

WRC-2003 Advisory Committee
Informal Working Group 4 (IWG-4)

IWG-4 PRELIMINARY VIEWS
On Agenda Item 1.26

WRC-2003 Agenda Item 1.26: To consider the provisions, under which earth stations located on board vessels, could operate in fixed satellite networks, taking into account the ITU-R studies in response to Resolution 82.

Issue -

At WRC-2000 Resolution 82 was adopted which recognizes the existence and importance of communications services provided by VSAT like terminals on board ships operating in the 3700-4200 MHz and 5925-6425 MHz Fixed Satellite Service bands. Now RR need to be developed to implement the guidelines in Res. 82.

Background -

Resolves 4 of Resolution 82 states that until WRC-03 takes further action the guidelines in its Annexes 1 and 2 should be used as a basis for bilateral or multilateral agreement between administrations licensing ESVs and affected administrations. ESVs have been operating for over 10 years either under S4.4 or on the basis of a coordination agreement with affected administrations while not causing unacceptable interference to co-frequency terrestrial services.

Countries have provided authorizations to operate ESV terminals at ports, in territorial waters, and within a distance beyond which no coordination is required. This has occurred even though the ship on which the ESV is located does not carry the flag of the country which could receive interference.

Several actions are now underway in ITU-R Study Groups to develop Recommendations related to this agenda item. These include:

- a. In Working Party 4A a Recommendation is being developed on the Characteristics of ESVs.
- b. In Joint Working Party 4-9S several Recommendations are being developed on methods to be used for achieving coordination with fixed stations when ESVs are in motion near the shore, including definition of a distance beyond which no coordination is necessary.

Preliminary View

The Preliminary View of the U.S. on this agenda item is:

- a. A footnote should be added to the allocation 3700-4200 MHz and 5925-6425 MHz which references a revised Resolution 82. To the extent that studies within the ITU-R have been satisfactorily completed on the use of 11/14 GHz for this application, a similar footnote should be added to appropriate bands. The footnote could read:

S5.ESV Earth-stations on board vessels operating in this band shall do so in accordance with the provision of Resolution 82 (Rev. 2003).

- b. Resolution 82 should be modified to change the guidelines of Annex 1 to resolves (suppress the existing resolves) and remove the title of Annex 1.
- c. Change Annex 2 to Annex 1.
- d. When operating in the territorial waters of a country or within a distance from the shore of a country outside of which there will be no unacceptable interference to terrestrial stations, a vessel having an earth station on board should be permitted to transmit once compliance with the technical criteria for avoiding interference as established by that country has been demonstrated.