

Report of the Meeting in Hannover,

10 - 14 June 1985

1. General

The delegations of the Administrations of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Luxembourg, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, the Confederation of Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Annex 4) met in Hannover from 10 to 14 June 1985 in order to negotiate the abrogation of the "Special Agreement Concerning the Introduction of the Broadcasting Service in the Frequency Band 100 - 104 MHz, Darmstadt, 1971" (Darmstadt Agreement) in accordance with art. 8 of this Agreement as well as the measures to be taken after this abrogation (The Agenda is given in Annex 3.)

The meeting was necessary since the Second Session of the Regional Administrative Conference for the Planning of VHF Sound Broadcasting (Region 1 and Parts of Region 3), Geneva, 1984, lacked the mandate to revise existing Agreements. After consulting the Contracting Administrations of the Darmstadt Agreement, the Posts and Telecommunications Administration of the Federal Republic of Germany invited all Signatory Administrations to participate in this meeting in Hannover.

2. Abrogation of the Darmstadt Agreement

(Agenda item 1)

The Contracting Administrations of the Darmstadt Agreement agreed on abrogating this Agreement as from 14 June 1985 and signed an Agreement to that effect. Existing frequency usages

may, however, continue until the dates for the change-over to frequencies according to the Geneva Plan, 1984, which are given in Annexes 1 and 2. Any references to the Darmstadt Agreement's provisions in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Administration of the United Kingdom and the Administrations of Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, The Netherlands, Ireland and Luxembourg concerning the use of the band 97.6 - 102.1 MHz will not lose their meaning after the abrogation of the Agreement.

3. Frequency change-overs and early implementation of assignments in the Geneva Plan, 1984
(Agenda items 2 and 3)

The delegations participating in the meeting worked out lists of frequencies for the change-over of existing frequency usages and the use of additional frequencies. Annex 1 mainly contains the frequencies which are being operated according to the Darmstadt Plan and are to be changed over to the Geneva Plan, 1984. Annex 2 mainly comprises the plans for the early implementation of assignments in the Geneva Plan, 1984, as well as for additions to this Plan.

For all frequency assignments which are given in the Annexes without a disagreement indicated in the column "Remarks", the procedure according to Recommendation COM 5/C of the Final Acts of the Regional Administrative Conference for the Planning of VHF Broadcasting, Geneva, 1984, as well as art. 4 para 2.3 of the Geneva Agreement, 1984 is regarded as fulfilled between the participating administrations of the meeting.

However, all agreements relative to the bringing into use of broadcasting assignments have been given only with regard to their compatibility with other broadcasting assignments or their compatibility with the land mobile service or both. The compatibility with the aeronautical radionavigation service has to be examined later.

A large group of assignments could be changed or introduced only when three Belgian stations move to their 1984 Plan assignments and then in turn were blocked by UK land mobile systems (see Annex 6). The UK delegation pointed out that the mobile systems concerned could be changed to a different frequency only gradually; other delegations stressed the importance of introducing the 1984 assignments as soon as possible and regretted the obstruction created by the UK's systems. It was however eventually agreed between Belgium and the UK that the transmitters indicated in Annex 6 page 2 under reference No. 1,2 and 3 with the characteristics specified in Annex 5 will change frequencies on 03 June 86, 0001 UTC. Consequently the Administrations concerned with the transmitters indicated in Annex 6 page 2 agreed to change the frequencies at the same date.

The Swiss delegation would not accept a neutralization of the Geneva Plan, 1984, due to temporary blocking chain reaction.

The UK delegation asked for the understanding of its MoU partners for the logistics of its programme to remove land mobile systems from the band 97.6 - 102.1 MHz. The UK hoped that there need be no further calls for interim changes to be made, so that efforts could concentrate on the main clearance work. Delegations of MoU countries acknowledged the need to reach early collective agreement on the interim replacement channels for the mobile systems involved in the unblocking of the Belgian stations.

The French delegation pointed out that its consent with transmitters put into operation above 104 MHz - whether in connection with the change-over of stations from the Darmstadt Plan to the Geneva Plan, 1984 - or the pre-use of transmitters according to the Geneva Plan, 1984, was given under the condition that the frequency usage is in conformity with the various Protocols of Agreement of 7 December 1984 with a view to ensuring the protection of mobile services.

The UK delegation made a similar reservation with respect to the sub-band 105-108 MHz.

4. Additional Agreements

4.1 Recommendation COM 5/C, Geneva, 1984

To avoid delays in the application as well as a concentration of work starting at certain dates it is agreed that the dates of step a) (See the Annex to the Recommendation) are not binding and can be chosen at convenience. However, the dates of steps b) to d) remain strictly related to the date chosen for step a) by the initiating Administration.

Some delegations expressed concern about the very limited time available for step b). However, in the case of any difficulty, the wish for further consultations (see step b), second indent could be expressed, which would immediately lead to the additional three months period according to step c).

* 4.2 Article 4 of the Agreement, Geneva, 1984

In applying paragraph 2.3 of article 4, in connection with Resolution No. COM 5/2, it is agreed that replies to a coordination request shall be given within a period of 12 weeks. If after that no reply has been received, a reminder shall be sent. If 2 weeks after the dispatch of the reminder no reply has been received, this shall be taken as agreement.

This procedure shall also be applied after the date of implementation of the Geneva Agreement, 1984.

4.3 Application of the additional agreements by neighbouring Administrations not present at the Hannover meeting.

The participating delegations express the wish that non-participating Administrations agree to apply the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2

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above when applying the relevant coordination procedures with Administrations having participated at the Hannover meeting.

6 Annexes