

**SUMMARY RECORD
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO UNION
Meeting in Amsterdam, 6-8 September 2003**

1. The twenty-fourth meeting of the Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union convened at 0900 local time Saturday, 6 September 2003 at the Courtyard by Marriott -- Amsterdam Airport Hotel, Hoofddorp, The Netherlands, with President Larry E. Price, W4RA, in the Chair. Also present were the following members: David A. Wardlaw, VK3ADW, Vice President; David Sumner, K1ZZ, Secretary; Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, Chairman, and Don Beattie, G3BJ, Secretary, IARU Region 1; Pedro Seidemann, YV5BPG, President, and Rod Stafford, W6ROD, Secretary, IARU Region 2; and Fred Johnson, ZL2AMJ, Chairman, and K. C. Selvadurai, 9V1UV, Director, IARU Region 3. At the invitation of the Council, Region 1 Executive Committee member Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Region 2 Executive Committee member Timothy S. Ellam, VE6SH, and Region 3 Director Yoshiji Sekido, JJ1OEY, were also present. Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, was present as recording secretary on behalf of the International Secretariat.

2. A moment of silence was observed for radio amateur colleagues who had passed away since the previous meeting of the Council, especially Nadisha Yassari Ranmuthu, 4S7NR, who was killed while serving in Iraq for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

3. The following agenda for the meeting was adopted:

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1. Opening of meeting by the President
 2. Introduction of all present and Moment of Silence
 3. Approval of Agenda of meeting
 4. Reports of the officers
 - 4.1 Report of the President
 - 4.2 Report of the Vice President
 - 4.3 Report of the Secretary
 - 4.3.1 Review of matters pending from previous meetings
 5. Reports from the regional organizations
 - 5.1 Region 1
 - 5.2 Region 2
 - 5.3 Region 3
 6. Review of written reports of International Coordinators and Advisers
 - 6.1 IARU Monitoring System
 - 6.2 IARU Beacon Project Coordinator

6.3 IARU Satellite Adviser

6.4 IARU EMC Adviser

7. Presentation of nominations for IARU President and Vice President by the International Secretariat

8. Report from the WRC-03 team

8.1 Review of results of WRC-03

8.1.1 Modifications to Article 5 around 7 MHz

8.1.2 New Regulations for the amateur services (Article 25)

8.1.3 modifications to formation of amateur station call signs (Article 19)

8.1.4 70 cm SARs

8.1.5 Other agenda items of concern to the IARU

8.1.6 Reallocation of the 5 GHz band for radio LANs

8.1.7 Future WRC agendas

8.1.8 Amateur radio development program for the Arab States

8.2 Consideration of possible IARU actions to encourage domestic implementation of Article 25 changes

9. Strategic planning for the years 2005-2010

10. ITU and related issues

10.1 ITU policy and relationships

10.1.1 Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG)

10.1.2 ITU Council

10.1.3 World Summit on the Information Society

10.2 ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)

10.2.1 Radiocommunication Assembly

10.2.2 Study Group 8 and Working Party 8A

10.2.3 Working Party 6E

10.2.4 Working Party 9C

10.2.5 Spectrum management issues (ITU-R SG 1 and TG 1/8)

10.3 ITU Development Sector

10.4 ITU meeting schedule and IARU participation

10.4.1 Remainder of 2003

10.4.2 2004

11. Telecoms

11.1 Telecom World 2003, Geneva, 12-18 October

11.2 ITU Telecom Africa 2004, Cairo, 4-8 May

11.3 ITU Telecom Asia 2004, Busan, Rep. of Korea

12. ITU and regulatory/spectrum defense matters not previously discussed

12.1 Progress on the Africa Development Plan

12.2 Review and proposed editorial revision of spectrum requirements for the Amateur and

Amateur-Satellite Services

12.3 PLT/BPL

13. Operational and administrative matters

13.1 2004-2006 budget and review of 2002 and 2003 budgets

13.2 Use of the ".int" Top Level Domain

13.3 The Internet and Amateur Radio today

13.4 Other operational and administrative matters

13.4.1 IARU HF World Championship

13.4.2 Memorial for amateurs killed in humanitarian service

14. Other business

14.1 Review of Resolutions and Policies

14.2 World Amateur Radio Day

14.2.1 Theme for World Amateur Radio Day 2004

14.3 Any other business

15. Determination of date and place of next meeting of Council

16. Drafting and approval of news release covering meeting, and adjournment

It was agreed that item 7 would be taken up as the first item of business on Monday morning, 8 September, and that item 9 would be taken up on Sunday morning, 7 September.

4. Reports of the officers

4.1 Mr. Price supplemented his written report by noting that the principal opposition to amateur service objectives at the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) had come from the Arab states and Iran. Council members discussed how this problem might have been more effectively dealt with in the months leading up to the conference. How it should be addressed in the future would be discussed later in the meeting.

4.2. Vice President Wardlaw's written and supplementary oral report also dealt mainly with WRC-03, principally preparations in the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and his involvement in the Australian delegation. In the APT, Malaysia was one of the bright spots of support for the amateur service. Mr. Wardlaw noted that he was not standing for another term of office and wished his colleagues well.

4.3. Mr. Sumner reported on the support provided by the International Secretariat to the IARU WRC-03 team, including an office facility near the Conference Center and the retention of Robert W. Jones, VE7RWJ, as a consultant for the duration of the conference. The Secretary's report included a review of matters pending from previous meetings. It was agreed that a 2001 restriction on the use of a specific format of Microsoft Office files to be exchanged between Administrative Council members was no longer necessary.

5. Reports from the regional organizations

5.1. Mr. Garpestad referred to the written report from Region 1. The new Region 1 Executive Committee met in February to organize its work for the next three years. Improved communication with member-societies is a priority, with an improved Web site and increased email. A problem with the South African Radio League was resolved to mutual satisfaction. Several changes to the IARU Region 1 Constitution will be proposed to the member-societies.

5.2. Mr. Stafford supplemented his written report on behalf of Region 2. CITEL was very supportive of the amateur service at WRC-03. Liaison between member-societies and their administrations needs to be strengthened in some cases. Four member-societies appear to be completely inactive. The Region 2 Executive Committee will take up strategic planning at its meeting in October. Efforts are underway to provide a program for the Region 2 Conference in 2004 that will attract greater representation. Mr. Seidemann noted that the Caribbean is one of the areas of the world where participation needs to be strengthened.

5.3. Mr. Johnson reported orally for Region 3. The Region 3 Conference had to be postponed because of travel restrictions arising from the SARS outbreak and has been tentatively rescheduled for 16-20 February 2004 at the same location in Taipei. Preliminary discussions are underway with the administration of Iran with regard to the possible holding of an Amateur Radio Administration Course.

6. Reports of International Coordinators and Advisers

6.1. The written report of IARU Monitoring System International Coordinator Bob Knowles, ZL1BAD, was received with thanks. Special attention was drawn to his recommendations regarding interference from unauthorized stations in Indonesia; the Region 3 representatives indicated that they would note his concerns and continue discussions with the Region 3 Directors.

6.2. The written report of IARU Beacon Project Coordinator Peter Jennings, AB6WM, was received with thanks. Operating and equipment replacement expenses are becoming more of a concern for the Beacon Project. Mr. Stafford agreed to contact Mr. Jennings to clarify whether the \$2,000 funding request contained in the report was intended for the Council or the Region 2 Executive Committee.

6.3. The written report of Satellite Adviser Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, was received with thanks. The report requested the Council's views on the designation of certain band segments for exclusive amateur-satellite and space operation, as well as on the coordination of satellites built by educational institutions. After discussion, it was agreed that the Secretary would draft a reply advising that the Council is not in a position to address detailed band planning issues, which are normally addressed at the regional level. The Council would prefer that these matters be raised directly with the appropriate experts in the respective regional organizations. However, as a starting point the Region 1 representatives have agreed to bring the matter to the attention of their VHF/UHF/microwave committee and will advise the Council of the committee's views. With regard to educational satellites, the Council understands that it is

sometimes difficult to determine whether a particular satellite that is intended to operate in the amateur-satellite segments should be licensed in the amateur-satellite service or as an experimental station. However, that is a matter for the licensing administration. The Council agrees that it is appropriate that such satellites be coordinated, since the benefits of doing so outweigh the potential disadvantages.

6.4. The written report of EMC Adviser Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, was received with thanks. The 2003 CISPR Annual Meeting will be held in the Republic of Korea in late September. Participation in CISPR by more spectrum users would help the IARU avoid unfavorable standards decisions.

7. As previously agreed, this agenda item was postponed until Monday morning.

8. Report from the WRC-03 team

8.1. Mr. Price introduced the report. He said the team could take pride in how well it had worked together. There were many people who had helped in addition to the core team, including some who would not want to be named.

8.1.1. The Council reviewed the WRC-03 decisions with regard to the 7-MHz band. Mr. Johnson offered a draft document that set out the history of the 7-MHz issue, what had been proposed and what had ultimately been agreed at WRC-03, and what remained to be done in order to achieve the IARU objective of a worldwide 300-kHz allocation. It was agreed to discuss later in the meeting what might be pursued at WRC-07.

8.1.2. A paper by Michael Owen, VK3KI, detailing the changes in Article 25 was reviewed and steps necessary to implement the changes in domestic regulations were discussed. Mr. Sumner and Mr. Rinaldo were requested to distill the discussion into a draft resolution for later consideration.

8.1.3. Mr. Sumner reviewed briefly the changes in Article 19 affecting call sign formation. IARU objectives were achieved.

8.1.4. A report from Ken Pulfer, VE3PU, on the new secondary allocation to the earth exploration-satellite service at 432-438 MHz was reviewed. His efforts, along with those of others in the IARU, achieved reasonable protection for the amateur and amateur-satellite services.

8.1.5. Another report from Mr. Pulfer set out the WRC-03 decisions on several agenda items that had been monitored by the IARU because of their potential to affect the amateur services. These included Agenda Item 1.3, harmonized bands for public protection and disaster relief; Agenda Item 1.8, issues related to unwanted emissions; Agenda Item 1.12, allocations and regulatory issues for space science services; Agenda Item 1.15, radionavigation-satellite service issues; and Agenda Items 1.16 and 1.20, relating to allocations for little LEOs.

8.1.6. An information paper from the International Secretariat reviewed changes to allocations in the vicinity of 5 GHz, mainly to accommodate mobile wireless access systems. There may be some impact on the utility of the amateur allocations between 5650 and 5725 MHz.

8.1.7. Another information paper from the International Secretariat set out the Resolutions adopted at WRC-03 concerning the agendas for the next two WRCs, styled WRC-07 and WRC-10 although the second has not actually been scheduled. Two items on the WRC-07 agenda are of particular interest to the amateur service: Agenda Item 1.13 to review the allocations between 4 and 10 MHz, and Agenda Item 1.15 to consider a secondary allocation to the amateur service in the band 135.7-137.8 kHz.

8.1.8. On behalf of the International Secretariat, Mr. Rinaldo had drafted a plan to address the lack of support from the Arab States and Iran that Mr. Price had noted in his report. Mr. Garpestad offered some additions. It was agreed that the plan will be used as the basis for cooperation between the International Secretariat and Region 1 in developing support for amateur radio in this part of the world. Region 1 and the International Secretariat will look for opportunities to hold Amateur Radio Administration and Amateur Radio Leadership courses in suitable venues.

8.2. Referring to a paper prepared by the International Secretariat concerning possible IARU actions to encourage domestic implementation of Article 25 changes, Mr. Price proposed the creation of the post of IARU Disaster Communications Adviser. The creation of the post with the following terms of reference was agreed, with the actual appointment to be made later:

**IARU Disaster Communications Adviser
(Adopted 2003)**

General:

The IARU Disaster Communications Adviser is a new advisory and representational appointment, requiring expertise in disaster relief and emergency communications including knowledge of international humanitarian operations. The incumbent requires an understanding of the contribution of the Amateur Service in such situations.

Function:

To keep the Administrative Council informed on developments in international disaster relief communications that may affect the Amateur Services, and to advise the Council about actions to be taken to defend and promote the interests of radio amateurs.

Appointment:

The IARU Disaster Communications Adviser shall be appointed by the Administrative Council. The term shall be three years. At the meeting of the Administrative Council corresponding to the expiration of the term, the Council may or may not reconfirm the position, its terms of reference, and the appointment thereto.

Tasks:

To report to the Administrative Council, providing information about disaster and emergency communications developments that are relevant to the amateur services.

To seek support, through appropriate IARU channels, for action to be taken to defend and promote the interests of radio amateurs with respect to disaster and emergency communications.

To represent the IARU, at the request of the president in consultation with the International Secretariat, at international meetings such as those of the United Nations and its specialised agencies.

To coordinate the work of the IARU regional organizations in the field of disaster and emergency communications, working with regional appointees as appropriate.

To advise the Council on implementation of No. **25.9A** of the Radio Regulations, namely that "Administrations are encouraged to take the necessary steps to allow amateur stations to prepare for and meet communication needs in support of disaster relief.(WRC-03)"

9. As previously agreed, this item was deferred until the following morning.

10. ITU and related issues

10.1. ITU policy and relationships

10.1.1. Mr. Price noted that the first meeting of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) since the election of Mr. Valery Timofeev as Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau was held in late January 2003, and the next is not scheduled until November 2004. The delay may permit improved linkage between the Bureau's strategic, operational, and financial plans. He recommended a continued IARU presence in the RAG.

10.1.2. The ITU Council is made up of 46 Member States elected by the membership at large but apportioned by administrative region. Council proceedings have become somewhat more transparent in recent years but Sector Members such as the IARU still are not permitted to attend Council meetings, which are normally held annually.

10.1.3. The first of two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) is scheduled to be held in Geneva in December 2003, with the second phase scheduled for Tunis in 2005. IARU participated in the first preparatory meeting for the WSIS as a WRC-03 lobbying opportunity. There may be an opportunity for a small IARU display at the WSIS itself.

10.2. ITU Radiocommunication Sector

10.2.1. The Radiocommunication Assembly (RA) was held the week before WRC-03, with Mr. Price attending on behalf of the IARU. The RA marks the end of one work cycle and the beginning of another for the Study Groups of the Radiocommunication Sector. As a Sector

Member the IARU is able to participate fully in the RA. The primary vehicle used to generate studies in the amateur services is Question ITU-R 48-5/8, which was revised slightly and maintained for the new cycle.

At this point, 1807 local time, the meeting was adjourned so the participants could accept an invitation to join the president and other officers of Vereniging voor Experimenteel Radio Onderzoek in Nederland (VERON) for dinner. The participants reconvened at 0900 on Sunday, 7 September, taking up agenda item 9. With Mr. Rinaldo serving as facilitator, a strategic planning session with a planning horizon of the year 2010 was conducted until 1500 local time. Several key issues that are likely to influence the future of the IARU were identified. A report is to be drafted and circulated for further consideration by the Council early in 2004. The meeting agenda was resumed at 1530.

10.2.2. Mr. Price reviewed briefly the organization of and status of work in ITU-R Study Group 8 and Working Party 8A. Four revised ITU-R Recommendations relating to the amateur services were approved at the January 2003 meeting of SG 8. WP 8A is responsible for WRC-07 preparations concerning Agenda Item 1.15 and is to be a contributor to the work on Agenda Item 1.13. The next meetings of SG 8 and WP 8A are in late November and early December 2003.

10.2.3. Mr. Sumner observed that Working Party 6E, which deals with terrestrial broadcasting, is responsible for WRC-07 preparations concerning Agenda Item 1.13 because the main impetus for this item is the desire for additional broadcasting allocations between 4 and 10 MHz. While the next meeting of WP 6E is to be held later in September 2003, it is expected that with regard to WRC-07 preparations this meeting will simply be organizational and that the work will begin in earnest at the April 2004 meeting. Therefore, while IARU participation in WP 6E was very helpful in terms of preparation for WRC-03, no IARU representation is planned for the September 2003 meeting.

10.2.4. Working Party 9C is responsible for studies related to the fixed service in bands below 30 MHz. As such, it will be involved in preparations for WRC-07 Agenda Item 1.13 and may have an interest in 1.15. Ken Pulfer, VE3PU, has agreed to represent the IARU in WP 9C as required.

10.2.5. IARU Expert Consultant Peter Chadwick, G3RZP, has been representing the IARU in Study Group 1 and particularly in Task Group 1/8 where studies of ultra-wideband (UWB) interference issues are being conducted. Working Party 1A will be a forum for compatibility studies of power line telecommunications (PLT) systems with over-the-air services, and Working Party 1C will be dealing with PLT measurement issues.

10.3. The IARU is also a member of the ITU Development Sector (ITU-D). Mr. Rinaldo was the primary presenter of an Amateur Radio Administration course (for regulators) in Nairobi last December under joint sponsorship of the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), ITU-D, and the Communications Commission of Kenya. Plans are underway for a similar course to be taught in French in Dakar, Senegal. The ITU-D also has agreed in principle to holding a course in Arabic if a suitable venue can be arranged. ITU-D has the lead within the ITU with regard to disaster and emergency communications; Recommendation ITU-D 13 regarding the effective utilization of the amateur services in disaster mitigation and relief operations is an important part

of the body of official documentation of amateurs' role. ITU-D staff is planning a revision, expansion and modernization of the ITU *Handbook on Disaster Communications*; the IARU was the principal instigator of the original edition and should assist with the new edition.

10.4. ITU meeting schedule and IARU participation

10.4.1. Plans for IARU representation at ITU meetings and events during the remainder of 2003 were reviewed briefly. The IARU may contribute several documents for consideration by Working Party 8A.

10.4.2. Similarly, plans for IARU representation at ITU meetings and events during 2004 were also reviewed. Mr. Price intends to represent the IARU at the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) meeting in January. The TDAG performs a function in ITU-D that is somewhat similar to that of the RAG in ITU-R.

11. Telecoms

11.1. Telecom World 2003, to be held in Geneva in October, is expected to be considerably smaller than the 1999 event. The IARU stand is being managed by Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, and is to be staffed by four persons including Mr. Price, with the possible addition of an Arabic speaker.

11.2. Africa Telecom 2004 is scheduled for Cairo, 4-8 May. IARU participation may be warranted, particularly if Forum participation can be arranged.

11.3. The venue for Asia Telecom 2004 has been announced as Busan, Republic of Korea. Mr. Johnson said Region 3 will investigate participation.

12. ITU and regulatory/spectrum defense matters not previously discussed

12.1. The International Secretariat reported on the extent to which the *Strategic Plan for the Development of Support for Amateur Radio in Africa* had been successfully implemented. Improved relations with the ATU were realized, which brought some benefits during WRC-03. The *Plan* can be considered to be completed.

12.2. The International Secretariat offered draft revisions to the working document, *Spectrum Requirements of the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services*. Most of the revisions were as a consequence of WRC-03. Council members offered additional suggestions for revision, whereupon the document was adopted as revised.

At this point, 1800, the meeting was adjourned for the evening, resuming at 0902 Monday, 8 September, with agenda item 7 as previously agreed.

7. Mr. Stafford, in his role as ARRL International Affairs Vice President, opened the presentation of nominations for IARU President and Vice President for the 2004-2009 term. He noted that the consultative process called for in the IARU Constitution had begun the previous

November in San Marino. At that time there was consensus among the regional representatives that if Mr. Price was willing to stand for re-election there was no need to seek additional candidates for the office of President.

On behalf of the International Secretariat, Mr. Stafford presented the nomination of Mr. Price for the office of IARU President. With Mr. Price abstaining, the Secretary was instructed to present to the member-societies, in a *Calendar* to be issued no later than 8 December 2003, a proposal by the International Secretariat and the unanimous recommendation by the Administrative Council that Larry E. Price, W4RA, be elected for a five-year term as IARU President. Mr. Price thanked the Council members for their confidence.

At this point Mr. Ellam excused himself from the room.

Mr. Stafford presented the nomination of Tim Ellam, VE6SH, for the office of IARU Vice President. The Secretary was instructed to present to the member-societies, in a *Calendar* to be issued no later than 8 December 2003, a proposal by the International Secretariat and the unanimous recommendation by the Administrative Council that Tim Ellam, VE6SH, be elected for a five-year term as IARU Vice President.

Mr. Ellam was invited to rejoin the meeting. He thanked the Council for their faith and trust.

Returning to agenda item 6.3, the Secretary presented a draft letter to Mr. van de Groenendaal. The draft was approved with minor editing.

Referring to Mr. van de Groenendaal's report, the Region 2 representatives noted that the members of the advisory panel identified in his report had not been selected by the Council or by the regional Executive Committee.

Returning to agenda item 8.1.2, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION 03-1
*concerning the implementation of revised Article 25
of the international Radio Regulations*

The IARU Administrative Council, Amsterdam, September 2003,

considering that the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference adopted extensive revisions to Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations that came into force on 5 July 2003,

noting with pleasure that these revisions enhance the role of the amateur service as a communications resource in case of emergencies or disaster relief,

further noting that a new provision of Article 25 allows an administration to grant "roaming" permission to radio amateurs temporarily in its territory, subject to such conditions or restrictions it may impose,

mindful that it is desirable that domestic regulations now be amended to bring them into alignment with the revised Article 25,

congratulates and thanks all individuals and organizations who contributed to the satisfactory outcome of WRC-03 deliberations on Article 25, and

resolves that IARU member-societies are urged to bring to the attention of their administrations the desirability of adopting specific changes in their domestic regulations for the amateur and amateur-satellite services, and

further resolves that the IARU Secretary is requested to communicate an explanation of the recommended changes to member-societies, consistent with Council decisions taken at this meeting.

12.3. Mr. Beattie presented a document on Power Line Telecommunications (PLT) prepared by Region 1. Region 1 has found that PLT has a very significant potential for interference to HF radiocommunication and has been actively combating the threat in Europe. He said Region 1 is also aware of similar efforts underway in the United States and Japan. Mr. Sekido confirmed that after the Japan Amateur Radio League demonstrated the harm that would be caused by PLT, the government of Japan decided not to introduce it at this time. Mr. Johnson noted that there is also interest in PLT in New Zealand, and Mr. Wardlaw noted the same with regard to Australia. Mr. Beattie noted the good work being done by amateur organizations in various parts of the world and appealed for greater coordination and a more assertive approach by the IARU. Mr. Sumner observed that IARU involvement in the work of Study Group 1 on this issue should be publicized.

13. Operational and administrative matters

13.1. Mr. Sumner presented a three-year budget for the years 2004-2006 and a review of expenditures and regional contributions for the year 2002. Mr. Garpestad confirmed that Region 1 would fulfill its contribution when its accounts for 2002 had been finalized. The expenses for 2003 will be greater because of WRC-03. The Council expressed its appreciation for the financial support given to the IARU by the International Secretariat.

13.2. A memorandum on the Internet ".int" Top Level Domain (iTLD) prepared by Mr. Ellam was presented for information. There may be a future opportunity for the IARU to obtain an iTLD.

13.3. Mr. Seidemann presented a paper entitled *The Internet and Amateur Radio Today*. The competition for the time and attention of present and prospective radio amateurs had been discussed during the strategic planning session. He added the observation that the issue is not that the Internet has actually taken the place of amateur radio, but that it is perceived to have done so.

13.4. Other operational and administrative matters

13.4.1. The history of the IARU HF World Championship was discussed in light of recent email correspondence proposing changes to the rules. It was agreed that the ARRL is requested to have its Contest Advisory Committee consider the merits of proposals for changes in the rules for the IARU HF World Championship. It was further agreed that in the future, the IARU HF World Championship will be described as "organized by the ARRL on behalf of the IARU."

13.4.2. The Council noted with sadness the recent deaths of radio amateurs employed in international humanitarian service. After discussion the President was authorized to appoint a committee to study how to memorialize amateurs who give their lives in such circumstances. Mr. Price asked Mr. Ellam to study the matter and report back.

14. Other business

14.1. The working document, *Resolutions and Policies of the Administrative Council*, was reviewed. Resolutions 88-5 and 98-1 were found to be obsolete and were rescinded. With Mr. Stafford and Mr. Sumner abstaining, Resolution 01-1 was amended to read as follows:

RESOLUTION 01-1
(Revised 2003)
concerning the Morse code

The IARU Administrative Council, Guatemala City, October 2001,

considering the approval without opposition of Recommendation ITU-R M.1544, which sets out the minimum qualifications of radio amateurs,

recognizing that the Morse code continues to be an effective and efficient mode of communication used by many thousands of radio amateurs, but

further recognizing that the position of Morse as a qualifying criterion for an HF amateur license is no longer relevant to the healthy future of amateur radio,

resolves that

IARU policy is to support the removal of Morse code testing as a requirement for an amateur license to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz.

14.2. Papers by Region 1 and the International Secretariat on the subject of World Amateur Radio Day were discussed. While there is modest evidence of increasing interest in this annual event, most activities by IARU member-societies appear to be directed to radio amateurs rather than externally focused to the general public. While no consensus on a theme for 2004 could be reached, the Council recognizes 18 April 2004, World Amateur Radio Day, as marking the anniversary of the founding of the IARU in 1925. The Council discussed, at length, World Amateur Radio Day including the history of this celebration and agreed to continue this event. The Secretary was requested to select a suitable theme for 2004 not later than 60 days after the meeting, bearing in mind that World Amateur Radio Day is an outward looking event.

14.3. Under "Any other business" Council Policy #5 was amended by adding the following at the end of paragraph 2: "The International Secretariat shall immediately notify the Regional Organization of any proposed candidate or candidates that have not been designated as a candidate by the appropriate Regional Organization. The International Secretariat shall immediately consult with the appropriate Regional Organization as to that person's qualifications to serve as an IARU officer."

15. The Council agreed that the next meeting will be in the vicinity of Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, beginning at 1400 on 2 October 2004 and ending no later than Noon on 4 October.

Returning to agenda item 8.1.1, after further discussion it was agreed that time from now until the Port of Spain meeting would be devoted to exploring options for WRC-07 in order that an informed decision can be made at that time.

16. It was agreed that a news release summarizing the results of the meeting would be drafted by the Secretary and reviewed prior to release.

Mr. Wardlaw observed that this was his last Council meeting as an IARU officer although he would be attending the Region 3 Conference in February 2004 and would continue to be willing to take on tasks on behalf of the IARU, as he had been doing since 1968. He thanked the Council members and especially Mr. Price for their confidence and support during his term of office.

On behalf of the Council and the IARU, Mr. Price thanked Mr. Wardlaw for his long and devoted service. With regard to his own continuing service, Mr. Price expressed the view that five-year terms are one year too long and that a limit of two four-year terms would be healthier for the IARU.

After opportunities for closing remarks by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 1720.

Respectfully submitted,
David Sumner, K1ZZ
Secretary