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| **World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) Geneva, 2–27 November 2015** |  |
| **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 8 to Document 25-E** |
|  | **10 September 2015** |
|  | **Original: Arabic** |
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| Arab States Common Proposals | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | |
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| Agenda item 1.8 | |

1.8 to review the provisions relating to earth stations located on board vessels (ESVs), based on studies conducted in accordance with Resolution **909 (WRC‑12)**;

Introduction

WRC-12 resolved to review the provisions relating to earth stations operating in the 5 925-6 425 MHz band (band C) and the 14-14.5 MHz band (band Ku) on board vessels (ESV) in preparation for WRC-15, pursuant to Resolution 909 (WRC-12) which specifically considers the need to review the restrictions and limitations stated in Resolution 902 (WRC-03) and the possibility of correcting these to reflect current ESV station technologies and technical characteristics that are being used or are planned to be used, while ensuring the continued protection of other services to which the frequency bands 5 925-6 425 MHz and 14-14.5 GHz are allocated.

The frequency bands referred to in Resolution 909 (WRC-12) are, in some countries, extensively used for medium- and long-distance backhaul for cellular networks, and their use is likely to further grow. These terrestrial services also provide the backbone of infrastructure in developing countries including terrestrial stations that are near coastlines and point towards the sea for broadband communications to remote communities or offshore oil platforms.

Pursuant to the results of the ITU-R studies conducted in accordance with Resolution 909 (WRC‑12), these Administrations have the following concerns:

• Any modification to the distance would be detrimental to the operation of terrestrial services of coastal administrations in particular when these terrestrial services are the only telecommunications infrastructure of these countries.

• Reduction of the protection distance for the ESV operators is counterbalanced by the increasing workload for coastal administrations using terrestrial services.

• There is no mechanism to verify that compliance with minimum protection distances will be ensured by the ESV licensing administrations.

• There is no evidence how the ESV licensing administrations and service providers to ensure that the operational provisions and technical limitations of the Resolution are met, and if not what will happen? For the earth stations which are not notified there is no mechanism to take any action by the Bureau or by coastal administrations to verify if the operational provisions and technical limitations of the Resolution are met.

• Any flexibility in applying the provisions of Resolution 902 (WRC-03) (e.g. e.i.r.p. as a function of distance from coastline) would make the task of administrations extremely difficult and harder for checking the right application of regulations due to the fact that these administrations need to continuously and dynamically verify the e.i.r.p. of each of the many ESVs to ensure that the terrestrial stations are properly protected. Such course of action would impose additional burden to the developing countries, in particular, when processing interference report analysis or when supervising conformance of ESV characteristics and operational aspects with the applicable regulatory procedures. It is worth to mention that the above-mentioned terrestrial services/stations are the backbone of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and thus need to be fully protected.

• In addition to concerns expressed by some countries in 2003 on the appropriateness of allowing the implementation of ESVs links in FSS frequency bands, such relaxation in the current regulations, could adversely impact the availability of the FS links, and provided new increased separation distance values to ensure protection of FS coastal stations, considering an increase of number of ships passes as a consequence of antenna size reduction.

Proposal

Pursuant to the results of ITU-R studies, the Arab States administrations propose that there should be no amendment to the Radio Regulations, while Resolution 909 (WRC‑12) should be suppressed in accordance with the following proposals.

SUP ARB/25A8/1

RESOLUTION 909 (WRC‑12)

Provisions relating to earth stations located on board vessels   
which operate in fixed-satellite service networks in the   
uplink bands 5 925-6 425 MHz and 14-14.5 GHz

**Reasons:** Any reduction in antenna size and reduction of distance between vessels and shore would adversely impact the deployment of terrestrial services of countries for which these services. constitute their infrastructure backbone telecommunication services. Accordingly, the limits as currently specified in Resolution 902 (WRC-03) for operation of ESVs are to be retained and Resolution 909 (WRC-12) is to be suppressed as it has become superfluous.

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