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| **World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) Geneva, 2–27 November 2015** |  |
| **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 3 to Document 64-E** |
|  | **14 October 2015** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Canada/United States of America/Mexico | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | |
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| Agenda item 7(C) | |

7 to consider possible changes, and other options, in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, an advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks, in accordance with Resolution **86 (Rev.WRC‑07)** to facilitate rational, efficient, and economical use of radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary‑satellite orbit;

7(C) Issue C – Review or possible cancellation of the advance publication mechanism for satellite networks subject to coordination under section II of Article **9** of the Radio Regulations

Background

In accordance with provision No.9.1of the ITU RRs the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) must wait six months after receiving the advanced publication information (API) for a satellite network requiring coordination under Section II of Article 9 before accepting the associated coordination request information, even if both sets of information are submitted to the BR at the same time. While this six-month delay may have served a purpose in years past when there was a substantial amount of technical data included in the API for administrations to consider and potentially comment upon, this is no longer the case.

As a consequence of the simplification of the Radio Regulations at WRC-95, the API for satellite networks requiring coordination under Section II of Article 9 includes very limited information (e.g. orbital position and frequency bands) and, as such, there is little for administrations to review and comment and no technical analysis can be done until the coordination request (CR/C) is published.

Experience shows that most Administrations do not comment on APIs for satellite networks subject to coordination. In practice, administrations do not start the coordination before the confirmation of the coordination requirements provided by the BR with the publication of a definitive list of satellite networks affected (No. 9.7) including those added through the CR/E (No. 9.42) and the CR/D (Nos. 9.11, 9.11A and 9.21), as appropriate. Therefore, the six-month period between date of receipt of API and allowed date of receipt of coordination filing serves no purpose other than to contribute to the overall delay in the start of coordination between administrations.

The six-month period also adds considerable uncertainty with respect to the potential availability of frequency assignments at any given orbital location. Once an API for this new network is submitted there is a six month period of uncertainty while the filing administration must wait to see if another administration, which may already have a valid API in the vicinity, files a coordination request in advance of the BR’s receipt of the coordination request associated with the new API.

Discussion within the ITU-R has revealed that one of the primary reasons for administrations periodically submitting multiple API requests at every 2 or 3 degrees, or even every 6 degrees, around the geostationary orbit is precisely to circumvent this six-month delay between Bureau receipt of the API and CR/C. Six-months after the first “batch” of APIs is accepted by the BR from an administration, the administration is then in a position to subsequently submit a CR/C to the BR at virtually any orbital position. As long as the administration submits the next batch of APIs within 18 months of the first batch this workaround solution continues. This type of filing strategy contributes to excessive filings. The elimination of the six-month waiting period will contribute to the reduction of the unnecessary filings (See also Issue I).

It is proposed to modify Article 9 of the Radio Regulations in order to eliminate the six-month delay between the Bureau receipt of an API and CR/C, which no longer serves a useful purpose.

Proposals

ARTICLE 9

Procedure for effecting coordination with or obtaining agreement of other administrations1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 8*bis*    (WRC‑12)

Section I − Advance publication of information on satellite  
networks or satellite systems

General

MOD CAN/USA/MEX/64A3/1

9.1 Before initiating any action under this Article or under Article 11 in respect of frequency assignments for a satellite network or a satellite system, an administration, or one9 acting on behalf of a group of named administrations, shall, prior to the coordination procedure described in Section II of Article 9 below, where applicable, send to the Bureau a general description of the network or system for advance publication in the International Frequency Information Circular (BR IFIC) not earlier than seven years and preferably not later than two years before the planned date of bringing into use of the network or system (see also No. 11.44). The characteristics to be provided for this purpose are listed in Appendix 4. The coordination or notification information may also be communicated to the Bureau at the same time. Where coordination is not required by Section II, notification shall be considered as having been received by the Bureau not earlier than six months after the date of publication of the advance publication information.     (WRC‑15)

**Reasons:** To address the unnecessary requirement for the Radiocommunication Bureau to wait six months after receipt of the advanced publication information before receiving the coordination request information for satellite networks requiring coordination under Section II of Article 9.

Sub-Section IB − Advance publication of information on satellite networks or satellite  
systems that are subject to coordination procedure under Section II

MOD CAN/USA/MEX/64A3/2

9.5B If, upon receipt of the BR IFIC containing information published under No. 9.2B, any administration considers its existing or planned satellite systems or networks or terrestrial stations11 to be affected, it may send its comments to the publishing administration, so that the latter may take those comments into consideration. A copy of these comments may also be sent to the Bureau. Thereafter, both administrations shall endeavour to cooperate in joint efforts to resolve any difficulties, with the assistance of the Bureau, if so requested by either of the parties, and shall exchange any additional relevant information that may be available.     (WRC‑15)

**Reasons:** To address the unnecessary requirement for the Radiocommunications Bureau to wait six months after receipt of the advanced publication information before receiving the coordination request information for satellite networks requiring coordination under Section II of Article 9.

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