

Remarks: Draft not confirmed *All for member internal reference only*

**Notes of Meeting with Amateur Radio Societies
held at 5:00 pm on 27 April 2007 in OFTA Room 2956**

Present: Mr. P H Ma	OFTA (Chairman)
Mr. Paul Anderson	HARTS
Mr. Albert Fung	HARTS
Mr. Steven Beesley	HARDXA
Mr. K K Leung	PLK Yao Ling Sun College
Ms. CHAN Shing-yi	PLK Yao Ling Sun College
Mr. Ho Wing-leung	HKARA
Mr. S H Hung	HKARA
Mr Cary Leung	CQARA
Mr. K C Chow	OFTA
Mr. YC Leung	OFTA
Mr. Alex Tang	OFTA
Mr. W K Leung	OFTA
Mr. Y L Fong	OFTA
Mr. K F Kwan	OFTA
Mr. K W Lee	OFTA (Secretary)

1. Confirmation of notes of last meeting

1.1 The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the amateur societies. The notes of last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

2. Proposed allocation of 7.2-7.3 MHz band for amateur service on secondary basis (agenda item: 1.13 of WRC-07)

2.1 The Chairman said that the proposal of allocating the 7.2–7.3MHz band for amateur service on secondary basis would be discussed in the coming WRC-07 and OFTA supported the proposal in principle. OFTA would keep track of the development of the issue. He requested amateur societies to update OFTA if there was any latest development on the issue.

3. Proposed allocation of 135.7-137.8 kHz for amateur service on secondary basis (agenda item: 1.15 of WRC-07)

3.1 The Chairman said that the proposal of allocating 135.7–137.8 kHz for amateur service would be discussed in the coming WRC-07 and OFTA supported the proposal in principle. OFTA would keep track of the status and development of the issue. In addition, OFTA had invited PLK Yao Ling Sun College to consider the feasibility of building a transmitter for trial in Hong Kong.

3.2 Mr. Beesley informed that 135.7-137.8 kHz radio transceiver and antenna were not commercially available and commented that 135.7–137.8 kHz amateur operation might interfere with those maritime navigation systems operating in the same band. The Chairman added that OFTA would also like to find out whether the anti-theft systems installed at shops would be affected.

4. Study on feasibility of allocation of part of frequency segment within 1240-1245 MHz band for amateur service

4.1 The Chairman reported that OFTA had conducted a study and found that the CAD radar would be affected if 1.2 GHz amateur radio equipment was operating in line of sight with the radars. Mr. Beesley advised that exclusion zone and guard band were imposed in overseas countries in order to safeguard aviation radars.

4.2 Mr. Beesley said that the 1.2GHz band was mostly used for satellite/terrestrial amateur television and RTTY operations. He also suggested that the 1.2 GHz equipment could be type-approved by OFTA to safeguard radar operation. Mr. Anderson added that terrestrial applications for use of 1.2GHz amateur equipment might be submitted well in advance for OFTA's consideration on a case by case basis to ensure better coordination between services.

4.3 The Chairman requested members of the meeting to provide OFTA with some examples of exclusion zones around airport radars in overseas countries, guard band requirement, product specifications of 1.2 GHz amateur equipment, etc. to facilitate the feasibility study.

5. HKARA's proposal of the establishment of 409 MHz Short Range Portable Radio (SRPR) repeater for emergency communications

5.1 The Chairman thanked Mr. Ho for submitting a technical design of the system to facilitate discussion. The Chairman said that the system, if approved for establishment in Hong Kong, would be subject to the issue of a separate mobile radio system licence. As the proposal would affect the use of an amateur channel by all amateurs, OFTA would write to amateur societies to solicit their views on the use of an amateur channel for such purpose.

6 Recognition of ASL issued by Macau for the issue of temporary permit

6.1 Mr. Chairman said that OFTA would take up the issue with Macau Amateur Radio Association (ARM) and the Bureau of Telecommunications Authority (DSRT) of Macau.

7 The use of amateur station on board aircraft or remote control model

aircraft

- 7.1 Mr. Fong informed the meeting that it was mentioned in a CAD's guidance note, which was available on CAD's website, that portable radio equipment was required to be switched off during the entire duration of the flight from the moment that the aircraft doors are closed prior to commencement of the flight, until the moment that a passenger door was opened after the completion of the flight.
- 7.2 Mr. Beesley asked whether the amateur station could also be used in captive balloon, paraglider and glider. OFTA will follow up.

8 Proposal to amend Special Conditions of the ASL

- 8.1 The Chairman reported that, having solicited views from the amateur associations/clubs, they were supportive to making the ATO as an optional requirement to ASL. OFTA will follow up.
- 8.2 Mr. Beesley suggested revamping the ASL into a passport-sized booklet with photograph and of 5 years validity, similar to the one currently being issued by MII. The Chairman thanked members for their suggestions and agreed to consider.
- 8.3 In response to Mr. Ho, the Chairman said the relevant provisions for the requirement of ATO were laid down in the Telecommunications Ordinance.
- 8.4 Mr. Anderson indicated that the ITU Resolution 640 as mentioned in General Condition 6 of the ASL had been repealed and a new ITU RR 25.3 was adopted in WRC-03 to govern disaster communications, amendment of the ASL was required to reflect the change. OFTA will follow up.

9 The use of special call prefix "VR10" to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China

- 9.1 The Chairman reported that in response to the request from HRSA, OFTA agreed to the proposal of using special call prefix "VR10" by all amateurs in Hong Kong to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China. The special call prefix could be used for one year starting from 1 July 2007. OFTA would inform ITU of the arrangement through MII and make necessary announcement to all amateurs shortly.

10 Any other business

- 10.1 Mr. Fung requested OFTA to consider allocating frequency segments in the 50–54 MHz band for amateur service as per IARU Region 3 band plan because Hong Kong amateurs were only allowed to use part of the band (i.e. 50.0–51.5MHz and 52.025–52.11MHz). The Chairman indicated that he

would check whether there were any existing users in this band and report the findings in next meeting.

11 Date of next meeting

11.1 The date of next meeting will be notified in due course.

OFTA
June 2007