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Informal Working Group 6

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

WRC-2003 Agenda Item 1.7: to consider issues concerning the amateur and amateur-satellite services:

1.7.2 review of the provisions of Article **S19** concerning the formation of call signs in the amateur services in order to provide flexibility for administrations;

Background information:

Agenda item 1.7.2 was the result of an administration proposal, endorsed by CEPT, to provide more flexibility in amateur station call sign structure, especially to commemorate special events or for special situations. There is some demand in the United States for amateur station call signs that do not conform to Article **S19**. For example, in 1997 the FCC authorized the use of call sign NN50CIA to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Central Intelligence Agency. At other times the FCC has granted permission for amateur stations to use call signs that are at variance with Article **S19** to commemorate, for example, US hosting of the Olympics and the bicentennial of the Constitution of the United States.

Proposal:

USA/XX/X

MOD

S19.68 - one character (see No. **S19.50.1**) and a single digit (other than 0 and 1), followed by a group of not more than ~~three letters~~ four characters, the last of which shall be a letter, or

Reasons:

Greater flexibility would be afforded.

SUP

S19.49 e) ~~for amateur stations, combinations commencing with a digit when the second character is the letter O or the letter I.~~

Reasons:

This paragraph prohibits amateur station call signs commencing with a digit when the second character is the letter O or the letter I. This unnecessarily limits the call selections of administrations that are allocated such international call sign series. In the case of Yemen, which has been allocated only the international call sign series 7OA-7OZ, no amateur call sign can be formed that conforms to No. **S19.49**.