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| **World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-19) Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 28 October – 22 November 2019** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 22 to Document 48-E** |
|  | **11 October 2019** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Cyprus (Republic of) | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | |
| WRC-19 agenda item 9.2 - Clarifications on paragraph 8.4 of Part 3 of the Director’s report | |
| Agenda item 9.2 | |

Subject: Request for a decision by the WRC for the bringing into use KYPROS-SAT-3   
(39° E) Satellite Network

Reference:

1) Addendum 2 to Document RRB18-2/2-E 26 June 2018

2) Document RRB 18-2/15-E dated 6 August 2018

3) Document RRB18-2/DELAYED/1-E dated 2 July 2018

Summary

The Bringing Into Use of the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network was discussed in detail during the 78th meeting of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) in the week of 16 to 20 July 2018. At that time, the RRB considered under agenda item 3, the Director’s contribution to the 78th meeting of the RRB, reference 1), and the relevant contribution of the Cypriot administration, reference 3), regarding the bringing into use status of the KYPROS-SAT‑3 (39° E) satellite network and some particular difficulties faced by the Cypriot administration in this regard (analysed in detail in the following section).

As mentioned in the minutes of the 78th meeting of the RRB under 2.65, reference 2), the RRB decided that the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) should continue to process the filings for the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network and to take into account its frequency assignments until the last day of WRC-19. The RRB also instructed the Director of the BR to refer to this case in the Director’s Report to WRC-19 for a final decision on the matter.

Background information

The Cypriot administration would like to bring to the attention of WRC-19 the following information regarding the regulatory and operational situation of its KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network:

1) On 25 June 2010, the administration of Cyprus submitted the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network at 39°E under § 6.1 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B** (Part A). In accordance with § 6.31 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B**, the regulatory deadline of this satellite network was 25 June 2018.

2) On 7 March 2016, the BADR-7 satellite was put into the 39° E orbital position for bringing into use the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network at 39° E. The satellite remained in continuous operation at 39°E until 6 June 2016 (i.e. for a continuous period of more than 90 days), thus fulfilling the obligations of RR No. **11.44B**, and then moved to another orbital location.

3) On 3 June 2016, the administration of Cyprus submitted a notice for this satellite network under § 6.17 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B** (Part B – entry into the List), indicating its “understanding that there are no Administrations identified with allotments in the Plan, whose agreement is required”. The administration of Cyprus also requested for the immediate resubmission of this notice under § 6.25 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B** because it was “unable to reach agreements under provision § 6.17 of RR Appendix **30B** with assignments which are not allotments in the Plan”. On the same date, the administration of Cyprus submitted the associated notification under § 8.1 of Article 8 of RR Appendix **30B**.

4) During the examination of the Part B submission, the BR concluded that the proposed KYPROS-SAT-3 assignments affect the national allotment of Ukraine (UKR00001), for which § 6.25 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B** cannot be applied. The administration of Cyprus would like to clarify that at the time of the filing of the Part-A submission of our KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network, the Ukrainian network was identified as a “Pending List” system and not as a national allotment, the procedures of Article 7 of RR Appendix **30B** having not at that time been completed. However, WRC-15 had taken the decision to change the status of the Ukrainian network (UKR00001) from an assignment to an allotment. The BR had understood that decision to be have been applicable with immediate effect. The application of this procedure created confusion to our operator and lead to an inadvertent triggering of the UKR00001 national allotment, as affected, by our 3 June 2016 Part-B and Notification submissions.

5) As a consequence, the Part B submission of the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network received an unfavourable finding and was returned to the administration of Cyprus on 18 April 2017. The submission for the notification of the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network under § 8.1 of Article 8 of RR Appendix **30B** was, therefore, not receivable and was also returned. Unfortunately, by the time that this issue was drawn to Cypriot administration’s attention by the BR, the BADR-7 physical spacecraft had been already moved to another orbital position. Nonetheless, the Cypriot administration did resubmit the Part-B and notification filings to the BR on 22 September 2017, taking proper account of the UKR00001 national allotment (which was no longer identified as affected).

6) Because of the operational redeployment of the BADR-7 spacecraft, the administration of Cyprus had already, on 5 December 2016, requested the suspension of the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network filing as of 6 June 2019. However, this suspension request was not acted on by the BR, on the basis that the network was not at that point treated by the BR as having been brought into use for regulatory purposes (although physically operational at 39° E for more than 90 days), since Article 8 of RR Appendix **30B** had not been successfully applied.

7) However , the administration of Cyprus indicated to the BR that it will not be in a position to bring back into use the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network by locating another satellite at 39°E before 25 June 2018 (end of regulatory period) because the HellasSat 4/SaudiGeoSat 1 satellite, planned for operation at 39°E would be still under construction. Therefore, the administration of Cyprus requested the BR to accept the bringing into use of the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network with the BADR-7 satellite located at 39°E from 7 March 2016 to 6 June 2016 and its associated suspension request until 6 June 2019.

8) The HellasSat 4/SaudiGeoSat 1 satellite was successfully launched on 5 February 2019 with VA247 mission of ArianeSpace. At the 80th RRB meeting, the administration of Cyprus requested a four-month extension of the regulatory time limit (i.e. to 6 October 2019) to bring back into use the KYPROS-SAT-3 frequency assignments because of a co-passenger delay issue. However, the RRB decided to instruct the BR to report this case also to WRC-19 for a decision.

9) HellasSat 4/SaudiGeoSat 1 after performing the orbit raising manoeuvres with its electrical propulsion system, finally arrived at the 39° E.L. orbital location on 27 May 2019. The suspended Ku band frequency assignments of the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network were resumed since 1 June of 2019, i.e., before the end of the three-year suspension period (6 June 2019) and, therefore, there is no need for requesting extension of the regulatory time limit to bring back into use the frequency assignments of KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network from WRC-19.

10) The administration of Cyprus, and our operator, would like to confirm that there is a firm and long-term plan related to the operation of HellasSat 4/SaudiGeoSat 1 satellite operating under the KYPROS-SAT-3 filing. At significant expense, our operator initially operated the BADR-7 satellite at 39° E and at the same time contracted for the manufacture and launch of the HellasSat 4/SaudiGeoSat 1 satellite which is now already operating long-term in the slot. It is therefore of critical importance to the Cypriot administration that the KYPROS-SAT-3 filing is maintained for support of this satellite.

11) In preparing for WRC-15, the issue of bringing into use a satellite network with a satellite that was located at the notified orbital location, but was then moved before the submission of the notification, was specifically studied and WRC-15 decided not to accept such a practice by adopting RR No. **11.44B.2**. It was assumed that a submitted notification may always be concluded by a recording in the MIFR, notably because of the existence of RR No. **11.41** or of similar procedures in RR Appendices **30**, **30A** and **30B**. The fact that § 6.25 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B** does not apply to allotments in the Plan, which creates a specific relationship between the entry into the List under § 6.17 of Article 6 of RR Appendix **30B**, the notification under Article 8 of this Appendix and the bringing into use, was not discussed during WRC-15.

12) In its report to WRC under Resolution **80** under Section 4.2, the RRB specifically invites WRC-19 to consider *“whether the bringing into use of frequency assignments in RR Appendices* ***30B*** *with a satellite that is subsequently relocated prior to the notification submission should be permitted noting that § 6.25 of Article 6 of RR Appendix* ***30B*** *does not apply with respect to allotments in the Plan and therefore, a notification submitted within the 120-day period of the bringing into use may not always result in a recording in the MIFR but instead may be returned to the administration and resubmitted with a new date of receipt while the satellite used for the bringing into use has already been relocated”.*

13) The administration of Cyprus kindly requests WRC-19 to take the above mentioned information, the particular difficulties of the Cypriot administration, and our operator’s efforts to build a new satellite which is already operating in the slot making use of the frequency assignments of KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network, into account and exceptionally to allow the processing by the BR of our 22 September 2017 resubmission of the Part-B and notification information for the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network maintaining the original date of receipt of the first submission, i.e., 3 June 2016, thus permitting the maintaining of the associated 7 March 2016 date of bringing into use, based on the BADR-7 satellite, and the requested suspension as of 6 June 2016. If this is not possible, we request WRC-19 to agree to maintain the 7 March 2016 date of bringing into use, based on the BADR-7 satellite, and the requested suspension as of 6 June 2016, and to associate this bringing into use with the 22 September 2017 resubmission of the Part-B and notification for the KYPROS-SAT-3 satellite network.

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