

**Appendix 4**  
**to the report of the 11th meeting of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group**  
**(5 to 9 October 2015)**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE IMO POSITION ON WRC-15 AGENDA ITEM 10**

WRC15, Document 13 contains the IMO position on WRC-15 Agenda items concerning matters relating to maritime services. The Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group on Maritime Radiocommunication Matters, at its meeting from 5 to 9 October 2015, considered matters related to WRC-15, Agenda item 10. As a result, IMO informs the Conference that in relation to WRC15, Document 13 the information related to Agenda item 10 should be replaced by the following text.

**Agenda item 10**

10 to recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next WRC, and to give its views on the preliminary agenda for the subsequent conference and on possible agenda items for future conferences, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention.

**Background**

Resolution **808 (WRC-12)** containing the preliminary agenda for WRC-18 lists, as item 2.1 for inclusion in the agenda for WRC-18, to consider regulatory actions, including spectrum allocations, to support GMDSS modernization and implementation of e-navigation in accordance with Resolution **359 (WRC-12)**.

Due to the complexity of the work related to the review of the GMDSS, IMO plans to complete the modernization plan for the GMDSS in 2018. The first stage on further work to be undertaken on the implementation of e-navigation is expected to take place in the period 2016 to 2019.

Not directly related to the GMDSS modernization, IMO has received an application to introduce a new mobile satellite service provider into the GMDSS. If a new mobile satellite service provider is recognised for use in the GMDSS, consequential regulatory actions may need to be considered by the ITU.

IMO recognises the development of devices using AIS-like technologies for maritime safety in the market, and the number is predicted to become larger in the future. It is further recognised that the majority of novel devices using AIS technology are operating on channels AIS 1 and AIS 2, and to some extent, occupying the resources of maritime mobile service identities (MMSIs) for ship stations or aids to navigation.

The purpose of AIS is to identify vessels, assist in target tracking, assist in search and rescue operations, simplify information exchange and provide additional information to assist situation awareness.

IMO also recognises that maritime radio devices operating without a regulatory connection to vessels or coast stations, besides operating with AIS technology, also operate with DSC technology or transmitting synthetic voice messages or with a combination of those technologies. Unregulated usage of frequencies of Radio Regulations Appendix 18 and numbering (Recommendation ITU-R M.585) by such maritime radio devices have created confusion and caused already interference within the Maritime Mobile Service.

**IMO position**

IMO supports the consideration of agenda items related to:

- 1 the review of the GMDSS and the implementation of e-navigation, taking into account the time scales indicated in the background section;
2. the regulatory consequences of the recognition of a new mobile satellite service provider in the GMDSS by IMO;
- 3 the protection of the operational purpose of AIS as the primary function on the existing channels AIS 1 and AIS 2 and regulatory provisions to support novel devices using AIS technology; and
- .4 the impact of the unregulated usage of frequencies and numbering schemes by maritime radio devices operating without a national authorization or regulatory connection to vessels or coast stations, to ensure the safety of navigation and the integrity of the GMDSS.

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