# INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

*Radiocommunication Bureau*
  *(Direct Fax N°. +41 22 730 57 85)*

Circular Letter                                                          27 August 2007
   **CM/16**

**To Administrations of Member States of the ITU**

**Subject**:       ITU maritime services database - Incorporation of information concerning Maritime
                   Mobile Service Identities (MMSI) assigned to Search and Rescue (SAR) aircraft

**Reference**:     Resolution 353 (WRC-03)

To the Director-General

Dear Sir or Madam,

1.        With Resolution 353 (WRC-03), WRC-03 instructed the Director of the BR to consider the
possibility of making provision in the MARS system for the registration of MMSI used on SAR
aircraft, preferably without changing either the database format or the content of the paper
publications. WRC-03 also invited administrations to notify the Bureau of MMSI to SAR aircraft.

2.        In accordance with the instructions from WRC-03, the Bureau considered this issue and
wishes to inform Administrations that the structure of the ITU maritime services database and the
associated software have been modified in order to incorporate information concerning **MMSI
assigned to SAR aircraft** conducting search and rescue communications with stations in the
maritime mobile service.

3.        In addition, the ITU's *Maritime Mobile Access & Retrieval System (MARS)* website has
been duly amended so as to permit for the search and retrieval of recorded data concerning MMSI
assigned to SAR aircraft.

4.        In order to allow administrations to submit the necessary information, the Bureau has
developed the notification form and electronic data submission format annexed to this Circular
Letter (also available at http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/forms/index.html)

5.        It should be noted that ITU-R Working Party 8B, during its June 2007 meeting, reviewed
the matter, based on a submission from the Bureau, and agreed on the data elements that are to be

submitted by administrations in application of Resolution 353 (WRC-03), bearing in mind that this Resolution did not provide information in this respect. The notification form and electronic data submission format that are annexed to this Circular Letter take account of the comments formulated by Working Party 8B.

6.	You may wish to note that, due to the current constraints of the ITU data processing systems, the information could be provided only in English, French or Spanish (if provided on paper form) or in ISO-8859-1 (Latin-1) characters set (if provided in electronic format).

7.	Data concerning aids to navigation (AtoN) and their handling will be subject to further consideration. Information regarding their possible submission will be published in a separate circular letter.

8.	The Bureau remains at the disposal of Administrations for any further information and clarifications that may be needed in respect to these matters. The Bureau's contact person for these matters is Mr A.M. DAS, telephone: +41 22 7305007, fax: +41 22 7305785, e-mail: brmail@itu.int


Yours faithfully,



Valery Timofeev
Director
Radiocommunication Bureau


Annexes:
- Notification form (ref. TPR/SAR_1)
- Data format for electronic submission (ref. TPR/SAR_2)


Distribution:
- *Administrations of Member States of the ITU*
- *International Maritime Organisation*

# NOTIFICATION FORM

# MMSI assignments to SAR aircraft

**Radio Regulations (RR) Article 20 and Resolution 353 (WRC-03)**

| AC | Action Code* | | **Add** | | **Modify** | | **Suppress** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

**1.** MMSI*

| 1 | 1 | 1 | M | I | D | X | X | X |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | **1** | **1** | | | | | | |

**2.** Notifying Administration*

| | | |
|---|---|---|

**3.** Registration mark/Call sign (max. length 7 characters)

**4.** Type of aircraft

| | **FW (Fixed Wing)** |
|---|---|
| | **HC (Helicopter)** |
| | **UM (Unmanned)** |
| | **XX (Unspecified)** |

**5.** License Holder and contact information (max. length 200 characters)

**6.** Maritime Radio equipment

| | **VHF** |
|---|---|
| | **MF** |
| | **HF** |
| | **AIS** |

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* Mandatory fields

| Field | Field Name | Remark |
|---|---|---|
| **AC** | Action Code* | Indicate one option by using an '**X**' in the appropriate check box |
| **1.** | MMSI* | Formation is defined in the latest version of ITU-R Recommendation M.585 (Annex 3) |
| | | The seventh digit may be used to differentiate between certain specific uses of this class of MMSI, as shown in the example applications below:<br><br>a) 111MID1XX    Fixed-wing aircraft<br><br>b) 111MID5XX    Helicopters |
| **2.** | Notifying Administration* | 3 letter symbol as designated by the ITU |
| **3.** | Registration mark/Call sign | Call sign as defined in provisions No. 19.58 and No. 19.64 of the Radio Regulations. |
| **4.** | Type of aircraft | Indicate one option by using an '**X**' in the appropriate check box |
| **5.** | License Holder and contact information | Name, address, telephone, etc. |
| **6.** | Maritime Radio equipment(s) | Indicate one or multiple codes by using an '**X**' in the appropriate check box |

## Notifications should be addressed to:

The Director of Radiocommunication Bureau-ITU, Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Direct Telefax. No.: +41 22 730 5785, Email: brmail@itu.int

# DATA ELEMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

# MMSI assignments to SAR aircraft

**Radio Regulations (RR) Article 20 and Resolution 353 (WRC-03)**

| Field | Field Name | Length (Max.) | Occurrences (Max.) | Remark |
|-------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|--------|
| AC | Action Code* | 1 | 1 | Indicates the action to be performed<br>A – add a new station<br>M – modify particulars of an existing station<br>S – suppress an existing station |
| 1. | MMSI* | 9 | 1 | Formation is defined in the latest version of ITU-R Recommendation M.585 (Annex 3)<br>---<br>The seventh digit may be used to differentiate between certain specific uses of this class of MMSI, as shown in the example applications below:<br>a) 111MID1XX    Fixed-wing aircraft<br>b) 111MID5XX    Helicopters |
| 2. | Notifying Administration* | 3 | 1 | 3 letter symbol as designated by the ITU |
| 3. | Registration mark/Call sign | 7 | 1 | Call sign as defined in provisions No. 19.58 and No. 19.64 of the Radio Regulations. |
| 4. | Type of aircraft | 2 | 1 | Use one of the following codes to define the type of aircraft:<br>FW – Fixed wing<br>HC – Helicopter<br>UM – Unmanned<br>XX - Unspecified |
| 5. | License Holder and contact information | 200 | 1 | Name, address, telephone, etc. |
| 6. | Maritime Radio equipment(s) | 14 | 4 | Indicate one or multiple codes (i.e. VHF MF VHF AIS). Separate using the occurrence separator (i.e. comma) |

## *1.*      **Electronic data Submission Format:**

| | |
|---|---|
| *Format:* | **ASCII text file** |
| *Field delimiter:* | **Semicolon (;)** |
| *Occurrence separator:* | **Comma (,)** |

**In order to avoid any discrepancy in the station data, Administrations are requested to ALWAYS submit the full station particulars when:**
- **Action Code used is M (Modification), or**
- **Action Code used is A (Addition).**

> **E.g.**    `A;111269510;SUI;HE-DOH;HC;ITU Geneva;VHF,HF,MF,AIS`
>           `A;111269110;SUI;HEABC;FW;;VHF`
>           `M;111269522;SUI;;UM;;VHF,HF`
>           `A;111269520;SUI;;HC;;VHF`

## *2.*      **Rules**

1. The order in which the fields are mentioned in the Data Elements table should **ALWAYS** be respected.

   > **E.g.**    Action Code; MMSI; Notifying Administration; Registration mark/call sign; Type of Aircraft; License Holder and contact information; Maritime radio equipment

2. No field should exceed the maximum length allocated to it (refer to the Length (Max.) in the Data Elements table).

3. Field delimiter (;)
   - Each field is to be separated using the Field delimiter.
   - The field delimiter (i.e. Semi-colon (;)) should not be used in any field.
   - Field delimiters should be used even if there is no data for a given field.
     **E.g.** `A;111269110;SUI;;FW;;VHF`

4. Occurrence separator (,)
   - When more than one value can be notified for a given field, each value is to be separated with the occurrence separator (i.e. Comma (,)).
     **E.g.** `A;111269110;SUI;;FW;;`**VHF,MF,AIS**

## **Notifications should be addressed to:**

The Director of Radiocommunication Bureau-ITU, Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Direct Telefax. No.: +41 22 730 5785, Email: brmail@itu.int

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|---|---|
| * Mandatory fields | **TPR/SAR_2** |
| | August 2007 |