



*The World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 was the major activity for which IARU worldwide was preparing for over four years. Numerous meetings were held in all three regions to work out the best way to approach the requirements for amateur radio and we have some detailed observations in this issue from our Director Shizuo Endo and also an impression of WRC 12 from Dave Sumner who also reports that the preparatory meeting for WRC 2015 also was held. A major earthquake hit central Philippines and we carry a report of amateur radio activities as it happened at that time as it dramatically describes the role radio amateurs' play. A modified Monitoring System has come into existence and details on how this very important activity works is also given here*

### A Word from the Chairman of IARU Region 3

**Michael Owen VK3KI**

#### The International Monitoring System

Why is the IARU Monitoring System so important?

It is because the ITU's Radio Regulations say that an administration does not have to assign its stations frequencies in accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations so long as its stations do not cause harmful interference to a station operating in accordance with the Radio Regulations. Accordingly, if amateur stations suffer harmful interference they must complain, because until the administration knows that its station is causing harmful interference to stations operating in accordance with the Radio Regulations it can take the position that it is not in breach of the Radio Regulations.

It is one of the few activities apart from its role in the WRC process that many argue is an essential IARU role.

For many years the IARU has maintained the international Monitoring System, relying on the three Regional organisations appointing Regional Monitoring System (MS) Coordinators, who in turn collated the reports of the Coordinators in each national member society, who in turn collated the reports of the observers in their country. All of this was intended to work under the guidance of an International MS Coordinator.

In fact, there has not been an International MS Coordinator for many years, each Region had different methods and procedures and the processes established by the Administrative Council to facilitate inter-regional communication were to say the least bureaucratic and ineffective and were largely ignored.

There is no doubt that the IARU Region 1 MS, under the leadership of Coordinator Wolf Hadel DK2OM and Vice Coordinator Ulrich Bihlmayer DJ9KR has set the standard for the regional monitoring systems, with a technically up to date and really useful website and methods and procedures that really work.

If you look at the IARU Region 3 website, you will find that it is still using a 1988 Manual, though under the leadership of IARU Region 3 MS Coordinator Peter Young VK3MV the MS has been operating effectively and collaborating efficiently with the other Regional coordinators.

The IARU Region 3 Directors raised the issue at the last IARU Region 3 Conference in Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2009.

The MS became the major work of the Conference, with the member societies seeing advantage in a more truly global system, identifying a number of areas where they considered a common approach was desirable and referred the matter to the Administrative Council of the IARU.

The Administrative Council is comprised of the IARU Officers and two representatives from each of the three IARU Regional organisations, IARU Regions 1, 2 and 3, and is the peak policy organ of the IARU.

The Administrative Council has now agreed on a very new approach.

It has given away the idea of an International Coordinator and the complex process for inter regional communication and replaced it with the much simpler and totally logical structure of a single Monitoring System Committee comprised of each of the three Regional MS Coordinators and the President of the IARU, or his nominee.

By the Resolution of the Administrative Council establishing the IARU Monitoring System and the Terms of Reference of the Monitoring System Committee, the Committee will be responsible for the establishment of a single worldwide website, based on the Region 1 website, establishing common methods of communication and reporting and the preparation of appropriate training material.

Indeed, it has all started, with the IARU President communicating with the three Regional MS Coordinators and the Monitoring System Committee starting its work.

That all sounds very well, but is it all worth the effort? Is anyone going to take any notice, anyway?

Simply collating reports of harmful interference from stations not operating in accordance with the Radio Regulations doesn't achieve much.

The way it is all meant to work is that the national society in the country of the intruder goes to its administration and asks its administration to stop the interference.

And that is what happens in a number of cases.

But in other cases, the national society may not wish to do that. But other administrations may be prepared, once they have confirmed the reports provided by the national MS Coordinator, to approach the administration of the station causing the interference.

The new Monitoring System Committee with ultimately one method of reporting, with better coordination and focus and a single source of current information, should make this important task more attractive and more meaningful and attract new observers and in the end provide more credible observations and a better focussed approach to removing "intruders".

No, it doesn't always work.

But if we don't complain, who will?

Doing nothing is not an option.

## Shozo Hara JA1AN

Last November JARL announced the retirement of its President Shozo Hara JA1AN and the appointment of Akira Inage JA5MG as its new President.

That change was a change that we, the international amateur radio community, should mark with a special tribute to the retiring JARL President.

Shozo Hara was over 80 years old when he retired, and had been JARL President since May 1970, that is more than 41 years. Before that he was a Director of JARL from May 1952, the year he was licensed as JA1AN. He was JARL Vice President from May 1968 to May 1970.

Shozo had graduated from Waseda University where had majored in electrical engineering.

His other great passion is the Japan Equestrian Federation. He has been President of the Federation and is currently its Supreme Advisor.

But it is not Shozo's many achievements that I wish to record, rather the importance of his support of international amateur radio and his support of the IARU and IARU Region 3.

I remember seeing Shozo at a number of the ITU Conferences over the years, and I always recall his presence at so many of the Regional Conferences. Shozo was very conscious of the role of JARL, for many years the largest society in Region 3 by a very long way, in the Region 3 organisation, with JARL providing a secretariat to back up the Secretary, and administrative support at the triennial Conferences.

He strongly supported the Region and demanded much of those who undertook roles in the Regional organisation.

I value and thank JA1AN for the support that he has given the IARU and IARU Region 3 over so many years, and wish him well in his retirement.

Michael Owen  
Chairman  
IARU Region 3

## “WRC-12 (World Radiocommunication Conference 2012)

### As reported by Shizuo Endo JE1MUI

WRC-12 was held in Geneva from January 23 to February 17, 2012.

The IARU attends a WRC as an observer, and its Observer Team at WRC-12 was led by IARU President Tim Ellam VE6SH. Naturally, as an observer the IARU is very much restricted in what it can do publically at a meeting of sovereign states. However, a number of administrations will include an amateur on the nomination of its national amateur radio society, which meets the costs of that delegate. While subject to their national brief these amateur delegation members are often able to speak at the various meetings and influence the outcome.

At WRC-12 three of the IARU Region 3 member societies were able to nominate an amateur as a member of their national delegation; JARL, Japan, Ken Yamamoto JA1CJP, NZART, New Zealand, Don Wallace ZL2TLL and WIA, Australia, Dale Hughes VK1DSH. Interestingly, it was a first WRC for each of them. And, Dale, for example, was appointed by the APG as spokesman for the APT on the common position on agenda item 1.23 as well as chairing a drafting group during the WRC.

Each of these national delegates, as well as the delegates nominated by national societies in Regions 1 and 2 and the IARU Observer team, contributed to the success of the amateur position at WRC-12. In supporting a member of the national delegation a society accepts a

very heavy financial burden, particularly hard for smaller societies such as NZART. Michael VK3KI, on behalf of the IARU Region 3 Directors, said it was important that we all recognised this important contribution by our member societies.

Following are highlighted as good achievements to our amateur fraternity

- In connection with Agenda Item 1.23 "to consider an allocation of about 15 kHz in parts of the band 415-526.5 kHz to the amateur service on a secondary basis, taking into account the need to protect existing services",

Frequency band 472-479 kHz is allocated on the secondary basis under the following conditions.

(1) The maximum equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) of stations in the amateur service using frequencies in the band 472-479 kHz shall not exceed 1 W. Administrations may increase this limit of e.i.r.p. to 5 W in portions of their territory which are at a distance of over 800 km from the borders of Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, China, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, the Russian Federation, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Uzbekistan, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Ukraine and Yemen. In this frequency band, stations in the amateur service shall not cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, stations of the aeronautical radionavigation service.

(2) The use of the frequency band 472-479 kHz in Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, China, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, the Russian Federation, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Oman, Uzbekistan, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Kyrgyzstan, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen is limited to the maritime mobile and aeronautical radionavigation services. The amateur service shall not be used in the above-mentioned countries in this frequency band, and this should be taken into account by the countries authorizing such use.

- As an agenda item for the WRC-15, Agenda item 1.4 "to consider possible new allocation to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250-5 450 kHz in accordance with Resolution 649 (WRC-12)" was adopted.

### Dave Sumner K1ZZ reports on WRC 12

In my tenure as an ARRL staff member involved in the International Amateur Radio Union since 1972, the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference will always stand out as an extraordinary success. We still sometimes hear 10, 18 and 24 MHz referred to as "the WARC bands" even though 30 years have passed. The 2003 WRC ranks second because we managed something that had never done before: to move HF broadcasting out of 100 kHz of spectrum and thereby greatly improve the usefulness of the 40 meter band.

No single WRC-12 achievement may match these, but there were so many highlights of this year's conference that it is difficult to decide which of them was the greatest:

- Joe Taylor, K1JT's speech to the Plenary at the end of the second week of the conference with an outstanding introduction by ITU Secretary-General Dr. Hamadoun Touré, HB9EHT
- The celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Club, 4U1ITU, in the magnificent Popov Room in the ITU Tower attended by past and present Secretaries General and Radiocommunication Bureau Directors
- Our fending off HF oceanographic radars from being in or even adjacent to amateur bands
- The new allocation at 472 kHz
- An agenda item for WRC-15 to consider a possible secondary allocation to the amateur service in parts of the 5250-5450 kHz band

· Successful handling of a potentially difficult future agenda item concerning pico- and nano-satellites (this topic is too complex to go into detail here, but it is an important one)

There were even some Amateur Radio accomplishments during the WRC, including:

- The first 1296 MHz EME QSOs from 4U1ITU using K1JT's software, with K1JT himself at the controls
- More than 13,600 QSOs made from 4U1WRC
- More than 3,500 QSOs made during the ARRL CW DX Contest from 4U1ITU

Amateur Radio is just a small part of the world's telecommunication community and is commercially insignificant compared to the satellite and mobile broadband interests. Yet, we have achieved a position within the International Telecommunication Union as a respected radio service. This position was not attained overnight or through the efforts of a single individual or small group. It was achieved through the shared passion and sense of purpose of an extraordinary band of people from many countries and diverse backgrounds, some with IARU titles and many not, nearly all of them volunteers, who have worked through the

IARU over the decades to present a highly professional visage and to ensure that the participation on behalf of the amateur and amateur-satellite services is of a quality that is equal to that of any other radio service, and better than some.

I can't begin to tell you how proud I am to be a part of this team.

73,

David Sumner, K1ZZ

Chief Executive Officer, ARRL, IARU International Secretariat

### Central Philippines earthquake as reported on 08 / 02 / 2012

Communications have been set up on HF as the emergency activity of amateur radio becomes established in the earthquake and landslide hit areas. Chief Operating Officer for IARU society PARA, Eddie Valdez DU1EV said that Ham Emergency Radio Operations (HEROs) has activated the emergency frequencies of 144.740 MHz and 7.095 MHz.

Eddie DU1EV said "They have established their command centre on board the Philippine Coast Guard search and rescue vessel BRP Davao del Norte. HEROs have been busy forwarding traffic from the disaster areas to Cebu and Manila." Rescue workers are searching for survivors after the 6.7-magnitude quake earthquake killed dozens of people. The death toll is 43 but rescuers are still searching for missing people in the rubble and landslides. It struck just before noon local time on Monday in the heavily populated islands of Negros and Cebu in the country's central region. Eddie DU1EV said that the traffic handled included mainly responding to overseas inquiries for persons looking for information about their family and friends in the earthquake areas.

He said "As land lines and cellular phones have been erratic, amateur radio has provided a vital link. Among the active HEROs are RJ DU7RJA, Roy DU7DDJ, DW7XKS and, DW7RDX. Alvin DU1AJ/7 has set up his station so that it could act as relay for the HEROs at the earthquake stricken areas. He receives and sends traffic via HF, VHF, EchoLink and Facebook."

In Manila, HEROs operatives Butch DU1RP and Lito DU1PA have set up camp at the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) under the Department of Defence. They are active on HF and they act as liaison between the disaster area and the NDRRMC command centre in Manila, reported Eddie DU1EV.

Jim Linton VK3PC, Chairman, IARU Region 3, Disaster Communication Committee.

### GAREC 2012

The 2012 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference (GAREC), nicknamed 'MyGAREC 2012', will be held at the Thistle Port Dickson Resort, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia, from November 12 to 14.

### Seanet 2012

SEANET 2012 will be held between 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2012 and 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia at

**Dynasty Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.**  
218 Jalan Ipoh, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.  
Tel :(+603) 4043 7777  
Fax :(+603) 4043 6868  
Website : <http://www.dynasty.com.my>

Registration forms are now available

For details please see: <http://2012sea.net/>

### 15<sup>th</sup> Region 3 Triennial Conference

As we approach the dates for this conference here are the details November 5th (Monday) at 09:00 local time to November 9th (Friday), 2012 at

Kimdo-Royal City Hotel  
133 Nguen Hue Avenue, District 1  
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

Phone: +848 (0)3 8225 5914  
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Full details: <http://www.iaru-r3.org/15r3c/15rcc.htm>

### The 2012 International YL Meet- a reminder

We are now very close to this event scheduled from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at Adelaide

Full details are available at <http://www.ylinternational2012.com/>

### Korea brings in changes for visiting amateurs

KARL has given details of several changes being introduced to make it easier for foreign hams visiting Korea to operate from there

Please see <http://foreigner.karl.or.kr/index.php?mid=home> for full details

The Region 3 Web Site: Go to: <http://www.iaru-r3.org>.

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