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| **36 MEETING OF PERMANENT**  **CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE II:**  **RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS**  **November 30 to December 4, 2020**  ***Virtual meeting*** | | **OEA/Ser.L/XVII.4.2.36**  **CCP.II-RADIO/doc. /20**  **7 November 2020**  **Original: English** | |
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|  | **U.S. PRELIMINARY VIEW ON WRC-23 AGENDA ITEM 1.11** | |  |
|  | **(Item on the Agenda: 3.1)** | |  |
|  | **(Document submitted by the United States of America)** | |  |

**Introduction:**

This document contains an attachment including the USA preliminary view on WRC-23 Agenda Item 1.11 for consideration in CITEL’s preparation for WRC-23.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**DRAFT PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON WRC-23**

**AGENDA ITEM 1.11:** to consider possible regulatory actions to support the modernization of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and the implementation of e-navigation, in accordance with Resolution **361 (Rev.WRC-19)**;

**BACKGROUND**: IMO has made changes to the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS) convention, to facilitate the addition of new satellite providers of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). One new satellite provider has been included in the GMDSS, and further providers are expected to be considered by the IMO. WRC-23 Agenda Item 1.11 through Resolution 361 (WRC-19), *resolves to invite the 2023 World Radiocommunicationn Conference 3* to consider the introduction of additional satellite systems into the GMDSS.

In fact, in October 2019 the International Maritime Organization (IMO) subcommittee for Navigation, Communication, and Search and Rescue (NCSR) received an application from one administration to add a GSO MSS system to be recognized as an additional GMDSS satellite provider. This system operates in the bands 1 610.0-1 626.5 MHz (Earth-to-space) and 2 483.5-2 500.0 MHz (space-to-Earth). The Iridium NEXT NGSO MSS system operates in the band 1616-1626.5 MHz and as of this year provides GMDSS in the band 1 621-1 626.5 MHz only) as a consequence of IMO approval and actions taken at WRC-19. Inmarsat also provides GMDSS in the adjacent band above 1 626.5 MHz through its GSO MSS system.

Although GMDSS is a global system, the system advocated under this agenda item, is only capable of providing regional coverage for GMDSS. The IMO is in the process of evaluating this system and it has not completed ITU-R coordination and notification.

**U.S. VIEW**: The United States supports GMDSS modernization and could support additional satellite providers of GMDSS contingent upon demonstrating compatibility of proposed GMDSS operations with other satellite systems operating within the band 1610-1626.5 GHz, and with the radio astronomy service operating in the band 1610-1613.8 MHz. Further, the proposed system should complete ITU-R coordination and notification with other MSS systems operating within the band 1610-1626.5 MHz, and also obtain IMO approval prior to consideration byWRC-23. Finally, the United States will seek to ensure that any additional satellite providers of GMDSS demonstrate that there will be no detrimental effects to existing satellite providers of the GMDSS in the band 1610-16265 MHz and in the adjacent bands.