that without constraints, SRDs have the potential to cause harmful interference.

13.2 The view of the conference was that while the decision on frequency bands for use by SRDs is a national matter, there would be significant advantages in international harmonizing of band usage. ITU-R Resolution **54-1**, agreed during the RA-12 in the week prior to the WRC-12, assigns further studies on this issue to the ITU-R. No frequency bands were allocated to SRD. This outcome satisfactorily covers the concerns addressed in the ICAO position.

14 Agenda Item 1.23: To consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415 - 526.5 kHz to the amateur service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services.

14.1 Aeronautical non-directional beacons (NDB) mainly operate in the frequency band up to 435 kHz in ITU Region 1 and 415 kHz in Regions 2 and 3. Above these frequencies and within the frequency band addressed under this agenda item, aeronautical radionavigation has a secondary allocation. Whilst the long-term goal is to remove NDB from use, this is unlikely to be achieved in the near future. However, NDB operations are on a slow demise, no growth in NDB use is foreseen.

14.2 While upgrading the aeronautical radionavigation service to a primary allocation in a number of countries, the amateur service was given a secondary allocation in the frequency band 472 – 479 kHz. The amateur service shall not transmit more than 5W EIRP in this frequency allocation, and not more than 1W EIRP if closer than 800km to the borders of certain concerned countries. Certain concerned countries do not allow the amateur service within their borders.

14.3 This allocation is in line with the ICAO position. The allocation of this new secondary allocation to the amateur service fully protects the current and projected NDB use.

15 Agenda Item 1.25: To consider possible additional allocations to the mobile-satellite service, in accordance with Resolution 231 (WRC-07).

15.1 Under this agenda item, the mobile satellite service scrutinized possible sharing with services in the frequency range 4 – 16 GHz, including a number of aeronautical bands. Despite considerable efforts made by the proponents of this agenda item, in the end the conference did not agree to any modifications to the Radio Regulations. The ICAO Position, to oppose any allocation which would adversely affect the interests of aviation, is fully covered by this outcome.

16 Agenda Item 4: In accordance with Resolution 95 (Rev. WRC-03), to review the resolutions and recommendations of previous conferences with a view of possible revision, replacement or abrogation.

16.1 The following Resolutions were addressed in a manner different from the ICAO Position:

16.1.1 Resolution **18** relates to the procedure for identifying and announcing the position of ships and aircraft of States which are not party to an armed conflict. A minor update was made to this Resolution, not affecting aviation.

16.1.2 Resolution **27** addresses the application of incorporation by reference in the Radio Regulations. Minor updates were made to this Resolution, mainly to clarify its application. This does not affect aviation.

16.1.3 Resolution **63** addresses the protection of radiocommunication services against interference caused by radiation from industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) equipment. Updates were made to this Resolution to better protect other users of the spectrum against ISM equipment. These updates do not negatively affect aviation.

16.1.4 Resolution **114** addresses the compatibility between the ARNS and the FSS, limited to feeder links of the non-geostationary mobile-satellite systems in the mobile-satellite service in the frequency band 5 091 – 5 150 MHz. An editorial update was made to this resolution to reflect a similar editorial update made to footnote No. **5.444**, exchanging the word “precedence” with “priority”.

16.1.5 Resolution **205** addresses the protection of systems operating in the mobile-satellite service in the band 406 – 406.1 MHz, limited to the use of low-power satellite emergency position-indicating radiobeacons (EPIRBs). Modifications to this Resolution address interference concerns from adjacent frequency band users, and are aimed at improving/defending the continued use of EPIRBs in this frequency band.

16.1.6 Resolution **225** addresses the study of additional frequency bands for the satellite component of IMT. Some minor changes were made to this resolution, describing the use of the frequency bands 2 500 – 2 520 and 2 670 – 2 690 MHz as being limited to Region 3. Neither of these bands is used by aviation.

16.1.7 Resolution **418** addresses the use of the band 5 091 – 5 250 MHz by the aeronautical mobile service for telemetry applications. This Resolution was modified to reflect the deletion of Resolution 419. This has no negative effect on aviation.

16.1.8 Resolution **419** addressed the use of the band 5 091 – 5 150 MHz by the aeronautical mobile service for aeronautical security (AS) applications. Consequential to the deletion of the AS from footnote No. **5.444B**, this Resolution has now been deleted. This is in line with the ICAO position as it improves access to the aeronautical air/ground surface AM(R)S in this frequency band, see discussion on agenda item 1.4.

16.1.9 Resolution **644** addresses telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief operations. This Resolution was updated to accurately reflect dated references. Updates are in line with the ICAO Position.

16.1.10 Resolution **748** addresses compatibility between the aeronautical mobile (R) Service and the fixed satellite service (Earth-to-space) in the band 5 091 - 5 150 MHz. This Resolution was modified to reflect the deletion of Resolution **419**. This has no negative effect on aviation.

16.1.11 Resolution **953** addressed protection of radiocommunication services from emissions by short range devices. This Resolution defined the problem statement to be addressed under agenda item 1.22 of WRC-12 and was suppressed in line with the outcome of the conference. RA-12 developed Resolution ITU-R **51-1** to address continuing studies of this subject within the ITU-R. This outcome satisfactorily covers the concerns addressed in the ICAO position.

16.1.12 Resolution **956** addressed regulatory measures and their relevance to enable the introduction of software-defined radio (SDR) and cognitive radio systems (CRS). This Resolution described the problem statement to be addressed under agenda item 1.19 of WRC-12, and was suppressed in line with the outcome of the conference. ITU-R Resolution **58-1** as agreed by RA-12 and ITU

Recommendation **Com6/1** describe further studies to be performed on the subject of CRS. This outcome satisfactorily covers the concerns addressed in the ICAO position.

17 Agenda Item 8.2: To recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next WRC and to give its views on the preliminary agenda for the subsequent conference and on possible agenda items for future conferences, taking into account Resolution 806 (WRC-07).

17.1 Wireless avionics intra-communications (WAIC) systems.

17.1.1 In line with the ICAO position, the WRC approved a new Resolution, to consider regulatory actions, including allocations, to support WAIC, and a new supporting agenda item at WRC-15.

17.1.2 The aerospace industry is developing new commercial aircraft to provide airlines and the flying public with more cost-efficient and environmentally friendly air transportation while maintaining required levels of safety and reliability. One important means of accomplishing these aims is to reduce overall aircraft weight, e.g. by reducing wiring, while providing multiple and redundant methods to transmit safety-related information within and on an aircraft. The utilization of wireless technologies may accomplish these goals while providing environmental benefits such as reduction of carbon footprints as well as cost savings to manufacturers and operators.

17.1.3 WAIC systems are envisaged to consist of point-to-point radio communications between transmitters and receivers installed on a single aircraft, the transmitters and receivers being integrated with the aircraft. In all cases, communication is part of a closed, exclusive network required for aircraft operation. WAIC systems will not provide air-to-ground or air-to-air communications. WAIC systems will be limited to safety and regularity-of-flight related applications.

17.2 Fixed Satellite Service spectrum for Unmanned Aircraft Systems

17.2.1 WRC-12 approved ITU-R studies to identify technical, regulatory and operational recommendations to enable safe use of FSS spectrum by UAS, and an agenda item for WRC-15 was agreed; to consider, based on the result of the ITU-R studies, the possible regulatory actions to support the use of FSS frequency bands for provision of UAS C³ links, while ensuring the safe operation of UAS C³ links, consistent with the provision of a safety service, making reference to No. **4.10**. ICAO was invited to participate in the ITU-R studies. See also discussion on Agenda Item 1.3 in this Appendix.

17.3 VSAT issues

17.3.1 The WRC approved a new Resolution, addressing the support of VSAT communications in the 3.4 – 4.2 GHz band (C-band) in the AFI region. The result originated from a proposal presented by the ATU in response to concerns expressed by African civil aviation entities, and coordinated by the ICAO AFI Regional Offices.

17.3.2 The concerns were related to the increasing demand from mobile system operators and other parties for access to the bands used by civil aviation VSAT communications in the region. Such VSAT communications are typically employed to replace or complement terrestrial communication infrastructure where it is lacking or inadequate. Applications include ground/ground point-to-point connectivity for ATC to ATC center communications as well as for ground/air communications (extended VHF coverage). The C-band is the most appropriate band for this purpose in the tropical regions due to excessive rain attenuation in higher frequency bands. The introduction of new non-aeronautical systems in the bands, such as BWA and IMT systems, could potentially threaten the continued availability of VSAT frequencies for civil aviation use.

17.3.3 The Resolution approved by the WRC is intended to address those concerns. It calls for ITU-R studies on technical and regulatory measures in the region to support the existing and future aeronautical and meteorological use of VSAT in the C-band. While there is no specific agenda item at WRC-15 for this issue, the Resolution calls for a review of the results of the studies and an action by WRC-15 as appropriate. The results of the studies will be reported to the WRC-15 through the report of the Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau.

17.4 The conference agreed to include the following items of interest to aviation on the draft agenda for the WRC-15:

1.1 to consider additional spectrum allocations to the mobile service on a primary basis and identification of additional frequency bands for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) and related regulatory provisions, to facilitate the development of terrestrial mobile broadband applications, in accordance with Resolution **COM6/8 (WRC-12)**;

1.3 to review and revise Resolution **646 (Rev.WRC-12)** for broadband public protection and disaster relief (PPDR), in accordance with Resolution **COM6/11 (WRC-12)**;

1.4 to consider possible new allocation to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250-5 450 kHz in accordance with Resolution **COM6/12 (WRC-12)**;

1.5 to consider the use of frequency bands allocated to the fixed-satellite service not subject to Appendices **30**, **30A** and **30B** for the control and non-payload communications of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in non-segregated airspaces, in accordance with Resolution **COM6/13 (WRC-12)**;

1.6 to consider possible additional primary allocations:

1.6.1 to the fixed-satellite service (Earth-to-space and space-to-Earth) of 250 MHz in the range between 10 GHz and 17 GHz in Region 1;

1.6.2 to the fixed-satellite service (Earth-to-space) of 250 MHz in Region 2 and 300 MHz in Region 3 within the range 13-17 GHz;

and review the regulatory provisions on the current allocations to the fixed-satellite service within each range, taking into account the results of ITU-R studies, in accordance with Resolutions **COM6/4 (WRC-12)** and **COM6/5 (WRC-12)**, respectively;

1.7 to review the use of the band 5 091-5 150 MHz by the fixed-satellite service (Earth-to-space) (limited to feeder links of the non-geostationary mobile-satellite systems in the mobile-satellite service) in accordance with Resolution **114 (Rev.WRC-12)**;

1.12 to consider an extension of the current worldwide allocation to the Earth exploration-satellite (active) service in the frequency band 9 300-9 900 MHz by up to 600 MHz within the frequency bands 8 700-9 300 MHz and/or 9 900-10 500 MHz, in accordance with Resolution **COM6/18 (WRC-12)**;

1.14 to consider the feasibility of achieving a continuous reference time-scale, whether by the modification of coordinated universal time (UTC) or some other method, and take appropriate action, in accordance with Resolution **COM6/20 (WRC-12)**;

1.16 to consider regulatory provisions and spectrum allocations to enable possible new Automatic Identification System (AIS) technology applications and possible new

applications to improve maritime radiocommunication in accordance with Resolution **COM6/21 (WRC-12)**;

1.17 to consider possible spectrum requirements and regulatory actions, including appropriate aeronautical allocations, to support wireless avionics intra-communications (WAIC), in accordance with Resolution **COM6/22 (WRC-12)**;

2 to examine the revised ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations communicated by the Radiocommunication Assembly, in accordance with Resolution **28 (Rev.WRC-03)**, and to decide whether or not to update the corresponding references in the Radio Regulations, in accordance with the principles contained in Annex 1 to Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-12)**;

4 in accordance with Resolution **95 (Rev.WRC-07)**, to review the resolutions and recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision, replacement or abrogation;

8 to consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)**;

9 to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention:

9.1 on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-12;

9.2 on any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the application of the Radio Regulations; and

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APPENDIX B

Point-of-Contact (PoCs) to Coordinate Matters Concerning WRC-2012				
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