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Jean Jipguep



Born in 1937 at Batoufam, Mifi Department (United Republic of Cameroon), Mr. Jean Jipguep attended the Lycée of Yaoundé from 1950 to 1957 and obtained the BEPC as well as the Baccalauréat (mathematics). From 1957 to 1962, he studied at the Faculty of Sciences of Paris and Strasbourg, obtaining degrees in physics and applied mathematics, and at the Institute

of Geophysics of Strasbourg (1959-1961). From 1962 to 1964, he attended the *Ecole nationale supérieure des télécommunications* (ENST) in Paris where he received the diploma of telecommunications engineer. During that same period, he took some practical courses in French telecommunications, particularly at the *Centre des lignes à grandes distances* (LGD) in Nice and at the *Centre national d'études des télécommunications* (CNET), and followed a course at the *Institut d'administration des entreprises* in Paris.

Service career

Mr. Jipguep joined the Posts and Telecommunications Administration of the United Republic of Cameroon on 24 December 1964. Until February 1965, he acted as engineer in the Federal Posts and Telecommunications Department in Yaoundé. From 15 February 1965 to 19 August 1969, he headed the Federal Telecommunication Service in Douala. He then became Deputy Director of Telecommunications and Assistant Director of Technical Services (1969-1972). From 19 April 1972 to 25 Sep-

tember 1978, he was Director of Telecommunications and since that last date he held the post of technical counsellor to the Minister of State for Posts and Telecommunications.

It was between 1965 and 1979 that Cameroon planned and installed its modern and comprehensive telecommunication network, of which it is justly proud.

Mr. Jipguep, who was technically responsible for this network, was the prime mover of the design and implementation of the vast project for the development of telecommunications in Cameroon. His activity and his role were particularly significant during the second and third five-year plans, a period during which the present infrastructure was installed, comprising 34 automatic telephone exchanges, five national and regional transit centres, one international transit centre, 3200 km of radio relays and a space centre equipped with three antennas, one 30 m in diameter and two standard B antennas.

Activities at the international level

Mr. Jipguep has participated as delegate for his country in most ITU conferences and has taken an active part in the work of African telecommunication organizations.

Since October 1973, Mr. Jipguep has been a member of the ITU Administrative Council representing the United Republic of Cameroon and has carried out the following duties in the Administrative Council:

- Vice-Chairman of the Technical Co-operation Committee from 1975 to 1978 (30th, 31st and 32nd sessions);
- Vice-Chairman of the Council (1978/1979: 33rd session);
- Chairman of the Council (1979/1980: 34th session).

First Session of FM sound broadcasting Conference closes in Geneva

The First Session of the Regional Administrative Conference for FM sound broadcasting in the VHF band in Region 1* and certain countries concerned in Region 3, which opened on 23 August in the Geneva International Conference Centre, completed its work on Friday, 17 September.

Some 300 delegates from 66 countries took part in the Conference which was convened by the ITU in response to Resolution No. 510 of the World Ad-

ministrative Radio Conference, 1979 (WARC-79). Resolution 510 summarized the need and reasons for holding the conference as follows:

- a) the extension of the primary allocation to the broadcasting service in Region 1 from 87.5-100 MHz to 87.5-108 MHz;
- b) that in Region 1 the band 100-108 MHz is at present allocated to the mobile, except aeronautical mobile (R),

service and in some countries also to the fixed service;**

c) that several countries in Region 3 with land boundaries adjoining Region 1 also use this band for the broadcasting service;

d) that for those countries in Region 1 which use or intend to use the band 87.5-100 MHz for frequency-modulated sound broadcasting, there is a need to establish a new sound-broadcasting plan for the whole of the band 87.5-108 MHz;

* Region 1 includes Europe and Africa and the whole of the USSR; Region 3 includes Asia and Australasia.

** The aeronautical mobile (R) service deals with air-to-ground and ground-to-air communications for civil aviation on scheduled air routes.

e) that for other countries in Region 1 there is a need to establish a sound-broadcasting plan for the band 100-108 MHz;

f) that this new plan should in no way affect existing or planned assignments to television stations in the band 87.5-100 MHz made in accordance with the Regional Agreement (Stockholm, 1961);

g) that this new plan in the band 87.5-100 MHz should not result in the deterioration of the service areas of those existing sound-broadcasting stations operating in accordance with the Regional Agreement (Stockholm, 1961) which are situated in the co-ordination area with countries using this band for television in accordance with the Regional Agreement (Stockholm, 1961);

h) the requirement to introduce sound-broadcasting stations in the band 100-108 MHz in accordance with this plan at the earliest possible date;

i) that radio equipment used by aircraft for automatic landing purposes, which operates in the adjacent band 108-112 MHz, may be subject to harmful interference from nearby broadcasting stations operating in the band 87.5-108 MHz if the frequencies of the respective stations are not selected with care and that such interference can put human life at risk.

WARC-79 decided that the Conference should take place in two sessions:

- the First Session to establish the technical bases for the preparation of the plan, including mutual criteria for sharing between sound-broadcasting and other services, including television broadcasting, operating within the band 87.5-108 MHz;
- the Second Session to draw up the agreement and associated plan.

The Chairman of the First Session of the Conference was Miss Marie Huet (France); the Vice-Chairmen were Messrs. A. L. Badalov (USSR), S. A. Albidnah (Saudi Arabia) and A. Ndiongue (Senegal).

The First Session of the Conference prepared a technical Report comprising seven chapters which cover: definitions; propagation; technical standards and transmission characteristics; frequency sharing between sound broadcasting and television; compatibility with other services; planning method; frequency requirements for administrations and inventory requirements.

The technical criteria and the planning methods were largely founded upon the work of the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR).

Apart from the technical criteria peculiar to the broadcasting service (propagation curves, channel spacing, protection ratios, etc.), the Conference at its First Session examined the question of compatibility with the other services in the same frequency band or in adjacent bands. It gave particular attention to the problem of protecting the aeronautical radionavigation services and took steps to ensure that account would be taken of this need in the planning activities at the Second Session.

The Report contains a number of Resolutions and Recommendations. The general Resolutions are concerned, on the one hand, with the assistance that administrations might give to the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) during the period between the two sessions and, on the other hand, the assistance which the IFRB might give to developing countries in dealing with problems of compatibility with the aeronautical radionavigation services. Recommendations to the CCIR are concerned with two areas where it would be useful to have additional information for the Second Session: firstly, propagation in the Middle East and in Africa; secondly, technical parameters of the equipment of aeronautical services and of FM sound broadcasting transmitters.

In accordance with the Agenda of the Conference the Report takes into account parameters such as propagation characteristics, methods to forecast field strength values in the VHF band; optimum channel spacing, channel distribution; modulation standards, emitting bandwidths; radio frequency protection ratios; minimum wanted field strength values; field strengths to be protected; basic characteristics of transmitting and receiving antennas, polarization; receiver sensitivity and selectivity; criteria for the compatibility of the FM sound broadcasting service with certain other services and planning principles.

A difficult and complex problem arises in attempting to plan the introduction of the broadcasting service, which in general employs high radiated power, in the 100 to 108 MHz band. This is because the adjacent 108 to 118 MHz band is allocated to a service which uses much lower powers and features sensitive receiving systems for important safety of life purposes. The problem is made worse by the fact that, in order to meet the coverage requirements, the broadcast trans-

mitting stations are often near and in some cases within the service volume of the aeronautical service systems. Full exploitation of the new spectrum allocated by WARC-79 to the broadcasting service may be constrained in some areas by the need to provide the essential protection to the aeronautical safety services. Significant alleviation of these constraints may be expected only when improvements in the relevant characteristics of the equipment of the aeronautical and broadcasting services can be effected.

In the interval between the two sessions of the Conference the administrations will check the compatibility of their frequency requirements with existing aeronautical radionavigation stations in the 108 to 118 MHz band and also with stations of the aeronautical mobile (R) service in the band 118 to 137 MHz. They will then submit their requirements to the IFRB.

After validating them, the IFRB will enter all the requests in a register with a view to establishing an inventory of requirements, on the basis of which the interference calculations and incompatibility checks will be made.

The Report of the First Session recommends that the new plan for FM sound broadcasting be established on the basis of 100 kHz channel spacing; this is the same as was adopted for the Stockholm Plan of 1961. Stations established according to the Stockholm Plan will not be affected by the new plan.

The First Session also defined the form in which the requirements of the Union's Members for frequency assignments in Region 1 and in the parts of Afghanistan and Iran adjacent to that Region should be submitted. This must be done between 1 October 1983 and 31 January 1984.

The Second Session of the Conference is scheduled to be held in Geneva for a period of six weeks towards the end of 1984.

Editor's note

In a forthcoming number of the *Telecommunication Journal* we plan to publish a more detailed article on the First Session of the Regional Administrative Broadcasting Conference.
