

JOINT IMO/ITU EXPERTS GROUP ON
MARITIME RADIOCOMMUNICATION
MATTERS
12th meeting
Agenda item 5

IMO/ITU EG 12/5/7
8 June 2016
ENGLISH ONLY

**CONSIDERATION OF THE OUTCOME OF WRC-15 AND PREPARATION OF INITIAL
ADVICE ON A DRAFT IMO POSITION ON WRC-19 AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING
MATTERS RELATING TO MARITIME SERVICES**

Liaison statement from Working Party 5B to IMO

Identification and Categorization of autonomous maritime radio devices

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary:	This document contains at annex a liaison statement from the ITU-R WP 5B meeting (10-20 May 2016) concerning the identification and categorization of autonomous maritime radio devices in relation to WRC-19 Agenda item 1.9.1
Action to be taken:	Paragraph 3
Related documents:	Document 5B/TEMP/24, IMO/ITU EG 12/3, IMO/ITU EG 12/5, IMO/ITU EG 12/5/3, IMO/ITU EG 12/5/4

Introduction

1 This document contains at annex a liaison statement from the ITU-R WP 5B meeting (10-20 May 2016) concerning the identification and categorization of autonomous maritime radio devices in relation to WRC-19 Agenda item 1.9.1.

2 A response to this liaison statement will be prepared at NCSR 4.

Action requested of the Experts Group

3 The Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group is invited to consider the matter and advise NCSR 4, as appropriate.

ANNEX



Radiocommunication Study Groups



**INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION
UNION**

Source: Document 5B/TEMP/24

Subject: WRC-19 agenda item 1.9.1

**20 May 2016
English only**

Working Party 5B

**LIAISON STATEMENT TO
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) AND
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MARINE AIDS TO
NAVIGATION AND LIGHTHOUSE AUTHORITIES (IALA)**

Identification and Categorization of autonomous maritime radio devices

ITU-R Working Party 5B (WP 5B) thanks IMO and IALA for their liaison statements on developments in maritime radio communications topics for WRC-19.

Background

WRC-19 agenda item 1.9.1 will consider, based on the results of ITU-R studies, potential regulatory actions within the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz for autonomous maritime radio devices to protect the GMDSS and automatic identifications system (AIS), in accordance with Resolution **362 (WRC-15)**. Resolution **362 (WRC-15)** invites ITU-R to conduct the necessary studies to categorize the various autonomous maritime radio devices (AMRD) and to conduct sharing and compatibility studies, to ensure that no undue constraints are placed on the GMDSS and AIS.

WP 5B has been assigned as the responsible group under WRC-19 agenda item 1.9.1 and will conduct the necessary studies to determine any potential regulatory actions and appropriate frequencies for autonomous maritime radio devices in the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz.

Resolution **362 considering b)** considers three categories of autonomous devices developed for safety-related purposes: those using AIS technology, those using DSC technology and those transmitting synthetic voice messages. Resolution **362 considering a)** identifies several examples of applications of maritime radio devices which operate autonomously, and

clarifies that rather than prohibiting their use that there is a need to identify and categorize these applications in order to enhance safety of navigation. One possible means of categorizing these applications would be by defining dynamic navigation markers (e.g. derelict ships, floating ice, diver locating, fishing net buoys, oil spill track buoys, wave-gliders, oceanographic and other drifting buoys). “Man overboard” devices are already accommodated in both Recommendation [ITU-R M.1371](#) and Recommendation [ITU-R M.493](#).

WP 5B will keep IMO and IALA apprised of the activities associated with the identification and categorization of autonomous maritime radio devices under WRC-19 agenda item 1.9.1.

Action requested

WP 5B invites IMO and IALA to consider these issues, particularly on the need to categorize the various autonomous maritime radio devices, and to advise accordingly.

IMO and IALA are further invited to note that WP 5B is working towards a formal definition for the term AMRD.

Status: For action

Deadline: November 2016, WP 5B meeting

Contact: Steve Austin

E-mail: steve.austin@mcga.gov.uk