



International Civil Aviation Organization

**Western and Central Africa Office
Second Meeting of the AFI Frequency Management Group (AFI/FMG/2)
Dakar, Senegal, 18-19 April 2011**

Agenda Item 5.2: Report on ATU meeting (Abuja, Nigeria, 1-3 February 2011)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the agenda and the outcome of the First coordination meeting of African Telecommunication Union (ATU) for the preparation of WRC 12 held in Abuja, Nigeria from 1st to 3rd February 2011, outlines the stake on the optimum usage and the protection of the Aeronautical Frequency Spectrum within AFI States.

It reminds and calls for the necessary national and regional actions required to ensuring that the ICAO Position for WRC 12 is supported by AFI States at the Conference and that aviation requirements are met.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In the framework of the preparation of the second session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) the African Telecommunication Union (AFI) convened its first coordination meeting in Abuja, Nigeria from 1st to 3rd February 2011.

1.2 Under State Letter **Ref: T7/7.9.1-0061** AFI States were encouraged to participate to the ATU first African Group Preparatory meeting for World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC-12) for a properly preparation of the ITU Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for WRC 12 scheduled at Geneva (Switzerland) from 14th to 25th February 2011.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The ATU meeting was attended by 92 attendees from 14 ATU Members States and 09 international with the main objective aimed to synergizing African positions on various WRC-12 agenda items and prepare African States common preliminary views as contribution to the agenda that will be discussed during the CPM meeting held in Geneva from 14th to 25th February 2011.

2.2 In spite of the coordination developed by the two regional offices of ESAF and WACAF, the participation of AFI CAA and ANSPs was very low. Only Nigeria CAA (NCAA) and ANP (NAMA) and ASECNA were Aeronautical Administration and Organisation present to this meeting.

2.3 ICAO WACAF attended the meeting with the expectation to gaining the support from AFI states to ICAO position for WRC-12 by the promotion of this position and the presentation of AFI States Civil Aviation Authorities commitments during APIRG/17 with regards to the protection and optimum usage of the Aeronautical spectrum within the AFI Region:

- ICAO position has been expressed on all the aeronautical spectrum issues of interest in the agenda;
- A presentation summarizing the key points in ICAO position and relevant APIRG conclusions on the matter was made;
- Opportunity was taken to clarify the stake on the aeronautical spectrum as a resource linked to the services for the safety of life in the AFI region;
- **In particular under Agenda item 1.3, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)**, ICAO was requested to explain the stake of these Systems in term of possible future large scale usage for civil activities in the AFI region with the opportunities provided by UAS that can be an alternative for goods transportation across the continent and hence the need to prepare for the integration of these systems in the traditional fleets operation in term of Air Navigation safety provision and with the related supporting COM , NAV and SUR services; and finally the need of taking into consideration ICAO position on this agenda item.

2.4 Other issues have been raised up during this meeting in particular:

- Nigeria presented a draft resolution for the provision of frequency to IMT: this issue of importance should be followed up by AFI Aeronautical Community taking into consideration the risk of allocation in the C Band that could harmfully affect the provision of AFS and AMS in AFI satellite based VSAT Networks. The allocation within C Band frequencies was coveted by IMT during WRC 07.
- The issue of ANSPs not charging for VSAT operations (Conclusion 17/38 of APIRG/17) should also be followed up because there is some resistance to this commitment of AFI CAAs.

The key results of the ATU meeting are presented in **Appendixes A- F** to this Working Paper;

2.5 In this regard the following draft conclusion could be proposed to this meeting:

- a) AFI CAA, ANSPs and Airline to increase their participation to ATU forthcoming meetings
- b) AFI CAA experts (briefed on APIRG relevant conclusions) to promoted ICAO position by their full involvement into the AFI National WRC 12 preparatory teams and pursue ICAO actions towards AFI stakeholders for the promotion of ICAO position in the national WRC 12 preparatory teams
- c) ICAO to pursue its actions towards AFI ANSPs and Airlines through Seminars Workshops and AFI FMG Task Force meetings for a large scale awareness of stakeholders to support ICAO position
- d) ICAO to organize informal meetings with AFI Group leaders of the agenda chapters during the forthcoming ATU and CPM meetings with the objective of clarifying and best sharing of ICAO position.
- e) AFI /FMG members to continuously remind on the importance of Aeronautical spectrum issues for WRC-12

3. Action by the meeting

The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information given above
- b) Review and comments the outcome of the first meeting of ATU and accordingly;
- c) take the suitable Conclusion and Decision taking into consideration the proposals made above.;

Appendix A

Chapter 1: maritime and aeronautical issues (1.3, 1.4, 1.9, 1.10)

Agenda Item	A.I Text	Africa Group Preliminary Positions/ Status of discussions	
1.3	To consider spectrum requirements and possible regulatory actions, including allocations, in order to support the safe operation of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), based on the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with Resolution 421 (WRC 07) ;	Consultations still ongoing. No Preliminary Positions (NPP) (two Issues 34MHz T & 57MHz-S)	
1.4	to consider, based on the results of ITU R studies, any further regulatory measures to facilitate introduction of new aeronautical mobile (R) service (AM(R)S) systems in the bands 112-117.975 MHz , 960-1 164 MHz and 5 000-5 030 MHz in accordance with Resolutions 413 (Rev.WRC 07) , 417 (WRC 07) and 420 (WRC 07) ;	Issue A: 112-117.975MHz	Method A
		Issue B: 960-1 164 MHz	Method B2
		Issue C 5 000-5 030 MHz	Method C2
1.9	to revise frequencies and channelling arrangements of Appendix 17 to the Radio Regulations, in accordance with Resolution 351 (Rev.WRC 07) , in order to implement new digital technologies for the maritime mobile service;	Support CPM proposed method. (there are concerns over the transition period)	
1.10	Agenda Item 1.10: to examine the frequency allocation requirements with regard to operation of safety systems for ships and ports and associated regulatory provisions, in accordance with Resolution 357 (WRC 07);	Issue A	NPP
		Issue B	NPP
		Issue C	Method C
		Issue D	NPP

Appendix B

Chapter 2: Radiolocation and Amateur Issues (1.14, 1.15, 1.21, 1.23)

Agenda Item	A.I Text	Africa Group Preliminary Position/ Status of discussions
1.14	Agenda Item 1.14 : to consider requirements for new applications in the radiolocation service and review allocations or regulatory provisions for implementation of the radiolocation service in the range 30 - 300 MHz, in accordance with <i>Resolution 611 (WRC 07)</i>	Consultations still ongoing (NPP)
1.15	Agenda Item 1.15 : to consider possible allocations in the range 3-50 MHz to the radiolocation service for oceanographic radar applications, taking into account the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with <i>Resolution 612 (WRC 07)</i>	Method C
1.21	Agenda Item 1.21: to consider a primary allocation to the radiolocation service in the band 15.4-15.7 GHz, taking into account the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with <i>Resolution 614 (WRC 07)</i> ;	Consultations still ongoing (NPP)
1.23	Agenda Item 1.23: to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the amateur service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services;	Consultations still ongoing (NPP)

Appendix C

Chapter 3: Fixed, Mobile and Broadcasting Issues (1.5, 1.8, 1.17, 1.20 & 1.22)

Agenda Item	A.I Text	Africa Group Preliminary Position/ Status of discussions	
1.5	to consider worldwide/regional harmonization of spectrum for electronic news gathering (ENG), taking into account the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with Resolution 954 (WRC 07)	Consultations still ongoing (NPP)	
1.8	to consider the progress of ITU R studies concerning the technical and regulatory issues relative to the fixed service in the bands between 71 GHz and 238 GHz, taking into account Resolutions 731 (WRC 2000) and 732 (WRC 2000) ;	Method A, Approach A1	
1.17	to consider results of sharing studies between the mobile service and other services in the band 790-862 MHz in Regions 1 and 3, in accordance with Resolution 749 (WRC 07) , to ensure the adequate protection of services to which this frequency band is allocated, and take appropriate action	Issue A: MS sw BS	NPP
		Issue B: MS sw ARNS	NPP
		Issue C: MS sw FS	NPP
		Consultations still ongoing	
1.20	to consider the results of ITU R studies and spectrum identification for gateway links for high altitude platform stations (HAPS) in the range 5 850 - 7 075 MHz in order to support operations in the fixed and mobile services, in accordance with Resolution 734 (Rev.WRC 07) ;	Consultations still ongoing (NPP)	
1.22	to examine the effect of emissions from short-range devices on radiocommunication services, in accordance with Resolution 953 (WRC 07) ;	Consultations still ongoing (NPP)	

Appendix D

Chapter 4: Science Issues (1.6, 1.11, 1.12 , 1.16 & 1.24)

Agenda Item	A.I Text	African Group Preliminary Position/ Status of discussions
1.6	A.I. 1.6 Text: to review No. 5.565 of the Radio Regulations in order to update the spectrum use by the passive services between 275 GHz and 3 000 GHz (NB: currently not assigned), in accordance with Resolution 950 (Rev.WRC 07) , and to consider possible procedures for free-space optical-links, taking into account the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with Resolution 955 (WRC 07) ;	Method A (950) & Option B (955)
1.11	A. I. 1.11 Text : to consider a primary allocation to the space research service (Earth to space) within the band 22.55 to 23.15 GHz, taking into account the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with Resolution 753 (WRC 07) ;	Method B (note was taken of results of sharing studies)
1.12	A.I. 1.12 Text: to protect the primary services in the band 37-38 GHz from interference resulting from aeronautical mobile service operations, taking into account the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with Resolution 754 (WRC 07) ;	Method A (exclude the AM(R)S from the MS allocation in the 37-38 GHz band and also SUP Resolution 754 (WRC 07);
1.16	Agenda Item 1.16 : to consider the needs of passive systems for lightning detection in the meteorological aids service including the possibility of an allocation in the frequency range below 20 kHz and to take appropriate action in accordance with Resolution 671 (WRC 07) ;	Method A (segmentation of the frequency band 9-14 kHz)
1.24	Agenda Item 1.24: to consider the existing allocation to the meteorological satellite service in the band 7 750-7 850 MHz with a view to extending this allocation to the band 7 850-7 900 MHz, limited to non geostationary meteorological satellites in the space to Earth direction, in accordance with Resolution 672 (WRC 07) ;	Method A (note taken of history and studies)

Appendix E

Chapter 6: Future work programme and other issues (1.2, 1.19, 2, 4, 8.1, 8.2)

Agenda Item	A.I Text	African Group Preliminary Position/ Status of discussions
1.2	taking into account the ITU R studies carried out in accordance with Resolution 951 (Rev.WRC 07) to take appropriate action with a view to enhancing the international regulatory framework;	Consultations still ongoing (Administrations urged to take great care on this A.I as it has far reaching implications)
1.19	to consider regulatory measures and their relevance, in order to enable the introduction of software defined radio and cognitive radio systems, based on the results of ITU R studies, in accordance with Resolution 956 (WRC 07) ;	Methods A and B2 (NOC)
2	Agenda Item 2: to examine the revised ITU R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations communicated by the Radiocommunication Assembly in accordance with Resolution 28 (Rev.WRC 03) , and to decide whether or not to update the corresponding references in the Radio Regulations in accordance with principles contained in the Annex 1 to Resolution 27 (Rev.WRC 07) ;	Consultations still ongoing. (NPP)
4	Chapter 1 in accordance with Resolution 95 (Rev.WRC 07) , to review the resolutions and recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision replacement or abrogation;	Doc 34 just uploaded onto ITU Website Members deferred discussions of this matter.
8.1	Agenda Item 8.1: to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau:	Discussions deferred to next meeting.
8.2	Agenda Item 8. 2: to recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next WRC and to give its views on the preliminary agenda for the subsequent conference and on possible agenda items for future conferences taking into account Resolution 806 (WRC 07) .	The Federal Republic of Nigeria presented to the meeting a draft resolution calling for further studies on IMT with a view to increase spectrum provision/allocations to meet future requirements. The draft resolution will be considered by Member States pending discussions at the next ATU meeting.