

International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Interim Meeting April 2016

Subject:	Minutes of Meeting C4		
Society:	IARU R1	Country	IARU
Committee:	C4	Paper Number	VIE16_C4_18
Author:	Ian Greenshields G4FSU		

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, DK4VW at 08:40

2. Introduction of Delegates

Present: DK4VW IARU Chairman C4, G3BJ IARU Region 1 President, G3PSM IARU Region 1 Chairman ERC, G0MGX AROS, OK1RI CRC, DJ1YFK DARC, DL8MDW DARC, OZ1ADL EDR, 9A2R HRS, EI3IO IRTS, EL2BN LRAA, HA5EA MRASZ, OE8KDK OeVSV, F5NED REF, G4FSU RSGB, SM6JSM SSA, OH2BQZ SRAL, ON7LX UBA, EA5RS URE, PA0SHY VERON, S51FB ZRS, LA4LN NRRL, OH8WM SRAL, OM5RW SARA, HB9CET USKA, PA0JMG VERON

3. Agreement of the Agenda

The agenda was agreed with no objections.

4. Band Planning Matters

4.1. NRRL 630m Beacons VIE16_C4_02

The paper was presented by LA4LN, NRRL. The proposal was changed to allow time limited test transmissions, rather than beacons.

VERON stated they were not in favour of beacons in the 472kHz band as it is too narrow and there exists beacons from other services on adjacent frequencies. G3BJ asked whether it would be more effective to have a network of SDRs linked to RBN rather than more beacons. RSGB stated they are opposed to the introduction of beacons in the band as it is not in line with the IARU recommendation for no beacons below 14 MHz, but that time limited tests would be acceptable. DARC stated that permanent beacons should not be established in the 472kHz band. UBA is not in favour of the proposal. CRC is not in favour of beacons in the centre of the band and that the term 'time limited' also needs to be better defined as it is too vague.

A vote was taken for the proposal with NRRL voting for, and all others against. Not carried.

4.2. RSGB Use of Upper Sideband below 10 MHz VIE16_C4_03

The paper was presented by G4FSU, RSGB.

Concern was expressed by several societies that this could be interpreted as suggesting the use of USB on 3.5 MHz and 7 MHz, which could create serious coexistence problems with LSB.

It was agreed unanimously to revise the HF Managers' Handbook to ensure USB at 5 MHz is permitted, but that the recommendation should specifically only refer to 5 MHz

VIE16_C4_REC_01:

The Region 1 HF Managers' Handbook, v8.1 page 113, and the IARU Region 1 HF band plan be revised to read:

Sideband Usage: Below 10 MHz lower sideband (LSB) is recommended, and above 10 MHz use upper sideband (USB). The exception to this is on the 5 MHz band where USB is recommended.

4.3. RSGB Integrating the 5 MHz WRC-15 Allocation VIE16_C4_04

The paper was presented by G4FSU, RSGB

NRRL & DARC stated that the band should not be channelised. RSGB stated also that channelisation is not intended, but any guide on usage needs to consider current fixed frequency allocations.

The difference between 'band plan' and 'proposed usage' was discussed, noting that the intention of the term 'proposed usage' is to create a more flexible proposal aimed to provide guidance rather than to set a fixed band plan.

A recommendation was drafted and presented. Approved unanimously.

VIE16_C4_REC_02:

That the following proposed usage plan for the WRC-15 5 MHz allocation be implemented in Region 1 with a view to harmonising across all regions:

5351.5 - 5354 kHz 200 Hz CW / narrow band modes

5354.0 - 5366 kHz 2700 Hz All modes, USB recommended for voice operation

5366.0 - 5366.5 kHz 20 Hz Weak signal narrow band modes

It is strongly recommended that frequencies within the WRC-15 allocation only be used if there are no other frequencies available at 5 MHz under domestic (ITU-R article 4.4) permissions. Local nets and long rag chew QSOs should not use the WRC-15 5 MHz allocation but should instead make use of the 3.5 MHz, 5 MHz domestic, or 7 MHz bands where there is more spectrum available.

4.4. RSGB Data Mode Usage at 3.5 and 10 MHz VIE16_C4_05

The paper was presented by G4FSU, RSGB

It was noted that the content of this paper is covered by the two DARC papers, VIE16_C4_06 and VIE16_C4_07 on 30m and 80m band planning and that discussion for this paper should be included within the DARC papers.

4.5. DARC 30m band planning VIE16_C4_06

The paper was presented by DJ1YFK, DARC.

MRASZ supports the proposal. RSGB also supports the paper. G3BJ stated that it could be advantageous to specifically mention that CW is allowed over the whole band.

OeVSV asked why we shouldn't allow bandwidths of 2700 Hz. DARC stated that the band was too narrow for activity in Europe for this.

Votes: carried unanimously.

VIE16_C4_REC_03:

It is recommended that the IARU Region 1 band plan for 30m be revised as follows:

FREQUENCY SEGMENT (kHz)	MAX BANDWIDTH (Hz)	PREFERRED MODE AND USAGE	
10100 - 10130	200	CW	10116 kHz - CW QRP Centre of Activity
10130 - 10150	500	Narrow band modes	Digimodes

Note that CW is permitted over the whole band.

It should be noted there is an IARU recommendation that there should be no beacons below 14 MHz (DK0WCY excepted) and current beacons in the 30m band are operating against this recommendation.

4.6. DARC 80m band planning VIE16_C4_07 rev1

The paper was presented by DL8MDW, DARC.

The chairman DK4VW stated that Region 2 is aware of the discussion around this paper and is looking at the outcome.

The meeting strongly encourages development of a global approach to band planning across regions and suggests more formal band planning liaison between Regions 1, 2, & 3. G3BJ suggested that a liaison statement be drafted and sent to Region 2 and Region 3 with a view to help alignment between regions. This should also include the 30m band.

VERON does not support the proposal. REF abstained. 17 votes for. Carried with greater than 2/3rd majority.

VIE16_C4_REC_04:

It is recommended that the IARU Region 1 band plan for 80m be revised as follows:

FREQUENCY SEGMENT (kHz)	MAX BANDWIDTH (Hz)	PREFERRED MODE AND USAGE	
3500 - 3510	200	CW	Priority for intercontinental operation
3510 - 3560	200	CW	CW contest preferred 3555 kHz - CW QRS Centre of Activity
3560 - 3570	200	CW	3560 kHz - CW QRP Centre of Activity
3570 - 3580	200	All Narrow Band Modes	Digimodes
3580 - 3590	500	All Narrow Band Modes	Digimodes
3590 - 3600	500	All Narrow Band Modes	Digimodes, automatically controlled data stations (unattended)

5. HF Manager's Handbook

5.1. ZRS Deletion of Recommendation Davos 2005 VIE16_C4_08

The paper was presented by S51FB ZRS.

Agreed unanimously.

VIE16_C4_REC_05:

It is recommended to delete Recommendation Davos 2005 DV05_C3_Rec_20

5.2. ZRS Guidelines for HF contest VIE16_C4_09

The paper was presented by S51FB ZRS.

Agreed unanimously.

VIE16_C4_REC_06:

The IARU R1 HF Manager's Handbook should be modified to include the 60m band on the excluded bands list.

Contests should be restricted to 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10m. That is 60, 30, 17 and 12m bands should not be used for contests.

5.3. RSGB Editorial Corrections to HF Manager's Handbook VIE16_C4_10

The HF Manager's Handbook has a typo error related to the 29 MHz band plan. DK4VW explained that this has now been corrected so no further action is required.

6. Reports

6.1. IARU Region 1 ERC The 5 MHz Agenda Item at WRC-15 VIE16_C4_12

A presentation was made by G3PSM and DK4VW on the work undertaken to achieve the 5 MHz allocation.

6.2. IARU Region 1 AROS Report VIE16_C4_13

A presentation on DQRM monitoring activities was given by G0MGX, Region 1 AROS Coordinator.

6.3. IARU Region 1 Deliberate QRM on the HF bands VIE14_C4_14

A presentation was given by G3BJ, IARU Region 1 President describing efforts that have been taken to tackle DQRM on the HF bands. The meeting discussed further measures which will be taken to address this problem.

6.4. Region 1 EC Amateur Service Spectrum Requirements VIE16_C4_11

EI3IO asked for inputs on possible spectrum requests for future agenda items. CRC said we should focus efforts on allocations that could benefit the most amateurs. G3PSM noted that it is easier to gain agreement where the amateur service seeks to improve the status of shared bands rather than asking for more spectrum. DARC & RSGB suggested that an expansion to 10 MHz would be very useful.

EI3IO suggested that some proposals for future agenda items could be submitted for the next General Conference.

6.5. IARU Region 1 C4 Chairman's report VIE16_c4_15

The C4 Chairman, DK4VW, presented the report.

7. Information Presentations

7.1. Youngsters on the Air

A presentation was given by Lisa PA2LS. It was noted that this year's event takes place in Austria.

7.2. VERON Provisional Results of Measurement Campaign VIE16_C4_17

A presentation was given by PA0JMG.

8. Any Other Business

8.1. C4FM mode on 29 MHz

G4FSU RSGB noted that there is activity with C4FM on 28 MHz, sometimes in the satellite segment on 29310 kHz.

The bandwidth of C4FM is 12.5 kHz and does not comply with current band plan of 6 kHz maximum bandwidth. However it was also noted that experimentation in new modes should be encouraged and that the 10m band above 29.0 MHz has plenty of space available.

It is suggested that operators of C4FM use the segment between 29.0 and 29.1 MHz, taking due consideration for other operators on adjacent channels to allow for experimentation with this mode. C4FM should not be used on any HF frequencies below 29.0 MHz.

8.2. Status of Recommendations Dealing with Contest-free Segments

DK4VW noted that some member societies are not implementing the contest-free segments, whereas others are and asked whether anything more can be done to encourage adherence to the contest-free segments.

CRC noted that smaller contests can implement the contest-free segments, but it is not realistic for the larger contests.

RSGB stated that contests organised by the RSGB do include the frequency limits in the contest rules and that these are monitored.

DK4VW read a note of thanks from the Scout Movement to DARC regarding cooperation in JOTA and the WAG contest, stating that the implementation of the contest-free segment has worked well over the weekend.

8.3. Better Exchange of Experiences on Contest Related Matters

DK4VW proposed that an email reflector be established to discuss and exchange methods for adjudicating and monitoring contests. DK4VW will send an invitation via the IARU Region 1 HF reflector to interested societies.

9. Date and Venue of next HF Committee Meeting

The next meeting of C4 will be at the 2017 IARU Region 1 General Conference.

10. To close the business of the C4 committee meeting

The meeting was closed at 10:00 by DK4VW C4 Chairman.