Minutes
Meeting of the IARU Region II Executive Committee
9 - 10 June, 2000

1. PRELIMINARIES

1.1 At 8:30 AM on Friday 9 June, 2000, President Thomas Atkins welcomes the members of the Executive Committee of IARU Region II and guests.

Present at the meeting are the following Executive Committee Members:
Thomas B. Atkins, VE3CDM, President and Area A Director
Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AMH, Vice President
Noel E. Donawa, 9Y4NED, Treasurer and Area E Director
Rodney Stafford, W6ROD, Area B Director
Guillermo Núñez, XE1NJ, Area C Director
Darío Jurado, HP1DJ, Area D Director
Jorge Lunkes, PT2HF, Area F Director
Reinaldo Szama, LU2AH, Area G Director, and
Eduardo J. Estrada, HC2EE, Secretary

Also Present are the following guests-observers:
Larry Price, W4RA, President, IARU
Fred Johnson, ZL2AMJ, Chairman, IARU Region 3
Pedro Seidemann, YV5BPG, former IARU R 2 President and Secretary, invited to give his experienced input, especially on By-laws review.
President Atkins expressed regrets on behalf of the EC Members that, for the first time, Region I was not represented.

President Thomas B.J. Atkins, VE3CDM chairs the meeting.

NOTE: From here on in these minutes, all reference to the above listed participants will be by call sign. Executive Committee will be abbreviated as EC. Member Society will be abbreviated as MS and the plural will be abbreviated MSs.

After the welcome, VE3CDM requests a moment of silence in memory of those colleagues who have become Silent Keys since the last meeting, especially:

Fred Hammond, VE3HC
Randall Sutherland, J69AD
Nicolás Santoni, HI8RSB
1.2 VE3CDM explains the meeting logistics.

1.3 VE3CDM inquires as to any items that may arise from the written reports that any member may desire to be added to the agenda. W6ROD has recommendations in his Area B Report, which are included as Point 7.8 of the Agenda. XE1NJ gives the President his proposal for by-laws review. They will be dealt with in Agenda Point 3. President Atkins includes a Point 5.2 to be called "Mexican Reciprocity."

YV5AMH moves to approve the agenda. 9Y4NED seconds the motion and it is unanimously approved.

2. REPORT OF TELECOM 2000, YV5AMH

YV5AMH gave a brief verbal report. He will send the EC a detailed written report for the record, as a further reminder of the preparations and planning necessary for effective participation in any future Telecom, or similar activity on behalf of Region II. VE3CDM thanks both YV5AMH for his personal efforts as Project Manager and the other members of the Region II team: Reinaldo Szama, LU2AH; Jorge Lunkes, PT2HF and Jon Siverling, WB3ERA for their participation and support. It is noted that the expenses for this Telecom 2000 participation were within the approved budget.

3. REVISION OF R II BY-LAWS, CHAIRED BY W6ROD

President Atkins gives W6ROD the Chair to deal with this point. W6ROD makes an explanation of the philosophy behind the new structure that separates the present By-laws into three separate documents, one being the Constitution, another the By-laws and another the Standing Operating Procedures, and the reason each point is grouped under each document. The draft of the Constitution is discussed. Minor changes are introduced to the project in articles I to V. Art. IV is discussed at length. W4RA emphasizes the increasing importance of the regional organizations in the work of the ITU and therefore the work of CITEL. The document is approved with some changes.

The draft of the By-laws is discussed and changes are introduced.

The meeting breaks for lunch at 12 PM and resumes work at 12:30 PM.
The discussion continues on the By-laws and the document is approved with some changes. The Standing Operating Procedures are discussed and approved with some changes. The review of the By-laws documents concludes at 4:20 PM and the documents with the changes made will be issued as "Rev. 3" of the Constitution, the By-laws and the SOPs.

It is understood that in the time period between the end of this EC Meeting and the Extraordinary General Assembly, EC members and Member Societies will be able to propose additions and changes to the Rev. 3 documents through a procedure that the Secretary will design. The object of this is to arrive at the EGA with documents that will be well known, so that the work of the EGA may be made more agile. W6ROD and the Secretary will be in charge of consolidating and incorporating the changes or additions that EC members and MSs may propose to Rev. 3 for presentation to the EGA as Rev. 4. W6ROD, as Chairman of the By-laws Review Committee, and the Secretary will have the authority to add pending SOPs to Rev. 2, so that Rev. 3 is as complete as possible.

XE1NJ asks if we can now study his proposal, which was presented in English to the President at the beginning of the meeting. President Atkins informs XE1NJ that the documents being considered are the ones presented by the committee charged with the task of presenting the EC with the summary of input from various sources.

4. **CITEL**

4.1 President Atkins recounts the CITEL Meetings at which R II has participated during the past year. He makes special mention of Rod's addition to his Area B Report that contains Jon Siverling's report on CITEL attendance.

4.2 The Secretary gives the dates for future CITEL Meetings.

4.3 YV5AMH will represent R II at the PCC III Meeting in Venezuela in August and HC2EE will represent us in the COM/CITEL Meeting in Ecuador, in November.

4.4 HC2EE informs of a mail circular sent to the EC regarding access to the restricted pages at the CITEL Web site. The access is necessary to be able to check the PCC documents that will be dealt with at the meetings. The mail should be resent to the EC Members for action, especially those that will represent us at the meetings.

4.5 LU2AH updates the EC on what PCC III is doing to arrange a Convention between the CITEL and the CEPT on the IARP. LU2AH has provided Mr. Hector Budé, Uruguay's representative to CITEL, with information. This matter will be dealt with next at the COM/CITEL Meeting in Ecuador.
5. **IARP**

5.1 President Atkins reviews the situation that has had no significant changes from last year. HC2EE informs that a step has been taken in Ecuador with the approval by the Administration. Now it has to be approved by the Foreign Ministry and they will then adhere to the Convention. YV5AMH explains his experience in diplomatic circles and suggests that the Area Directors should exhort the MSs to follow-up. YV5AMH also reminds the EC that the Tampere Conference Convention on Emergency Telecommunications is also waiting for adherents. This Convention, although still with few adherents, was put into practical use in Venezuela because of the flood emergency there last year.

9Y4NED noted that in the copy of the IARP currently being issued by ARRL which W4RA circulated to the EC for information, Trinidad and Tobago was not included, which in his opinion was totally incorrect. Subsequent investigation by VE3CDM with CITEL did in fact confirm that CITEL had NO RECORD of the ratification/accession to the IARP Convention by the Trinidad and Tobago Administration. The responsible Minister for Telecommunications in Port of Spain confirmed to 9Y4NED that this information had in fact been specifically communicated to the OAS several years earlier. Additional investigation revealed that through a bureaucratic oversight, this IARP information regarding Trinidad & Tobago had never been passed by the OAS Secretariat to CITEL. It is understood that this outstanding error is now being corrected.

5.2 This point, "Mexican Reciprocity" will be dealt with later on.

6. **AMATEUR RADIO DEVELOPMENT**

6.1 President Atkins reports on Development in the Region. He recounts the Caribbean visit he made with 9Y4NED in Oct.-Nov. of last year. He makes reference to the report he presented on this trip.

9Y4NED amplifies the President's report with more detail. He emphasizes that Liaison Officers need to receive training. President Atkins concludes that we have to apply ourselves to bring people who work with us up-to-date.

The afternoon session ends at 5:50 PM, June 9, 2000.

The meeting resumes with the same participants at 8:38 AM, June 10, 2000.

The President decides to start with Point 5.2, which was left pending.
5.2 Mexican Reciprocity.
The President recounted the input he has received in recent weeks (which he suspects is part of an orchestrated campaign) both by email, and most recently in person by many individual amateurs in Dayton, asking (insisting) that IARU Region II intervene in the matter of US/Mexican reciprocity. It was pointed out quite specifically and categorically to each and every person raising this question, that our R II By-laws forbid intervention in the affairs of a Member Society. An agreement on restrictions reached between the FMRE and ARRL on operation by U.S. amateurs from Mexican territory is having effects on the public image of IARU R II as it is being wrongfully involved in a matter that is outside its jurisdiction. ZL2AMJ makes an observation that Region III has 3 internal problems of this kind that get him complaints quite often. YV5BPG suggests that when matters like this arise, they should be dealt with and ended within the first three minutes. The By-laws have a provision that forbids Region II from getting involved in the internal affairs of the MSs. W4RA reads a letter from the Executive Vice President of ARRL dated 1989. This letter clarifies the agreement between the U.S.A and Mexico in this regard and it is quite clear that IARU R II has nothing to do with an internal operating agreement between two MSs. XE1NJ thanks Region II for clarifying the situation and regrets that R II got involved in this internal matter. He clarifies that the relations between FMRE and ARRL are excellent and this does not affect them. Since XE1NJ has been accused by unknowing persons from Mexico and R II has been wrongfully involved, the Secretariat is to supply him with the relevant documents for him to be able to clarify this situation in Mexico and set the record straight.

7. REPORTS

7.1 BEACONS. VE3CDM expands on the report presented by the coordinator in relation to the VE Beacon, in the sense that it is hoped it will soon have a call sign to reflect its location.

7.2 MONITORING SYSTEM. President Atkins asks the Area Directors to redouble efforts to expand the participation of MSs and individual amateurs in the System.

7.3 HF Committee. Chairman LU2AH reports that there has been no activity since our last meeting. The R II HF Band Plan is now published in the IARU R II Web Site.

7.4 EMCOR. HC2EE regrets to inform that the designated EMCOR has not been up to the needs of the service. 9Y4NED says that he can probably find an EMCOR in the Caribbean part of Area E. HC2EE reminds him that there is a profile of the person needed and the Terms of Reference in the By-laws booklet.
7.5 EMC. Electro Magnetic Compatibility. 9Y4NED reports that there has been no activity in this field.

7.6 Assistant Area Directors. The President mentions the present situation of AADs. There are two officially designated AADs in areas C and F. Area E is about to propose a name for AAD.

7.7 A.R.D.F. Amateur Radio Direction Finding. To this date the Coordinator has not sent his report.

7.8 RECOMMENDATIONS from W6ROD. W6ROD, at the end of his report has recommended the development of a "Strategic Plan." He explains the reasoning behind the idea. ZL2AMJ informs that R III will be considering such a plan at the Darwin Conference. A plan has to have a facilitator to follow it through. W6ROD explains that ARRL did develop such a plan and it was followed up successfully. W4RA indicates that resources are needed to carry out a plan. He recounts ARRL efforts that have been made that have cost a great deal of resources. 9Y4NED believes that any strategic plan for R II should start with a plan for those in this room and it should be centered on them to start and then go beyond. W4RA indicates that experience shows there is much enthusiasm when people are together, but it passes when they separate. ZL2AMJ will send, as soon as possible, the R III draft of a strategic plan for study by the R II EC.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

8.1 Region 2 News. President Atkins congratulated Editor David Evans for his efforts in the production of Region II News which from all indications both in person recently at Dayton, and by e-mail feedback, has been a most successful undertaking and which confirms that in its current electronic form it is satisfying a need for current news and information. David Evans, the Editor, requests more input from Latin America. LU2AH asks if anyone has requested hard copies, to which the answer from the Secretariat is no. YV5BPG suggests that the transition was, perhaps, too abrupt and suggests a one page mailing to let the former recipients know of the electronic version. HC2EE clarifies to YV5BPG that overwhelmingly, most of the former hard copy recipients are receiving the electronic version. Furthermore, the Web version is usually available a few days after the electronic version has been circulated. So far the only problem we have had is a sporadic one of incompatibility of the recipient's e-mail programs, to open the attached file with the newsletter. This happens mostly with Compuserve users and the great majority receives it without problems. Further discussion follows as to distribution. LU2AH says that RCA forwards the electronic newsletter to 200 clubs and 1000 personal recipients in Argentina. 9Y4NED states that TTARS also redistributes it. ZL2AMJ does the same for Region III and
XE1NJ states that FMRE redistributes it to 150 users. It is clear that the newsletter does have wide distribution beyond the initial one done by the Secretariat. The Secretary, HC2EE states that the Secretariat has not translated the latest editions as they are way too long and so it requires a great deal of time spent on translation. He states that he has told the editor and the President about this problem and states that the Secretariat would be willing to do the translation if the newsletter is kept to a reasonable length.

8.2 Region II Web Site. The Secretary and Webmaster informs that the site has received 15,275 visitors so far. The most read pages are R 2 News in English and the least read are those for R 2 News in Spanish. The information for the R II Conference in Guatemala in 2001 will be put on the site after October, when information and pictures will be available. The property of the Domain name iaru-r2.org, which belongs to the Royal Gazette, VP9IM - Steve Dunkerley's employer, is in the process of being transferred to Region II. As has been informed before, the Domains iaru-r2.com and .net already belong to IARU Region II.

At 10 AM the session breaks for coffee, for 20 minutes.

8.3 Internal EC Communications. HC2EE refers to his written report on the statistics for internal communications. During the past year, the Secretariat has sent out 1,069 and received 1,044 numbered mails. The Secretariat has 108 working folders.

8.4 Monday Night HF Net. LU2AH reports that participation has not been too good. He requests that the EC members make the effort to be present every Tuesday at 01:00 UTC.

9. REGION II SECRETARIAT

9.1 The Secretary's report in writing has been distributed to the EC. The Secretariat is working on behalf of the Union according to the By-laws and is responding to the needs of the MSs. The Secretariat is worried by the decrease of membership that our MSs are reporting, a decrease that in some Societies is severe and reflects also a decrease in national amateur populations. President Atkins asks the EC members to give this problem due thought and to send ideas to the Secretariat.

9.2 As has been reported, some MSs keep in touch with the Secretariat while others hardly acknowledge mail. The Secretariat is permanently worried for the welfare of the MSs and is always ready to give support as may be requested.
10. **MEMBER SOCIETY RELATIONS**

10.1 Area meetings. Dates and budgets.

Area A. W6ROD was present at the last RAC meeting and he reports that the financial situation is improving markedly. VE3CDM says that RAC is in an active campaign for recruiting new members. ZL2AMJ gives a recount of the experience in New Zealand on recruiting new members.

Area B. Membership is rebounding and ARRL activities are developing as planned.

Area C. XE1NJ reports that Mexico and Cuba are active MSs, while Haiti and República Dominicana are inactive. In the last case, the loss of Nicolás Santoni, HI8RSB will further affect the Society. XE1NJ has approval to travel to those MSs, but has not done so yet for lack of a contact person to be able to insure effective work.

Area D. The next meeting will be in October, during the FRACAP meeting in Guatemala. Director Jurado is reminded of the need to assure that all Area D Member Societies are properly invited to the Area D Meeting, which should be separate from FRACAP activity. At the time of the Area Meeting, the budgetary needs of CRAG for the 2001 Conference will be attended to.

Area E. No meetings are planned.

Area F. PT2HF will schedule a visit to Bolivia, Perú and Ecuador in August.

Area G. LU2AH is disappointed because the meeting that was already planned could not be held because Chile and Paraguay did not confirm on time. The EC considers that a visit by LU2AH to Chile and Paraguay are desirable, instead of holding the meeting.

10.2 Liaison Officers.

The Area Directors report on the activity of Liaison Officers in their areas. The common factor is that they work in those MSs that are active and don’t in those that are inactive. Area Directors are asked to promote the designation of L. O., especially in those MSs that are inactive, as that person is a key factor in aiding the societies to keep active.

10.3 Special MS meetings, FRACAP, etc.

FRACAP will be held in Guatemala City in October and, as usual, will have participation of all Area D MSs and other clubs that make up FRACAP and are not directly related to IARU. Secretary HC2EE and Treasurer 9Y4NED in addition to Area D Director are authorized to attend the FRACAP meeting.

Quarter Century Wireless Assn. will meet in Toronto, Canada, in October. So far it appears that they will be having record attendance.

W6ROD stated that there is a need to become increasingly involved in promoting activity in low activity societies, as indicated in his Report. This idea has no intention to bypass the Area Directors or Liaison Officers but rather to help them in increasing activity. The EC agrees that Directors should do the utmost to put this idea into
practice. A sub-committee, chaired by W6ROD and integrated by XE1NJ, 9Y4NED and VE3CDM is designated in order to implement this idea. YV5AMH informs on a trip he made to Bolivia and worries that spectrum auction, as happened in Guatemala, may become common. He got this same impression from several conversations he had in Rio, at TELECOM 2000.

The session breaks for lunch at 12:00 PM and resumes working at 12:30 PM.

11. **FINANCIAL**

9Y4NED points to certain items of the auditor's report. Aged dues are studied and the President requests that Area Directors make efforts to contact the MSs in their areas before any action is taken with those that have remained in arrears for several years. The Area Directors are to report on their efforts in 60 days. The report of the Auditor is in line with the Union's activities and shows no discrepancy. The Treasurer shall circulate it to the MSs for their information.

11.2 Report of the Treasurer, including interim six month comparison of expenditures vs. actual budget.
9Y4NED updates the EC on the accounts which are within budget and answers some questions.
9Y4NED commends the Secretariat on the frugal management of its expenditures. W4RA asks that the word "dues to the IS" be rectified, as he has done for the past 4 years. The word "dues" is inexact and should be replaced by the proper word: "contribution". 9Y4NED requests that W4RA send a letter with the specific request. W4RA asks for the floor as he has information that may affect the budget. He explains that the ITU is about to publish two handbooks: "Disaster Communications Handbook" and "Amateur Radio" Fascicle. He believes Region II would do well in investing funds for the purchase of an adequate number of copies in order to distribute them to the Administrations with delivery by the IARU Liaison Officer. The EC agrees with this proposal and will budget the necessary amount for the appropriate number of copies.
W4RA also explains the need for the Region to send participants to the IARU team at WRCs. He regrets that no one from Region II was part of the team at the recent WRC 2000 in Istanbul. He makes a detailed explanation of amateur matters that will be dealt with at WRC 2003, among which is the 7 MHz matter, and emphasizes the need to prepare in due time for that important meeting. The preparation should start at MS level and their administrations, so that the purchase of the two books he has suggested is not coincidental. The preparation should also be at the regional level, meaning in this case at CITEL; and sub regional level, such as CTU, as may be the case.

The budget is adjusted to include $5,000 in year 2000 and 2001 for ITU publications for distribution to MSs, as suggested by W4RA. The budget for the Triennial Conference is increased by U.S.$1.000 for this and next year, which will give a final budget of U.S.$17.000.

11.4 R II contribution to the IS.
The R II contribution is determined by the budget and is paid to 1999.

11.5 Region II Accounts.
The President informs that due to the activity IARU R II is developing it may be desirable to transfer the main bank accounts to an international bank based in Miami. The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are charged with studying and are authorized to resolve the matter in the best interests of the IARU R II.
The following resolution is adopted: “The EC resolves that the Officers of Region II be empowered to take whatever action is necessary to transfer the existing RII banking arrangements from Fleet Bank in Hartford CT to an International bank in Miami.” Unanimously adopted.

12. IARU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL/ITU MATTERS

12.1 AC Meeting: April 2000.
President Atkins reports on the R II participation at the April Meeting of the Administrative Council, which was held in conjunction with the 75th Anniversary of IARU. VE3CDM, HC2EE and 9Y4NED represented R II at both activities. The AC dealt with matters that will continue to be addressed at Darwin. The IARU 75th Anniversary celebration was held at the Sorbonne in the same room where the foundation took place. VE3CDM presented a plaque on behalf of R II MSs and gave a brief speech.

12.2 ITU and IARU.
W4RA considers that IARU standing at the ITU is very high and we are certainly not considered "amateurs" at what we do. WRC 2000 had an excess of registered observers (over 400) which is starting to cause a negative reaction.

YV5BPG presents his "Amateur Radio and the Internet" paper. He has evidence that the public perception is that amateur radio is a dying hobby and that we should act to change that perception, which if left unchecked can have negative consequences. We must find ways to integrate amateur radio and the Internet to keep at the forefront of technology.

12.4 Region II Representatives to the AC Meeting in Darwin.
The representatives will be VE3CDM and W6ROD. LU2AH will participate as an observer at his own expense.
13. **MATTERS REGARDING REGIONS I AND III**

13.1 Remarks from R III Chairman
ZL2AMJ makes some remarks on his participation regarding similarity of problems and solutions that are not easily found. He gives a review of preparations for the R III Conference in Darwin.

13.2 Region I Conference.
The report of the participation by R II was circulated in due time. The main concern at the R I Conference was the financial situation and the cost of running R I.

The meeting is to be held in Oman. No representative is designated yet. The 2000 meeting was held in Tours, right before the AC meeting and the representative was VE3CDM. The emphasis again was on financial matters and it was determined that the situation was not as critical as was thought at the 1999 R I Conference.

13.4 Region III EC Meeting 2000.
The meeting will be held the Friday and Saturday before the Conference and the 1/2 day right after it.

13.5 Region III Conference.
The R III Conference will be held from August 28 to Sept. 1, 2000 in Darwin, Australia.

13.6 R II Report to the R III Conference.
VE3CDM will send the Secretariat the report to be forwarded to R III.

14. **NEXT EC MEETING**

14.1 The next EC Meeting will be held the day before the 2001 R II Conference begins and the 1/2 day after it ends.

15. **OTHER BUSINESS**

15.1 HP1DJ observes that the MSs in his Area wish to receive a certification of membership from R II. A certificate for all MSs in good standing will be issued for delivery at the R II Conference in Guatemala. The Secretariat is in charge of issuing this certificate. The Secretary is in charge of contacting the organizers for them to request a special call sign for the Conference radio station and guest license privileges for visiting amateurs.
15.2 HP1DJ informs that FRACAP will meet in Guatemala city in Guatemala. Secretary HC2EE and Treasurer 9Y4NED, as well as Director HP1DJ will be present on behalf of IARU R II and will meet with CRAG officials to discuss arrangements for the R II General Assembly there in 2001.

15.3 LU2AH reports on So35 a Sunsat that has been put in orbit by South Africa. 9Y4NED informs that he spoke with Hans Van de Groenendaal about it and he advised that he would request that the system be turned on during passes over our hemisphere.

16. **CLOSING**

All EC members and guests-observers make closing comments. The guests all thank the EC’s invitation to take part in the meeting.

The 2000 Meeting of the IARU Region 2 Executive Committee is closed by the President at 16:30 hours of the 10th of June, 2000.