

## ASBU Satellite Interference Forum Tunis, 6-7 October, 2013

### Action Plan

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Forum Action Plan to include:

#### 1- **Awareness**

ASBU and operators in this region and other regions to establish a public awareness campaign through different Mass Media that intentional interference will not prevent the Media message to be delivered, as the broadcasters affected will move and find other alternatives (use of another satellite or other frequencies or even other means of Media).

Broadcasters in the Region should as well use their access to media to publicise the impact of satellite interference on broadcasting.

#### 2- **Training**

ASBU and operators in this region and other regions to establish short and medium training plans for all broadcasters to ensure the best practice in operation and maintenance of the satellite uplinks systems with the objective of reducing significantly the number of interference incidents. Training to be delivered using ASBU, GVF and other recognized training plans and including the SNG module developed jointly with RFI-EUI, as well as specialized training for satellite operations/NOC etc.

#### 3- **Earth Station Approvals**

ASBU and operators in this region and other regions to request that SNG terminal equipment be tested and approved for use in coordination with GVF's Quality Products Framework, which has been endorsed by RFI-EUI and WBU-ISOG in order to reduce interference caused by faulty satellite newsgathering equipment.

#### 4- **Carrier ID**

ASBU and operators to request members and all users in the Region to implement carrier ID in line with WBU-ISOG resolutions and to record the progress of this change. All Broadcasting Unions and members to engage with national regulators to make CID a requirement.

## 5- Regulatory and Political Actions

ASBU, WBU, satellite operators and all concerned parties recognize the actions of ITU, Radio Regulations Board and TSB, in order to tackle the issue of intentional interference. Their continued support is requested to develop these initiatives. ASBU and WBU will also consider whether it is appropriate for action to be taken by other competent UN bodies such as UNIDIR (UN Institute for Disarmament Research) and others.

- 5.1. Broadcasters to build relationships with their regulators/ITU recognised Administrations in relation to two specific subjects:
  - a) The protection of C-Band resource for WRC-15 in close coordination with GVF.
  - b) And raising awareness of the issue of interference.
  
- 5.2. To develop a formal definition of intentional interference recognizing that the ITU definition of harmful interference<sup>1</sup> does not make such a distinction.
  - \* Action – For ASBU and relevant bodies in the Arab League to work with its members and related organizations to:
    - a) Draft definitions for intentional and unintentional interference and for this to be proposed with the assistance of Regional Administrations and Broadcasting Unions to the ITU, for adoption within the Radio Regulations.
    - b) Introduce national laws that prohibit and penalise intentional interference.
    - c) Conduct bilateral coordination among affected countries.
  
- 5.3. To work with other Regional Broadcasting Unions, the WBU and industry organizations to convince ITU members to:
  - a) Develop the proposal for an Intentional Interference Register (IIR).
  - b) Develop a system of penalties to be applied to those members that practice intentional interference.
  - c) Request ITU apply such penalties on members creating intentional interference. All ASBU member organizations should have a unified approach towards any ITU members subject to such constraints.
  
- 5.4. For ASBU and its members to participate in industry working groups such as sIRG, WBU-TC and WBU-ISOG to exert more efforts to find technical solutions to the issue of intentional interference.

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<sup>1</sup> "Interference which endangers the functioning of a radio navigation service or of other safety services or seriously degrades, obstructs or repeatedly interrupts a radio communication service operation in accordance with the Radio Regulations".

5.5 For ASBU and its members to participate actively within the ITU and its relevant study groups to secure and protect the scarce satellite resources upon which all broadcasters depend.

5.6 For ASBU and other Regional Unions to recognise that unauthorized use of un-occupied satellite capacity is an issue and to request broadcasters take action to ensure they do not use material or companies that exploit such capacity.

Broadcasters in the region are advised not to lease capacities from Space capacity resellers without confirming authorization from Satellite operators who granted related capacities to these resellers.

5.7 Ahead of ITU and or other international bodies implementing the suggested changes, ASBU will develop a code of conduct for its members based on the actions proposed in this plan.

### **Action Plan Related Attachments**

- 1) WBU-ISOG Carrier ID Resolutions
- 2) GVF Earth Station Testing program
- 3) GVF Type Approval documents
- 4) ETSI CID standard release [ETSI TS 103 129 v1.1.1 (2013-05)]