World Broadcasting Unions - Technical Committee

COMMENTS ON THE WORKING DOCUMENT TOWARDS DRAFT CPM TEXT ON WRC-12 AGENDA ITEM 1.19

As the technical arm of the World Broadcasting Unions, the Technical Committee (WBU-TC) is responsible for technical broadcasting issues of importance to the members of the World Broadcasting Unions. The work of the WBU-TC focuses on issues and areas to which all Unions are welcome to contribute to, and which materially affect broadcasting in all regions of the world.

The WBU-TC has been following, with great interest, the discussions in ITU-R Working Party 1B concerning the development of CPM text on the WRC-12 Agenda item 1.19. In general, the WBU-TC is concerned with the need and methods to protect broadcasting services from interference caused by emissions from devices utilizing software-defined radio (SDR) and cognitive radio systems (CRS) technologies. Of particular interest are devices that produce fundamental emissions in the frequency bands allocated to the broadcasting service as well as those frequency bands used by broadcasting services (e.g., wireless microphones, studio-to-transmitter feeder links, electronic newsgathering for Outside Broadcast, etc.).

We have noted the liaison statement from Working Party 6A in Document 1B/162. The WBU-TC fully supports the concerns and views expressed by Working Party 6A. In particular, the WBU-TC supports the inclusion of the text proposed by Working Party 6A addressing the concern of the broadcasting service.

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1 The WBU-TC is the standing technical body of the World Broadcasting Unions, whose members are:
- Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)
- Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU)
- The African Union of Broadcasting (AUB)
- Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU)
- European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
- International Association of Broadcasting (IAB)
- North American Broadcasters Association (NABA)
- Organizacion de Telecommunicaciones Iberoamericanas (OTI)
Furthermore, the WBU-TC notes the statement “Some administrations have already authorized the
use of unused spectrum in the UHF bands through license-exempt devices which operate on a non-
interference and non-protection basis.” We agree with Working Party 6A that the application of
CRS technologies needs to be supported by a solid guarantee through experimental technical studies
that such interference would not actually occur. Since the above example does not provide any
such technical basis, they lack any expectation of guaranteed service protection for the broadcasting
service, and thus the statement is inappropriate and does not address the international issue. The
statement should be deleted from the CPM text.

The WBU-TC appreciates the efforts of Working Party 1B in addressing the concerns of all
radiocommunication services in dealing with these new and innovative technologies.