

United States of America
Preliminary Views on WRC-07

WRC-07 Agenda Item 1.12: to consider possible changes in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference: “Advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks” in accordance with Resolution 86 (WRC-03).

ISSUE: Resolves 1 of Resolution 86 (WRC-03) reflects part of the scope and criteria of this agenda item as determined by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Res. 86 (Marrakesh). It specifically states that WRC-07 should “consider any proposals which deal with deficiencies in the advance publication, coordination and notification procedures of the Radio Regulations for space services which have either been identified by the Board and included in the Rules of Procedure or which have been identified by administrations or by the Bureau as appropriate.”

In this respect certain provisions of Article 9 may not be satisfactory for dealing with the issues of time and cost as related to their application to the requests of satellite network coordination.

BACKGROUND: For a number of years the ITU has been struggling with how to manage the extensive development of satellite networks. Such developments have put a strain on the normal capability of the BR, which has been responsible for the processing and examination of the Advance Publications, Coordination Requests and Notifications of satellite networks.

The burden was such that the 1998 Plenipotentiary Conference agreed Resolution 88 (Minneapolis, 1998) to provide for the cost recovery of ITU activities associated with this processing. Nevertheless, backlogs have developed and methodologies were developed for cost recovery. However, due to concerns raised about such methodologies,

proposals for modification are being proposed. In addition, the ITU itself is in a budgetary crisis in which it is not certain that all of the budgeted functions can be supported.

It appears that the difficulties that have arisen could be mitigated if some of the responsibility of the BR were to be carried out by Administrations. This would require modification of Article 9 of the RR. It would give the BR staff more time to provide assistance to individual administrations meriting such support rather than expend that same time in support of major space users who, within their respective administrations, should be able ably equipped to conducting coordination without daily BR support. This would have the consequential effect of reducing the amount of time which the BR would need to spend on processing satellite filings.

U.S. Views:

1. The US supports continued simplification of the RR procedures and is committed to working through the study groups and with other administrations toward that end.

2. At this preliminary stage, it is the U.S. view that the burden on ITU staff could potentially be reduced through modification or replacement of portions of **Nos. 9.34-9.44** of Article 9 of the Radio Regulations to have Administrations carry out functions currently done by the BR. Studies are required to determine which modifications, if any, would be appropriate. These modifications would be made under Agenda Item 1.12 for WRC-07.