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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No:** |
| **The 2nd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory**  **Group for WRC-23 (APG23-2)** | **APG23-2/OUT-14** |
| 19 – 23 April 2021, Virtual/Online Meeting | 23 April 2021 |

Working Party 2

**PRELIMINARY VIEWs on WRC-23 agenda item 1.7**

**Agenda Item 1.7:**

*To consider a new aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service (AMS(R)S) allocation in accordance with Resolution* ***428 (WRC-19)*** *for both the Earth-to-space and space-to-Earth directions of aeronautical VHF communications in all or part of the frequency band 117.975-137 MHz, while preventing any undue constraints on existing VHF systems operating in the AM(R)S, the ARNS, and in adjacent frequency bands;*

**1. Background**

* Proposals from APT ([ACP/24A24A6](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-r/md/16/wrc19/c/R16-WRC19-C-0024!A24-A6!MSW-E.docx)), CEPT ([EUR/16A24](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-r/md/16/wrc19/c/R16-WRC19-C-0016!A24!MSW-E.docx)) and CITEL ([IAP/11A24A13](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-r/md/16/wrc19/c/R16-WRC19-C-0011!A24-A13!MSW-E.docx)) initiated this agenda item at WRC-19.
* WP 5B has been designated by CPM23-1 as the group responsible for this agenda item.

From the WP 5B meetings held in July and Nov 2020;

* a Working Document ([5B/225 Annex 26](https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-r/md/19/wp5b/c/R19-WP5B-C-0225!N26!MSW-E.docx)) towards a Preliminary Draft New Report ITU-R M.[SPACE-VHF] has been generated based on the contributions of some administrations; an administration proposed a framework for a new ITU-R Report; an administration updated the elements from the RR; two administrations jointly provided the preliminary technical characteristics of the satellite transmitter and link budget;
* a skeleton of CPM text ([5B/225 Annex 3](https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-r/md/19/wp5b/c/R19-WP5B-C-0225!N03!MSW-E.docx)) has been initiated;
* liaison statements have been exchanged with the contributing groups, WP 3M, WP 4C, WP 7B, and WP 3L;
* liaison statement has also been sent to ICAO to request for information on aircraft VHF antenna pattern, aircraft VHF receiver performance requirement and the system availability target for aeronautical VHF communications.

**2. Documents**

* Input Documents APG23-2/INP-11 (J), APG23-2/INP-19 (THA), APG23-2/INP-22 (NZL), APG23-2/INP-25 (AUS), APG23-2/INP-36 (SNG), APG23-2/INP-45 (CHN).
* Information Documents APG23-2/INF-23 (IARU), APG23-2/INF-25 (ASMG), APG23-2/INF-26 (ATU), APG23-2/INF-34 (CITEL), APG23-2/INF-35 (CEPT), APG23-2/INF-36 (RCC).

**3. Summary of discussions**

**3.1 Summary of APT Members’ views**

**3.1.1 Japan - Document APG23-2/INP-11**

* Japan supports ongoing studies on technical and regulatory studies relative to a possible new AMS(R)S allocation within the frequency band 117.975- 137 MHz as indicated in Resolution 428 (WRC-19). Japan is of the view that while protecting the existing ARNS, AM(R)S, MSS services in the frequency band 117.975- 137 MHz and its adjacent bands is important, the possible new AMS(R)S system could be beneficial for aircraft operation in the oceanic areas.

**3.1.2 Thailand - Document APG23-2/INP-19**

* Thailand supports compatibility studies being conducted by ITU-R in accordance with Resolution 428 (WRC-19) for a new AMS(R)S allocation for both the Earth-to-space and space-to-Earth directions in all or part of the frequency band 117.975-137 MHz. Thailand is also of the view that the studies shall take into account the protection of existing primary services/systems operating in this frequency band and in adjacent frequency bands.

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**3.1.3 New Zealand - Document APG23-2/INP-22**

* New Zealand supports the studies to be conducted by ITU-R Working Party 5B.

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**3.1.4 Australia – Document APG23-2/INP-25**

* Australia supports ITU-R studies for AMS(R)S in the frequency bands defined in Resolution 428 (WRC-19). Subject to these sharing and compatibility studies showing no adverse impact to the operation of existing VHF systems operating in the AM(R)S, Australia supports a new AMS(R)S allocation in the 117.975-137 MHz band to enhance the efficiency and capacity of aircraft operations.

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**3.1.5 Singapore – Document APG23-2/INP-36**

* Singapore supports the ITU-R studies that will address the WRC-23 Agenda Item 1.7, in accordance to Resolution 428 (WRC-19).

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**3.1.6 China (People’s Republic of) – Document APG23-2/INP-45**

* China suggests to conduct study to protect the existing ground systems in operation and ensure that any change to the regulatory provisions and spectrum allocation resulting from this agenda item do not adversely impact the operation of existing ground systems and potential future deployment in the band 117.975-137 MHz operating in the AM(R)S, including regional usage of terrestrial VHF, nor require any changes to aircraft equipage or to existing installations.

**3.2 Summary of issues raised during the meeting**

None

**4. APT Preliminary View(s)**

* APT Members support ITU-R studies for a new AMS(R)S allocation in accordance with Resolution **428 (WRC-19)** for the Earth to space and space to Earth direction.

**5. Other View(s) from APT Members**

* None.

**6. Issues for Consideration at Next APG Meeting**

* APT Members are encouraged to participate in relevant studies and submit their contributions to WP 5B and future APG meetings.

**7. Views from Other Organisations** (as provided in the information documents to

APG23-2)

**7.1 Regional Groups**

**7.1.1 ASMG - Document APG23-2/INF-25**

* Support ongoing studies and regulatory procedures in order to strengthen aviation systems over remote areas oceans while ensuring the protection of existing services and aviation systems that no operational restrictions are imposed to them.

**7.1.2 ATU** - **Document APG23-2/INF-26**

* None.

**7.1.3 CEPT** - **Document APG23-2/INF-35**

* Preliminary CEPT position supports a new primary allocation to AMS(R)S in the Earth‐to‐space and space‐to‐Earth directions in all or part of the frequency band 117.975‐137 MHz while:
* Limiting new AMS(R)S allocation to internationally standardised aeronautical systems;
* Ensuring protection of services in adjacent bands and not constraining these services.

**7.1.4 CITEL** - **Document APG23-2/INF-34**

* Some Administrations support the ongoing technical and regulatory studies for co-existence between potential new primary AMS(R)S service in the frequency band 117.975-137 MHz and existing terrestrial primary allocated in-band and adjacent band services with the anticipation of providing space-based VHF communications between pilot and air traffic controllers. This potential new allocation must protect current systems using existing primary allocated services and not constrain planned usage of those systems.

**7.1.5 RCC** - **Document APG23-2/INF-36**

* None.

**7.2 International Organisations**

**7.2.1 IARU** - **Document APG23-2/INF-23**

* None.

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