



## Radio communication Bureau (BR)

Administrative Circular  
5/LCCE/64

23 November 2016

**To Administrations of Member States of the ITU, Radio communication Sector Members,  
ITU-R Associates participating in the work of Radio communication Study Group 5  
and ITU Academia**

**Subject: Questionnaire on the distribution and the applications of autonomous maritime radio devices**

**Reference: Resolution 362 (WRC-15) Autonomous maritime radio devices operating in the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz**

Applications using autonomous maritime radio devices have developed in recent times. Due to the rapid technical progress and cost-effective production methods, more and more of these applications in the maritime environment are being created and used in operational situations.

In the maritime mobile service, as defined in RR No. **1.28**, autonomous maritime radio devices are not listed and are therefore not normally operated in this service at this time.

The term autonomous maritime radio device (AMRD) is not part of the Database of ITU Terms and Definitions and needs clarification for a wider audience. A preliminary definition reads as follows:

An autonomous maritime radio device (AMRD) is a mobile station; operating at sea and transmitting independently of a ship station or a coast station. Two groups of AMRDs are identified:

- 1) AMRDs that influence the safety of navigation,
- 2) AMRDs that do not influence the safety of navigation.

The devices discussed may use automatic identification system (AIS) technology; digital selective calling (DSC) technology; or transmit synthetic voice messages. Combinations of the technologies mentioned above can be found in equipment already available on the market.

Resolution **809 (WRC-15)** resolves that the agenda item 1.9.1 of WRC-19 is “to consider, based on the results of ITU-R studies regulatory actions within the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz for AMRDs to protect the GMDSS and automatic identifications system (AIS), in accordance with Resolution **362 (WRC-15)**”.

The objective of this questionnaire is to get a clear overview of these devices and to compile and to categorize the existing AMRDs being used in the different countries. As the responsible group for this Agenda Item, ITU-R Working Party 5B is currently studying the distribution and the applications of AMRDs.

Gathering the information on the distribution and the applications of AMRDs would facilitate the preparations for agenda item 1.9.1. Accordingly, the Radiocommunication Bureau hereby invites Administrations of Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis and if available, answers to the questions below. Your reply will not be assumed as an indication of the position of your Administration for this agenda item.

The Radiocommunication Bureau kindly requests that responses to this questionnaire be sent to [brsgd@itu.int](mailto:brsgd@itu.int) by **31 March 2017**.

The contact person from the Radiocommunication Bureau for this matter is:

Mr. Vadim Nozdrin, Working Party 5B Counsellor.



François Rancy  
Director

#### Annex: 1

#### Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of the ITU and Radio communication Sector Members participating in the work of Radio communication Study Group 5
- ITU-R Associates participating in the work of Radio communication Study Group 5
- ITU Academia
- Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Radio communication Study Group 5
- Secretary General of the ITU, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau,  
Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

ANNEX  
QUESTIONNAIRE

**Question 1: Please provide the name of AMRDs on the market in your country, and what are the applications provided by each AMRD? Please add for each AMRD listed which technologies and frequencies it uses.**

*Example responses are provided in italics*

#	Name of the AMRD	Application provided	Technologies	Frequencies (MHz)	Observed influence on safety of navigation
1	<i>AMRD 1, Man over board www</i>	<i>person locating for rescue</i>	<i>DSC+AIS</i>	<i>156.525; 161.975; 162.025</i>	
2	<i>AMRD 2, Man over board xxx</i>	<i>person locating for rescue</i>	<i>DSC+ synthetic voice</i>	<i>156.525; 156.80</i>	
3	<i>AMRD 3, FISHNET BUOY yyy</i>	<i>fishnet locating</i>	<i>AIS</i>	<i>161.975; 162.025</i>	
4	<i>AMRD 4, DIVER zzz</i>	<i>diver communication, diver locating</i>	<i>Voice communication, DSC</i>	<i>156.525; 156.80; 156.30</i>	
5					
6					
...					

Note 1: Please list all AMRDs which are available in your country (e.g. several types of man overboard devices from different manufacturers)

**Question 2: Are you aware of any future device or intended application in development? Please provide the applicable data.**

*Example responses are provided in italics*

#	Name of the AMRD	Application provided	Technologies	Frequencies (MHz)	Expected influence on safety of navigation
1	<i>AMRD 1, Man over board www</i>	<i>person locating for rescue</i>	<i>DSC+AIS</i>	<i>156.525; 161.975; 162.025</i>	
2	<i>AMRD 2, Man over board xxx</i>	<i>person locating for rescue</i>	<i>DSC+ synthetic voice</i>	<i>156.525; 156.80</i>	
3	<i>AMRD 3, FISHNET BUOY yyy</i>	<i>fishnet locating</i>	<i>AIS</i>	<i>161.975; 162.025</i>	
4	<i>AMRD 4, DIVER zzz</i>	<i>diver communication, diver locating</i>	<i>Voice communication, DSC</i>	<i>156.525; 156.80; 156.30</i>	
5					
6					
...					

**Question 3: Is your Administration registering/licensing AMRDs under a national legislation? If yes, please list the concerned applications and explain.**

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