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Union Activities

World Administrative Radio Conference for the mobile services

The World Administrative Radio Conference for the mobile services (WARC-MOB-1983) was held from 28 February to 18 March 1983 at the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG).

The inaugural meeting was chaired by the Dean of the Conference, H. E. César-Charles Solamito, head of the delegation of Monaco, in the presence of some 500 delegates from 90 countries. At this meeting the delegations approved the structure of the Conference and elected the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, the Committees and two Working Groups.

Captain V. R. Y. Winkelman (Netherlands) was elected Chairman. Messrs. N. Bouhired (Algeria), H. Vergara (Argentina), Y. Lui (China), Rear Admiral F. Schubert (United States) and Mr. A. Badalov (USSR) were elected Vice-Chairmen.

In his address to the Conference, Captain Winkelman stressed his appreciation of the tribute paid to his country and to himself and the importance of the work of the Conference for the Future Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (FGMDSS).

The Secretary-General of the ITU, Mr. R. E. Butler, welcomed the delegates and emphasized that the Conference was the first ITU world conference concerned with all the mobile services, pointing out that: "... Previous confer-

ences have been convened to deal with particular services: maritime services, aeronautical services and space services as applied to mobile telecommunications generally. These conferences have, in consequence, been more limited in their mandate. The 1979 WARC foresaw the need to harmonize some provisions of the aeronautical, maritime and land mobile services, particularly to improve the provisions related to distress and safety, and as a result of technological improvements and the introduction of new telecommunications systems, to revise a number of provisions concerning the mobile services. This Conference has been convened as a result of these and of other provisions and decisions arising from the 1979 WARC".

Emphasizing the importance of the work of the Conference, he went on to say:

"The action to be taken by the Conference will have consequences for the international community in general and, while not forgetting other international organizations, I wish to extend a special welcome today to the representative of our sister organizations, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Civil Aviation Organiza-

tion (ICAO) who have provided valued inputs to the work of the Conference, as well as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the regional telecommunication organizations which will participate as observers in your deliberations".

The Secretary-General concluded his address, drawing the attention of delegates to the fact "that 1983, by decision of the United Nations' General Assembly, is World Communications Year (WCY) and that the attention of the world is focussed upon the development of communications infrastructures at this time".

Structure of the Conference

The Conference comprises six Committees and two Working Groups of the Plenary Meeting:

• Committee 1—Steering Committee

Chairman:

the Chairman of the Conference

Vice-Chairmen:

the Vice-Chairmen of the Conference

Members:

the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees and the two Working Groups

Terms of reference:

To co-ordinate the work of the Committees, fix the timetable of meetings, etc.

• Committee 2—Credentials Committee

Chairman:

Mr. G. L. Mutti (Zambia)

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. J. Székely (Hungary)

Terms of reference:

To verify the credentials of delegations and to report on its conclusions to the Plenary Meeting within the time specified by the latter (No. 369 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Malaga-Torremolinos 1973).

• Committee 3—Budget Control Committee

Chairman:

Mr. S. Ghandourah (Saudi Arabia)

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. J. G. de Matos (Angola)

Terms of reference:

To determine the organization and the facilities available to the delegates and to examine and approve the accounts of expenditure incurred throughout the duration of the Conference (No. 442 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973).

• Committee 4—Frequency and Regulatory Committee

Chairman:

Mr. K. P. R. Menon (Malaysia)

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. K. Björnsjö (Sweden)



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First Plenary Meeting of WARC-MOB-1983. Right to left: Chairman of the Conference, Captain V. R. Y. Winkelman; ITU Secretary-General, Mr. R. E. Butler; Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. J. Jipuep

Terms of reference:

To consider proposals concerning *frequency and related regulatory matters* for the relevant Articles and Appendix of the Radio Regulations.

Insofar as *frequency and related regulatory matters* are concerned, to review and take appropriate action, as necessary, on the relevant Resolutions and Recommendations of the World Administrative Radio Conference, Geneva, 1979, (WARC-79).

Terms of reference:

To review and take appropriate action, as necessary, on the relevant Resolutions and Recommendations of WARC-79 which directly concern Region 1.

• **Committee 5—Operational and Administrative Committee**

Chairman:

Mr. E. Ducharme (Canada)

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. B. G. Yao (Ivory Coast)

Terms of reference:

To consider proposals concerning *operational and related administrative matters* for the relevant Articles of the Radio Regulations relating to distress and safety and the selective calling procedure in the maritime mobile service.

Insofar as *operational and related administrative matters* are concerned, to review and take appropriate action, as necessary, on the relevant Resolutions and Recommendations of WARC-79.

• **Committee 6—Editorial Committee**

Chairman:

Mr. P. Abouardham (France)

Vice-Chairmen:

Mr. A. Marshall (United Kingdom)

Mr. F. Molina Negro (Spain)

Terms of reference:

To perfect the form of the Final Acts of the Conference without altering the sense (No. 527 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973).

• **Technical Working Group (PL-A)**

Chairman:

Mr. H. Götze (German Democratic Republic)

Terms of reference:

To consider proposals concerning *technical matters* related to the various agenda items and in particular to review and take appropriate action, as necessary on the relevant Resolutions and Recommendations of WARC-79.

• **Special Working Group: issues concerning Region 1 (Europe) (PL-B)**

Chairman:

Mr. K. Olms (Federal Republic of Germany)

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. Z. Kupczyk (Poland)