



Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular Letter
CCRR/68

23 December 2021

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: **Draft rules of procedure**

At its 88th meeting, the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) agreed on the schedule for the approval of draft new and modified rules of procedure contained in [Document RRB21-3/1](#) and updated by the Board at its 88th meeting. Accordingly, the Bureau prepared a set of draft new or modified rules of procedure annexed to this Circular Letter:

- **Annex 1:** addition of new rules of procedure for the simultaneous bringing into use of multiple geostationary satellite networks with a single satellite;

“After considering the draft rules of procedure for the simultaneous bringing into use of multiple geostationary satellite networks with a single satellite, the Board decided to include the specific reference to bringing back into use and RR No. 11.49 as proposed by the Administration of the United States of America. The Board also decided to add in the draft rules of procedure, the possibility for space stations on a single satellite located at less than 0.5° from two different nominal positions of two satellite networks to be used for bringing into use, bringing back into use or continuing use of frequency assignments with non-overlapping bandwidths of both satellite networks under RR Nos. 11.44, 11.44B, 11.49 or 13.6. Consequently, the Board decided that the additional modifications introduced during the Board meeting would require consultation with the Member States and instructed the Bureau to circulate the draft rules of procedure to the administrations for comments for consideration by the Board at its 89th meeting.” (extract from the summary of decisions of the 88th meeting of the Radio Regulations Board, see §§ 4.2 and 4.3 of [Document RRB21-3/12](#))

- **Annex 2:** modifications to the rules of procedure on RR Nos. 11.43A and 11.43B.

In accordance with No. **13.17** of the Radio Regulations, these draft rules of procedure are made available to administrations for comments before being submitted to the RRB pursuant to No. **13.14**.

As indicated in No. **13.12A d)** of the Radio Regulations, any comments that you may wish to submit should reach the Bureau not later than **14 February 2022**, in order to be considered at the 89th meeting of the RRB which will commence on 14 March 2022. Comments should be sent either by telefax to +41 22 730 5785 or by email to brmail@itu.int.

Mario Maniewicz
Director

Annexes: 2

Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of ITU
- Members of the Radio Regulations Board

Annex 1

Addition of new rules of procedure for the simultaneous bringing into use of multiple geostationary satellite networks with a single satellite

ADD

Rules concerning the simultaneous bringing into use or bringing back into use of multiple geostationary satellite networks with a single satellite

For operational purposes such as, for example, risk of collision, telemetry, tracking, and command operation, coordination agreement, etc., a satellite may have to shift a little from its nominal orbital position (including the ± 0.1 degree tolerance for space stations on board geostationary satellites in the fixed-satellite service or broadcasting-satellite service) to provide the required services. In that particular instance, when requesting clarification under Nos. **11.44**, **11.44B**, **11.49** or **13.6** of the Radio Regulations on the bringing into use, bringing back into use or continuing use of the notified characteristics of a satellite network, the Board decided that the Bureau shall consider that a satellite located at no more than 0.5 degree of the longitude of the nominal position of the satellite network would be considered as fulfilling Nos. **11.44**, **11.44B**, **11.49** or **13.6** requirements, as appropriate, under the conditions that:

- the space station is associated to one or more satellite network filings at one single orbital position,
- the space station has the capability to maintain its position within the ± 0.1 degree of its nominal positions,
- no unacceptable interference be reported when the satellite's excursion is exceeding this tolerance (up to maximum 0.5 degree), and
- this operation does not cause more interference or require more protection than if the space station was operating within the ± 0.1 degree tolerance.

Moreover, the Board decided that the Bureau shall not consider that a satellite located at less than 0.5 degree of two different nominal positions of two satellite networks could be used for the bringing into use, bringing back into use or continuing use of the notified characteristics of overlapping frequency assignments of both satellite networks under Nos. **11.44**, **11.44B**, **11.49** or **13.6**.

Reasons: *To include in the Rules of Procedure the practice of the Bureau on the simultaneous bringing into use or bringing back into use of multiple geostationary satellite networks with a single satellite at one single orbital position reported to WRC-15 (see § 3.2.4.1 of Document CMR15/4(Add.2)(Rev.1)), while inserting the possibility for space stations on a single satellite located at less than 0.5° from two different nominal positions of two satellite networks to be used for bringing into use, bringing back into use or continuing use of frequency assignments with non-overlapping bandwidths of both satellite networks under RR Nos. 11.44, 11.44B, 11.49 or 13.6.*

Effective date of application of this Rule: immediately after approval.

Annex 2
Modifications to the rules of procedure on RR Nos. **11.43A** and **11.43B**

Rules concerning

ARTICLE 11 of the RR

MOD

11.43A

1 Modification of a space network may take place during the coordination process; this case is covered in the comments under the Rules of Procedure concerning Nos. **9.27** (§ 2), **9.58**, **11.28** and **11.32**.

2 If the modification concerns the notification of assignment(s) in frequency band(s) not covered by other assignment(s) already recorded in the Master Register, No. **11.43A** does not apply and it will be processed under No. **11.2** or **11.9**, as appropriate.

The purpose of the examination under No. **11.43A** is to determine whether the coordination requirements remained unchanged or, where appropriate, whether the probability of harmful interference has not increased (see also the Rules of Procedure concerning Nos. **11.28** and **11.32**). In these cases, the provisions of No. **11.43B** apply with the effect of maintaining unchanged the status (Findings) and the date of receipt of the assignment. If, due to the modifications, new coordination requirements are identified by comparing the level of interference (such as $\Delta T/T$) resulted from consideration of the initial characteristics and that of modified characteristics, then an unfavourable finding shall be given and the Form of Notice shall be returned to the notifying administration. The notifying administration should be requested to apply Section II of Article **9**. findings with respect to No. **11.32** are determined on the basis of the coordination agreements effected to meet the new coordination requirements. In the case, where the provisions of Nos. **11.32A** and **11.33** are applicable and the examinations show an increase in the probability of harmful interference compared with that which resulted from the initial examination, then the finding is unfavourable and the notice shall be returned in accordance with provision No. **11.38**. See also the Rules of Procedure under No. **11.43B**.

(...)

[Note: No modifications are proposed to §§ 3 to 6.]

Reasons: In § 1, to correct the reference to the Rules of Procedure concerning Nos. 9.27. In § 2, to suppress the reference to the decision of WARC Orb-88 to exempt submissions of geostationary-satellite networks under No. 11.43A from the advance publication stage following the suppression by WRC-15 of this stage for systems subject to coordination.

Effective date of application of this Rule: immediately after approval.

MOD**11.43B**

1 This provision specifies that a change in the characteristics shall be examined when appropriate with respect to Nos. **11.32** to **11.34**, as appropriate.

1.1 In the case of the examination of space networks under No. **11.32** or **11.32A**, the comments under No. **11.43A** indicate the cases which should not be considered as modifications but as first notifications (with new date of receipt). These examinations should be carried out by checking the application of § 6 a) to 6 c) of Appendix 5. In cases where there is no calculation method and/or criteria to check the application of these provisions, the Bureau shall treat these modifications as new notifications of assignments. Number **11.43B** refers to an increase in the probability of harmful interference. The probability of harmful interference (*C/I*) is calculated in the examination of Nos. **11.32A** and **11.33** only. The examination of No. **11.32** is made using the threshold/condition specified in Appendix 5.

1.2 It should be noted that in the examination under No. **11.32A**, assignments published under No. **9.38** or **9.58** but not yet notified are also taken into account. Therefore, for practical reasons, in application of this provision, these assignments shall be also taken into account in addition to assignments already recorded in the Master Register.

2 This provision makes reference to the “*original date of entry in the Master Register*”. The Board considers this date to be the date of receipt of the original notice. However, with respect to the notices received prior to 1 January 1999, the Board considers this date equivalent to the date recorded in Column 2A, 2B, or 2D, as appropriate.

Reasons: *To align the examination of modifications under No. 11.43B with the examination of modifications under No. 9.27.*

Effective date of application of this Rule: immediately after approval.