



IARU Information

about the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC)

1. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

193* countries have joined the ITU to handle telecommunication affairs. The ITU is an international organization under international law, and a UN special organization. It is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

The ITU issues the Radio Regulations (in Germany and Austria: Vollzugsordnung für den Funkdienst; in Switzerland: Radioreglement). This comprehensive set of rules covers all radio services and their assigned frequencies. This includes the frequencies assigned to the Amateur Radio Service. By law, all IARU members are bound to adhere to the Radio Regulations. The Radio Regulations can be downloaded free of charge at <http://www.itu.int/pub/R-REG-RR-2012>.

The purpose of the ITU is to ensure smooth radio communication on a world-wide basis.

2. World-wide (independent) Telecommunications Organizations

Six organizations have formed all over the world to cover regulatory aspects in the Postal and Telecommunications sectors, and to support their members in their co-operation and co-ordination

IARU Region 1

- The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) www.cept.org
- The African Telecommunications Union (ATU) www.atu-uat.org
- The Regional Commonwealth in the field of communications (RCC), Commonwealth of Independent States, www.en.rcc.org
- The Arab Spectrum Management Group (ASMG) <http://www.asmg.ae>

IARU Region 2

- The Comisión Interamericana de Telecomunicaciones (CITEL) <https://www.citel.oas.org/en/Pages/default.aspx>

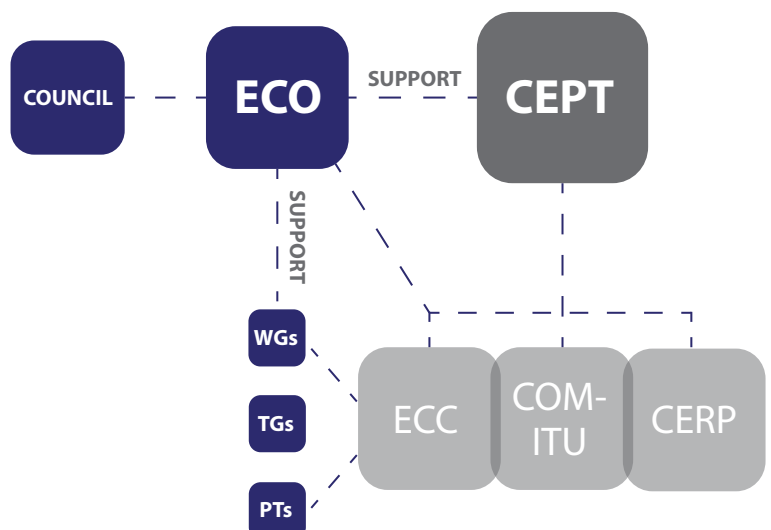
IARU Region 3

- The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) www.aptsec.org

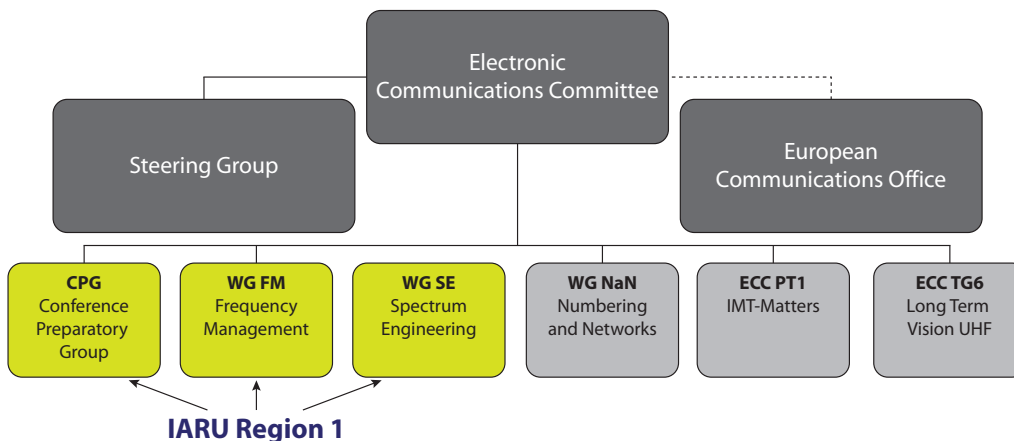
2.1 CEPT in Europe

The CEPT is organized as follows:

- The European Communications Office (ECO),
- The Committee for ITU Policy (Com-ITU),
- The Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)
- The European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP) (IARU not represented)



Within CEPT, the ECC is responsible for frequency planning.



The relevant bodies for the Amateur Radio Service are:

The *Conference Preparatory Group (CPG)* is responsible for the development of Studies and of the various European Common Proposals (ECPs) for the World Radiocommunication Conference. The work is divided into four project groups.

The *Working Group Frequency Management (WG FM)* is responsible for the development of strategies, plans and recommendations for the administration of the frequency spectrum.

The *Working Group Spectrum Engineering (WG SE)* is responsible for the development of technical guidelines and agreements to ensure compatibility if the same or different parts of the frequency spectrum are to be used by different telecommunications services.

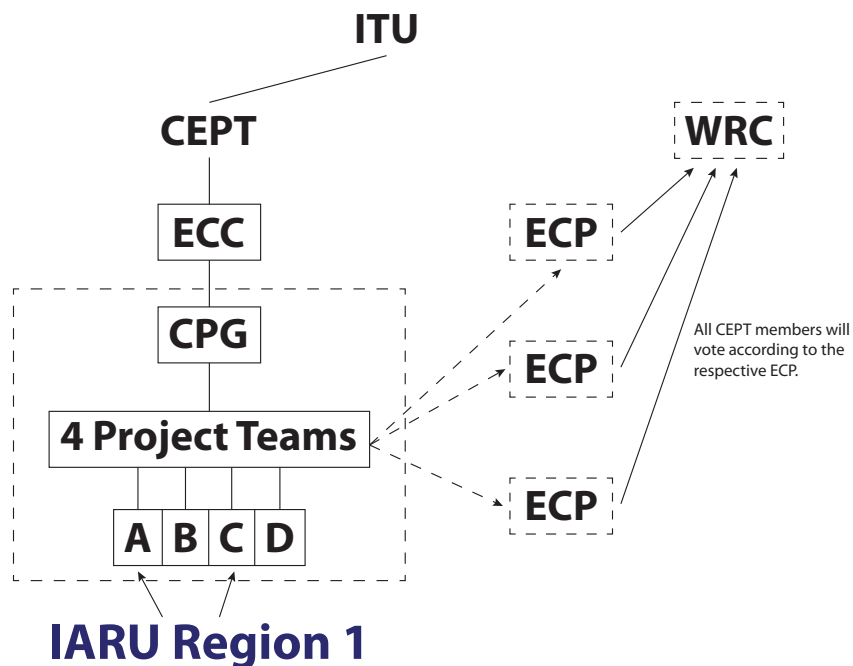
3. Allocation of New Frequencies for the Amateur Radio Service

World-wide Frequency Allocation:

Every 3 to 4 years, ITU organizes a World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC). In addition to many other items, it harmonizes the use of frequencies and satellite orbits, and standardizes information and communication technologies. WRCs are held in Geneva, and last for about 8 weeks. In a WRC, each country has one vote.

Preparations for a WRC are independently conducted by all six regional telecommunications organizations. Let's look at the preparations in Europe, conducted by CEPT:

In Europe, CEPT prepares the European Common Proposals (ECP), using the Conference Preparatory Group (CPG). In the drafting process of an ECP, the various interest groups become active and submit their views. To enter into effect, an ECP requires the support of 10 nations, and no more than 6 dissenting votes. In this process, radio amateurs are represented by IARU. Even if IARU does not have a vote of its own, it can very well represent the interests of amateur radio operators.



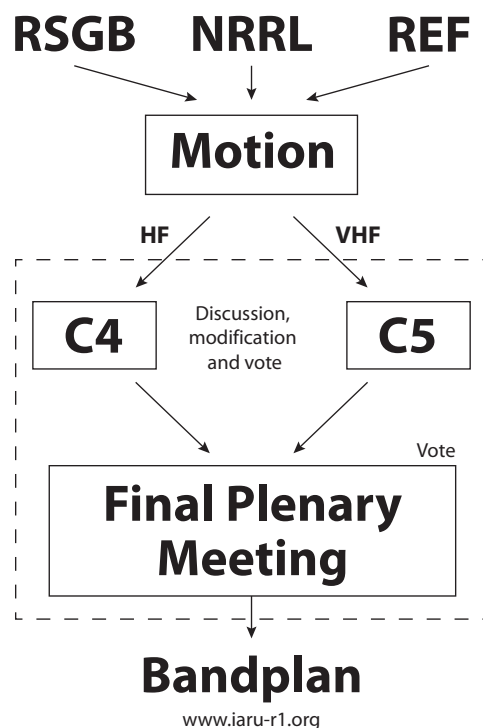
The CEPT countries will then vote in the WRC according to the previously agreed ECPs. In any ballot, each country has one vote, and, in order to achieve the highest possible level of acceptance, ITU is working hard to reach a broad agreement.

Based on the results of the WRC, the European Communications Office (ECO) will issue the European Table of Frequency Allocations and Applications (ECA Table).

See: <http://www.efis.dk>. The ECA Table also includes the European footnotes of the individual countries (like the EU 17*) and the ITU Region 1 footnotes.

4. Bandplans

Any new frequency allocations for the Amateur Radio Service that may be granted by the 2015 WRC, will be laid down in the Vollzugsordnung für den Funkdienst (VO-Funk). Subsequently, at the following IARU Region 1 Conference, which is held every three years, a member (e.g. USKA, DARC or ÖVSV) will introduce a motion. After discussion in the HF Committee, or the VHF/UHF/MICROWAVES Committee respectively, Bandplans will be put to the vote in the Final Plenary Meeting. Then, the Bandplans will be published on the IARU Region 1 Homepage. Bandplans are to be regarded as rules of the game for the various interests and modes. By adhering to Bandplans, all amateur radio operators can pursue their hobby.



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

This folder was compiled to prepare for the upcoming WRC, and to help our readers to familiarize themselves with the procedure of frequency allocation. IARU is ready for the 2015 WRC-15 to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, between 2. and 27. November 2015.

My special appreciation goes to Colin Thomas, G3PSM, and to Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, who have helped to draft this folder.

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www.iaru-r1.org

* Footnote EU 17 allocates the frequency range between 3,400 and 3,410 MHz to the Amateur Radio Service on a secondary basis