

IARU REGION 1 AND IARU SATELLITE COORDINATION

During the final Plenary Session of the IARU Region I Conference in Brighton (1981) a Satellite Working Group was established as a forum for the exchange of information and the coordination of amateur satellite work in Region 1.

Dr. A. Gschwindt, HA5WH, was nominated as Chairman/Convenor of this Working Group.

At the Region 1 Conference in Cefalu (1984) it was decided that Region 1 did not need a Working Group but only required a Satellite Coordinator, and HA5WH was nominated to this function.

At the International Day of the 1989 AMSAT-UK Colloquium at the University of Surrey, through the good offices of Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ, Hon. Secretary of AMSAT-UK, IARU Region 1 officials were able to organize a meeting with the officers of the many AMSAT groups represented there. This meeting was aimed at discussing ways and means of improving the contacts between IARU (Region 1) and the AMSAT groups to the mutual benefit of both parties.

At this meeting a policy statement regarding Amateur Satellites was drafted, intended to be considered by the Administrative Council of IARU.

After the 1989 AMSAT-UK Colloquium the Executive Committee of IARU Region 1 adopted a proposal made by the Chairman of the Region 1 VHF/UHF/Microwaves Committee, PA0QC, to extend and improve the liaison between IARU Region 1 and the various AMSAT groups active in the Amateur Satellite Service by nominating a second IARU Region 1 Satellite Coordinator, Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ, as from October 1, 1989.

At its meeting in Orlando, September 1989, the Administrative Council of IARU adopted (in slightly re-worded form) the satellite policy statement drafted at the Guildford meeting as Resolution 89-3; it is attached as Appendix 1. Subsequently this AC Resolution was adopted at IARU Conferences of Regions 2 and 3, as well as by the IARU Region 1 Conference in Torremolinos (April 1990).

At their Orlando meeting the IARU Administrative Council also proposed to nominate an IARU Satellite Activity Coordinator (AC Resolution 89- 4) and requested the IARU Regions to come up with proposals for nominations.

At the International Day of the 1990 AMSAT-UK Colloquium at the University of Surrey the AMSAT groups represented there welcomed the IARU idea of nominating a Satellite Activity Coordinator. Consultation between officers of IARU Region 1 and the officers of AMSAT groups represented at this Symposium resulted in a proposal for Terms of Reference for such an Coordinator. On behalf of Region 1 and with the support of all AMSAT groups present at the 1990 Dataspace Symposium it was proposed to the Administrative Council of the IARU to nominate Fred de Guchteneire, ON6UG, as IARU Satellite Activity Coordinator, and to adopt the above-mentioned Terms of Reference for this position.

In 1991 the Administrative Council of the IARU nominated ON6UG as IARU Satellite Coordinator. They also adopted the proposed Terms of Reference under the provision that a re-write may be undertaken, without changing the essential contents, in order to bring them in line with the Terms of Reference of other IARU bodies as far as form is concerned. This re-write was finalized and adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Council in Brussels (September 1993), where also the name of the officer was changed to IARU Satellite Liaison Officer.

The IARU Region 1 Conference in De Haan (September 1993) decided that, as far as the liaison IARU (Region 1) with the various AMSAT groups was concerned, one liaison officer should suffice. Consequently, the two Region 1 Satellite Coordinators, HA5WH and G3AAJ, who agreed with this view, were not renominated. The Conference recorded a vote of thanks for the excellent work they had done in this field.

The IARU Administrative Council at its meeting in Singapore (September 1994) decided that the existing coordination structure did not work well enough and decided to replace the function of Satellite Liaison Officer by two functions. The first was the "IARU Satellite Adviser", the second the "IARU Satellite Frequency Coordinator". They also nominated Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, as 'Adviser' and Bruce Lockhart, SMoTER, as 'Coordinator'. At the AC Meeting in Niagara Falls 1995 the terms of reference of the Satellite Advisor were slightly changed and the Satellite Advisor could elect the IARU AMSAT Satellite Frequency Coordinator. For this function Graham Ratcliff, VK5AGR, was chosen. The terms of reference for those functions are given in appendix 2.

At the Region 1 Conference 1999 in Lillehammer it was decided that in order to optimize communications with the IARU Advisor, the AMSAT groups in order to support the VHF/UHF/MW Committee a special Region 1 Satellite Coordinator was required. The T.o.R are given in section Id

The following recommendations regarding the Amateur Satellite Service were adopted at IARU Region 1 Conferences:

Support should be given by IARU Region 1 for developments in the Amateur Satellite Service. The Executive Committee of Region I, in consultation with the Satellite Coordinator(s)/Liaison Officers, shall determine how this support shall be effected. (Cefalu, 1984)

IARU Region 1 recognizes the valuable contribution of simple satellites to the amateur community, elementary disaster communications and the education of very young children in satellite communications. (Torremolinos, April 1990)

As the IARU Region 1 144 - 146 MHz bandplan contains no provision for satellite communication in the lower part of the 144 - 146 MHz band, it is recommended that the mode J transponder in OSCAR 13 not be used by amateurs in Region 1. If member societies would report serious interference to terrestrial communications from the non-recommended use of the satellite transponder, IARU Region 1 recommends that the mode J transponder in OSCAR 13 be permanently switched to "Off". (Torremolinos, April 1990)

IARU Region 1 considers the Phase 3D satellite project to be an outstanding example of the contributions amateurs make to the development of state-of-the-art technology and techniques. Therefore member societies of IARU Region 1 are urged to find ways and means to collect private and other donations to support this project. The funds gathered should be sent to one (or more) of the organizations involved in the realization of this project.

Member societies participating in this fund gathering scheme are asked to report on their activities and resulting contributions to IARU Region 1. (De Haan, September 1993)

Note.

Organizations involved in the Phase 3D project construction:

Belgium :	AMSAT Belgium - 24 GHz transmitter
Finland :	AMSAT-OH - 10 GHz transmitter
Germany :	AMSAT-DL - (Project leader) Spacecraft (bus) launch + VHF + UHF + L-band receivers
Germany :	München group - 2.4 GHz transmitter
Hungary :	University of Budapest - BCR control
South Africa :	AMSAT SA - 29 MHz transmitter
UK :	AMSAT UK - 145 MHz transponder
USA :	AMSAT-NA - VHF Transmitter and GPS experiment
USA :	Weber State University - Structure

This list is not exhaustive; other organizations may participate in the construction.