

The IARU:
What it is.
What it does.
Why it's important.

For the ARRL Board of Directors
July 18, 2019



### Tonight's agenda

Overview of IARU – its history (what it is)

IARU today and its work (what it does)

Why ARRL's continued support is important

Your questions



### The radio spectrum

- In ever-increasing demand
- Traded at very high prices
- Pressure on users to release spectrum (esp. government & military)
- Amateur Radio cannot "buy" spectrum
- Amateur spectrum is only acquired and retained through professional level advocacy and well-researched argument



### Spectrum allocation today

- Last "DC to daylight" conference was 1979; agendas now are very specific
- Administrations now see spectrum as revenue source
- Emerging role of the RTOs Regional Telecommunications Organisations (6)
- Each RTO tries to develop common positions representing the dominant views of its members
- ITU now works by consensus one stubborn country can block a decision
- Difficult environment in which to make progress



### The ITU and global spectrum allocation

• ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs.

It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develops the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strives to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.



#### **ITU Structure**

- Plenipotentiary Conference every 4 years
  - Elects Secretary-General, Deputy, 3 Directors, Council, RRB
- Council meets annually
- SG and DSG: overall management (Houlin Zhao, Malcolm Johnson)
- Radiocommunication (ITU-R): Mario Maniewicz
  - Study Groups, Working Parties
- Development (ITU-D): Doreen Bogdan-Martin, KD2JTX
  - Study Groups
- Telecommunication Standardization (ITU-T): Chaesun Lee



# Spectrum "Regulators"

• ITU and six Regional Telecommunications Organisations:

- APT Asia Pacific
- ASMG Arab states
- ATU Africa
- CEPT Europe
- CITEL Americas
- RCC Commonwealth of Independent States (of the former Soviet Union)



### Achieving agreement on allocations

World Radiocommunication Conferences



RTOs & ITU working parties



**National administrations** 







### What is IARU?

- The "umbrella" federation of national amateur radio societies
- 167 national associations as member-societies
- 3 regions and the International Secretariat (ARRL)
- Team is entirely volunteer
- Its main missions are:
  - Protection and enhancement of amateur radio spectrum access, working through ITU and Regional Telecommunications Organisations
  - Advocacy for standards to mitigate spectrum pollution
- Member-societies are the "building blocks" of the IARU

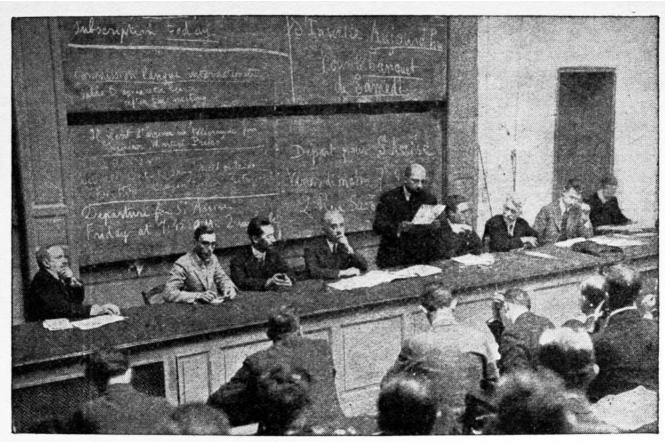


### **Early IARU history**

- 1925 IARU founded in Paris
- 1927 IARU present at Washington Radiotelegraph Conference which set allocations
- 1932 ITU admits IARU to participation in CCIR (later the Radiocommunication Sector)
- 1938 ITU creates the three Region structure for frequency allocations
- 1950 IARU Region 1 formed
- 1962 4U1ITU station established at ITU HQ as "showcase" for amateur radio
- 1964 IARU Region 2 formed followed by Region 3 in 1968
- 1979 Last "DC to daylight" allocation conference, new "WARC-79" bands gained
- 1982 IARU Administrative Council formed with new Constitution (1984)



### The first IARU Congress – Paris, 1925



Those present included:

Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW (ARRL)

Kenneth B Warner, W1EH (ARRL)

Leon Deloy, F8AB

Gerald Marcuse, G2NM (RSGB)

William Borrett, C1DD (Canada)

Loyal S Reid, C8AR (Newfoundland)

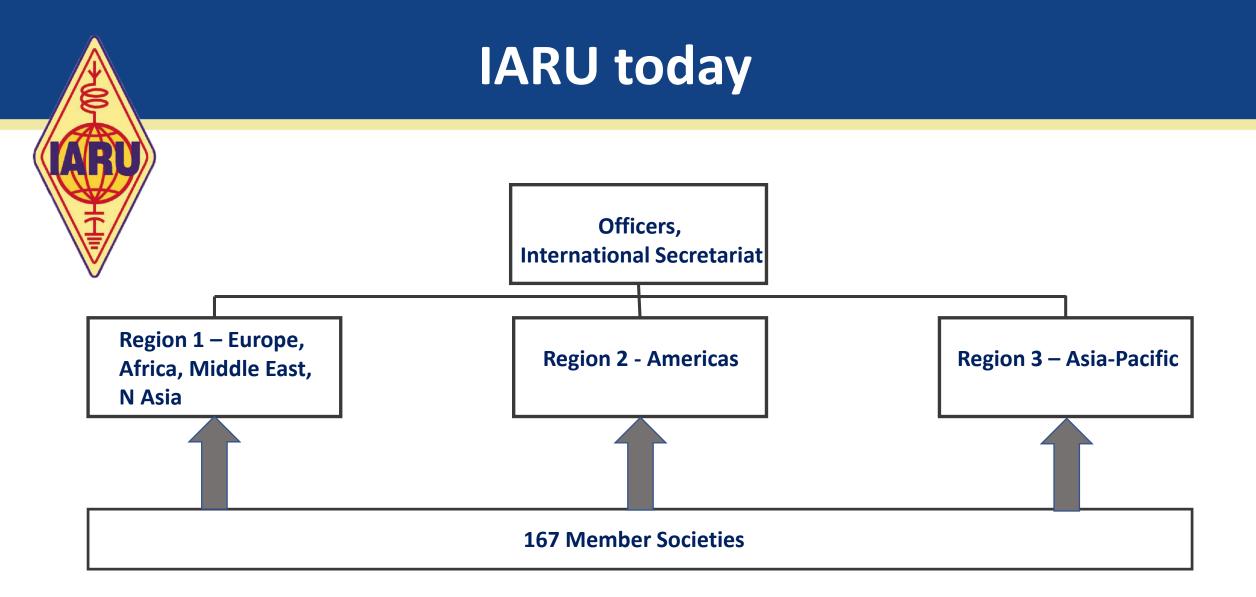
and representatives of 23 other

countries.



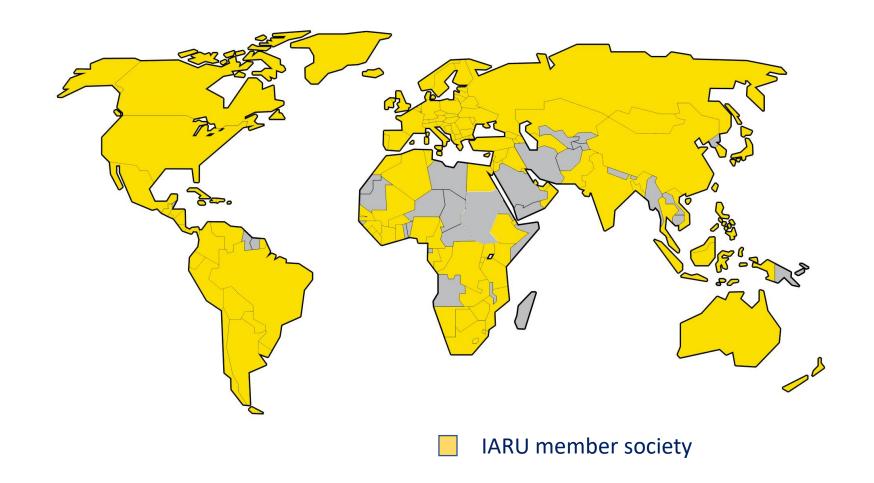
### Some IARU Achievements

- 21 MHz band globally (WARC 1947)
- Amateur Satellite Service created (WRC-Space 1971)
- 10, 18, 24 MHz bands globally, improved 1.8 MHz band (WARC 1979)
- More amateur-satellite bands, microwave allocations (WARC 1979)
- 7 MHz extension (WRC 2003)
- Easing of some restrictions to facilitate disaster communications (WRC 2003)
- 136 kHz band globally (WRC 2007)
- 472 kHz band globally (WRC 2012)
- Small global 5 MHz band (WRC 2015)
- Improvements in international roaming for radio amateurs (CEPT & CITEL)
- Recognition of amateur emergency communications, importance of EMC standards





### IARU covers the globe



International Amateur Radio Union - Working for the future of amateur radio



### How does IARU work?

- Administrative Council sets policy and objectives
- Regions are autonomous, hold triennial conferences, represented on AC
- Technical representatives and expert consultants work together to:
  - Develop the IARU strategy for each WRC
  - Seek support from national regulators (through national member societies)
  - Coordinate the IARU strategies towards each RTO
  - Respond to inputs from national administrations in RTOs and ITU
- ....with the objective of securing agreement in each RTO before the WRC is held. "Think global – act local"





President, Tim Ellam, VE6SH (Canada)



Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR (Norway)



**Secretary Dave Sumner, K1ZZ (USA)** 



### IARU regional heads



President, Region 1, Don Beattie, G3BJ (UK)



President, Region 2, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AM (Venezuela)



Chairman, Region 3, Wisnu Widjaja, YB0AZ (Indonesia)



# Volunteers by the dozen!

- Regional executive committees (elected at regional conferences)
- Technical representatives and expert consultants (appointed on the basis of qualifications)
- Committee chairmen and coordinators (elected or appointed regionally)
- Member-society representatives on committees
- IARU Monitoring System
- Satellite frequency coordination
- International Beacon Project (in cooperation with NCDXF)





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# ITU Development Sector

"BDT" or "the D Sector"



### **BDT Mission:**

Fosters international cooperation and delivery of technical assistance in the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication and ICT\* equipment and networks in developing countries.

\*ICT is "information and communication technologies."



### **IARU Objectives in BDT**

Promote amateur radio in LDCs and SIDS

 Promote the amateur radio role in emergency telecommunications and disaster response and mitigation

Support the IARU effort in the Radiocommunication Sector



### BDT works through 2 "Study Groups"

ITU-D Study Groups develop **Reports**, **Guidelines**, and **Recommendations** based on input received from the membership.

The Study Groups examine specific task-oriented telecommunication/ICT questions of priority to developing countries, to support them in achieving their ICT development goals.



### **Study Group 1**

Q 1/1 -- Strategies and policies for the deployment of broadband in developing countries

Q 5/1 -- Telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas

Q 7/1 -- Access to telecommunication/ICT services by persons with disabilities and other persons with specific needs



### **Study Group 2**

Q 1/2 -- Creating smart cities and society: Employing information and communication technologies for sustainable social and economic development

Q 2/2 -- Telecommunications/ICTs for eHealth

Q 3/2 -- Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity

Q 5/2 -- Utilizing telecommunications/ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management

Q 6/2 -- ICTs and the environment ("Climate Change")



# Q 5/2 -- Utilizing telecommunications/ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management

This Q is the primary reason IARU attends SG2 meetings.

Q 5/2 examines best practices and country experiences in planning, exercising and deploying early-warning systems for disaster risk reduction.

Q 5/2 prepares emergency telecommunications plans for LDCs and SIDS.

Q 5/2 prepares guidelines for preparing and conducting disaster communications exercises and drills.

Q 5/2 promotes best practices regarding the enabling policy environment for the deployment of emergency communications systems.

Q 5/2 conducts seminars and workshops to share knowledge, information and best practices for disaster planning, response and mitigation.

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### Who pays for the IARU?

- Member-societies pay dues to their regional organizations
- Regional organizations fund their own activities and pass a portion of the dues to the International Secretariat
- ARRL pays dues to Region 2 (mainly) and Region 3 and also covers additional IARU expenses
- So in the US the answer is: ARRL members do. Their support of the ARRL is what makes your support of the IARU possible!



### Key agenda items at WRC 19

- 1.1 Amateur allocation in Region 1 in the 50-54 MHz region
- 1.7 Non-GSO satellites
- 1.13 Spectrum for international mobile telecommunications
   24-86 GHz
- 1.15 275-450 GHz mobile and fixed services
- 1.16 RLAN at 5 GHz
- 9.1.6 Wireless power transfer spectrum
- Future agenda items



### Agenda items for WRC-23 and WRC-27

- No IARU plans to promote new agenda items
- Future agenda items generally require studies
  - "Devil is in the details" of Resolution accompanying agenda item
  - Three years of effort in ITU-R Working Parties
  - Sluggish consultative process (Liaison Statements)
  - Reaching consensus takes much compromise
  - Conference Preparatory Meeting finalizes report months before WRC
- Horse trading can lead to inclusion of marginal agenda items
- WRCs are about regulatory text, not about "how" to share



### Concerns about possible agenda item

- French proposal to study range of frequencies for future aeronautical mobile applications, including 144-146 MHz
  - Last-minute proposal, no time for administrations to study so only limited opposition initially expressed
  - Currently being considered in CEPT, Conference Preparatory Group meets late August
  - IARU strongly opposed to study of two meter band, IARU Region 1 marshalling opposition for CPG meeting
  - Even if no European Common Proposal, France could still pursue with a few other administrations
  - IARU will also oppose in other RTOs



### Other possible agenda items

- Protection for Galileo radionavigation-satellite (1260 MHz)
  - Interference from ATV repeaters in Germany
  - Tests show narrowband interference can be mitigated
  - IARU position: changes to Radio Regulations not required, ITU-R Recommendation can be developed to address mitigation
- IMT at 47-47.2 GHz
  - Insatiable demand for mobile broadband spectrum
  - No studies for WRC-19 but could resurface as future agenda item
- Short duration satellites (Cubesats, etc.)
  - Study of amateur-satellite spectrum narrowly avoided at WRC-15
  - If issue not resolved at WRC-19 will come up again



### IARU needs, present and future

- A small number of experts carry the workload
- We are all getting older!
- Time demands are increasing; more meeting participation required
- IARU needs more volunteers with the skills to join this work
  - More involvement in standards organizations needed (EMC)
- Even with all-volunteer team, travel costs increase
- Succession planning is of critical importance



### Thanks for listening!

For more information: <a href="www.iaru.org">www.iaru.org</a> (new website in development)

- Other links:
  - www.iaru-r2.org (Region 2)
  - www.itu.int (ITU)
  - www.citel.oas.org (CITEL, the Region 2 RTO)