The Secretary called the General Assembly to order for the THIRD & FINAL PLENARY at 0900 hours on Friday, October 1, 2004.

The first order of business was to hear an address by Mr. Roberto Blois, Deputy Secretary General of the International Telecommunications Union (“ITU”).

Committee F gave the final report to the General Assembly of the Member Societies in attendance and those societies holding proxies:

Member Societies present:

Brazil (LABRE)
Canada (RAC)
El Salvador (CRAS)
Guatemala (CRAG)
Honduras (RCH)
Mexico (FMRE)
Trinidad & Tobago (TTARS)
Turks and Caicos (TACARS)
United States (ARRL)
Venezuela (RCV)

Member Societies present by proxy:

Costa Rica (RCCR) – proxy held by Honduras (RCH)
Cuba (FRC) – proxy held by Guatemala (CRAG)
Montserrat (MARS) – proxy held by Canada (RAC)
Panama (LPRA) – proxy held by El Salvador (CRAS)
Peru (RCP) -- proxy held by Brazil (LABRE)

Committee A Chair gave the report of Committee A to the General Assembly and asked that certain recommendations be adopted by the Assembly. The Chair of Committee A is Reinaldo Leandro YV5AMH and Secretary for Committee A is Jon Siverling WB3ERA. Committee A reviewed and considered documents DOC/9Y-A-01 through DOC/9Y-A-15 and also documents DOC/9Y-R-01 through DOC/9Y-R-30.
**RESOLUTION A-01.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-01 which states as follows:

That the General Assembly instruct the Executive Committee through the Area Directors to make every effort to assist dormant Member Societies to renew their activities.

**RESOLUTION A-02.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-02 which states as follows:

That the IARU Region 2 General Assembly adopts the following Goals and Strategies contained in DOC/9Y-A-02 as its Strategic Plan for the period 2004-2007:

A. **Protect and represent the interests of amateur radio in the region in all matters related to the ITU, CITEL and sub-regional organizations such as the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (“CTU”), including any standard setting bodies.**

Strategies for achieving this goal:

1. The Executive Committee to maintain close relations with CITEL including participation in CITEL meetings to the fullest extent possible, considering available resources on a priority basis.

2. Participate in sub-regional telecommunications organizations and standard setting meetings whenever appropriate, considering available resources.

3. Encourage Member Societies to take steps to participate in sub-regional telecommunication organizations through their national telecommunications administrations in consultation with Region 2.

4. Develop a list of experts as informational and technical resources and for the purpose of attending telecommunication organization meetings on behalf of Region 2.

5. Share information from any telecommunications meetings with Region 2 Executive Committee members, other regional Executive Committees and the IARU International Secretariat.

6. Support the IARU International Secretariat in major ITU radiocommunication events such as the World Radiocommunications Conferences.

B. **Maintain close relations with Region 1 and Region 3 by coordinating and cooperating with their respective Executive Committees and Directors on matters of mutual interest.**

Strategies for achieving this goal:

1. Advise the International Secretariat and the other IARU regions of the content and outcome of telecommunication authority meetings within Region 2 and seek information from the other regions about telecommunications meetings in their regions.
2. Attend the Executive Committee meetings and regional conferences in other regions considering available resources.

3. Encourage other regional representatives to attend Region 2 Executive Committee meetings and Region 2 conferences.

4. Region 2 Executive Committee members should provide information about Region 2 activities and policies to amateurs whenever requested.

**C. Promote and coordinate radio communications among the amateurs within Region 2.**

*Strategies for achieving this goal:*

1. Increase Executive Committee member participation in the Region 2 Net.

2. Encourage Member Societies to participate in Region 2 Net.

3. Encourage participation in the IARU HF Championship.

4. Participate, to the extent possible, in Member Society special events.

**D. Promote mutual cooperative agreements among the Member Societies within this Region.**

*Strategies for achieving this goal:*

1. Implement and promote the PARS program.

2. Encourage Member Societies to cooperate in resolving spectrum interference matters.

3. Promote and encourage the joint publication and distribution of amateur radio related materials.

4. Encourage Member Societies to enter into cooperative agreements with other societies through the Region 2 EMCOR regarding emergency and disaster communications.

5. Encourage Area Meetings of Region 2 Directors and Member Societies within the Director’s Area.

**E. Promote the progress of science of radio through experimentation and new technologies.**

*Strategies for achieving this goal:*

1. Encourage Member Societies to support and promote the use of new communications technologies and modes of operation.

2. Provide recognition to those individuals who develop new communications techniques.
3. Encourage the use of all amateur spectrum, including microwave frequencies.

4. Promote the advancement of technology related to reception of radio signals and studies involving propagation.

**F. Promote international friendship and growth of amateur radio.**

*Strategies for achieving this goal:*

1. Encourage Member Societies to work with their government to establish an educational program that integrates amateur radio into the school curriculum.

2. Encourage Member Societies to examine their own country’s regulatory system to set aside barriers to young people entering into amateur radio.

3. Encourage Member Societies to establish relations with non-amateur radio groups for the purpose of introducing them to amateur radio.

4. Encourage Member Societies to implement a program of educating the general public about the benefits of amateur radio.

**G. Promote the adoption of the principle of recognition of amateur operation in a foreign country.**

*Strategies for achieving this goal:*

1. Encourage Member Societies to request full implementation of the new Radio Regulation which provides “Administrations may determine whether or not to permit a person who has been granted a license to operate an amateur station while that person is temporarily in its territory, subject to such conditions or restrictions it may impose.”

2. Continue to seek implementation of the International Amateur Radio Permit (“IARP”).

**H. Maintain and strengthen relations with Member Societies.**

*Strategies for achieving this goal:*

1. Promote initiatives within the each Region 2 country or territory that deal with “unaffiliated amateur organizations” issue to bring more amateur radio licensees into IARU Region 2 activities.

2. Increase communications and information from Region 2 to the Member Societies and encourage Member Societies to provide information about their activities to Region 2.

3. Provide substantive programs at the regional conferences to attract increased participation by Member Societies.

4. Increased Presidential visits to Member Societies especially during Director’s area meetings or combined-area meetings.
5. Provide guidance to Member Societies on amateur radio related subjects whenever requested to do so.

Committee A thanked the Executive Committee for its leadership in developing this Strategic Plan.

**RESOLUTION A-03.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-03 which states as follows:

That Member Societies utilize the concepts described in document DOC/9Y-A-05 entitled “Amateur Radio in Education” to implement education programs for amateur radio. Further, that the Secretary shall distribute paper DOC/9Y-A-05 to all Region 2 Member Societies along with the summary proceedings of this conference.

**RESOLUTION A-04.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-04 which states as follows:

That all Region 2 Member Societies, together with the utilization of the rhombic IARU logo, also include the words “IARU Member Society” on their letterheads.

**RESOLUTION A-05.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-05 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Executive Committee is to propose to the IARU Administrative Council to study the issue of parallel or second societies for the purpose of proposing a possible amendment to the IARU Constitution in such a way that the rights of present, active Member Societies not be negatively affected.

**RESOLUTION A-06.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-06 which states as follows:

That the Executive Committee note and take into consideration the Administrative Council recommendations contained in DOC/9Y-A-10 entitled “Adoption of IARU Administrative Council Resolutions”.

**RESOLUTION A-07.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-07 which states as follows:

That Region 2 Member Societies support the removal of Morse code testing as a requirement for an amateur license to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz. Further, that Morse code continues to be an effective and efficient mode of communication used by many thousands of radio amateurs and Member Societies should continue to encourage the learning and use of the Morse code.
RESOLUTION A-08. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-08 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Member Societies note and take into consideration the Administrative Council resolution contained in DOC/9Y-A-12 concerning the implementation of revised Article 25 of the International Radio Regulations.

RESOLUTION A-09. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-09 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Executive Committee submit the questions set out below to all the Region 2 Member Societies to obtain additional input.

1. What should the Member Societies within Region 2 expect from Region 2, including the Region 2 Executive Committee?

2. What should Region 2, including the Executive Committee expect from the Region 2 Member Societies?

3. What should the Member Societies expect from their Region 2 Area Director?

4. What should Region 2 expect from the Member Society IARU Liaison Officer?

RESOLUTION A-10. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-10 which states as follows:

That all Region 2 Member Societies urge their administrations not to assign four-character suffixes as permanent call signs. Further, that Region 2 Member Societies are urged to encourage their administrations to adopt policies that amateur radio call signs with four-character suffixes be authorized only on a case-by-case basis for significant commemorative, non-commercial anniversaries or significant events. Further, that call signs for special events would be issued for short periods related to the date of the anniversary or event.

RESOLUTION A-11. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation A-11 which states as follows:

That Region 2 Member Societies identify qualified volunteers to serve as a part of the Emergency Coordination Advisory Group (ECAG).

Committee B/C Chair gave the report of Committee B/C to the General Assembly and asked that certain recommendations be adopted by the Assembly. The Chair of Committee B/C is Paul Rinaldo W4RI and the Secretary to the Committee is Cesar Santos HR2P. Committee B/C reviewed and considered documents DOC/9Y-B-01 through DOC/9Y-B-10, DOC/9Y-C-01, DOC/9Y-C-02 and also documents DOC/9Y-R-01 through DOC/9Y-R-30.
**RESOLUTION B-01.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-01 which states as follows:

1. That every IARU Region 2 Member Society organizes an international contest at least once a year.
2. That every IARU Region 2 Member Society elaborate a contest calendar at national level for better control and spectrum utilization.
3. That every IARU Region 2 Member Society promotes National contests using diverse operating modes within the bands where contests are allowed.
4. That every IARU Region 2 Member society motivates activity to participate in contests ensuring that recognition will be duly given.

**RESOLUTION B-02.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-02 which states as follows:

1. That each IARU Region 2 Member Society considers the establishment of a program to allow citizens of their country to easily obtain SWL identification.
2. That each IARU Region 2 Member Society establishes or keeps a national registry of SWL.
3. That each IARU Region 2 Member Society incorporates the short wave listeners in their activities.
4. That by incorporating them, they be allowed to use QSL Bureau when appropriate.

**RESOLUTION B-03.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-03 which states as follows:

That Member Societies of IARU Region 2:

1. Educate their members on the interference potential from “Broadband over Power Line” (“BPL”).
2. Initiate or participate in an HF users group covering all users of the HF spectrum in their country, including but not limited to civil aviation, maritime, land transportation, military, and shortwave broadcasters and listeners.
3. Communicate with their administrations on all issues relating to BPL.
4. Monitor any BPL trials in their country and request the opportunity to participate in any such trials.
5. Make their members and opinion leaders, including political officials, aware of the results of trial monitoring, using multimedia to the extent possible.
6. Become involved in technical fora that lead to the setting of standards for both permissible levels
of emissions from BLP systems and test methods and procedures.

7. Share information via their Web sites.

8. Support the IARU and Region 2 in their collection of data and results of BPL trials.

**RESOLUTION B-04.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-04 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Executive Committee implement a Region 2 HF Operating Award. The Region 2 Executive Committee shall establish the rules for qualifying for such Operating Award and shall select an appropriate certificate for such award.

Further, that the Executive Committee select a Region 2 Member Society or an individual within Region 2 to act as the administrator for the Operating Award and to adopt Terms of Reference for such award administrator.

The Committee B/C discussed conference paper DOC/9Y-B-07 entitled “Broadband Power lines (BPL).” The conference paper recognizes the growing use of power lines for high speed data communications and expressed concern that radiation from power line communications has a potential for interference with amateur radio reception. The paper noted that typical radiation levels potentially interfere with receivers locally and higher radiation levels propagated by sky wave could raise regional noise levels. Scientific investigations are underway in the ITU, CISPR and certain administrations. Committee B/C recognizes the importance of the Amateur Service remaining informed of developments in this field.

**RESOLUTION B-05.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-05 which states as follows:

1. That Member Societies are urged to recognize the importance of these scientific investigations;

2. That Member Societies are urged to forward published information on these investigations in their own country promptly to the International Secretariat; and

3. That Member Societies make available copies of relevant documents to any other Member Society upon request.

**RESOLUTION B-06.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-06 which states as follows:

That Region 2 Member Societies support the IARU’s continuing objective of an allocation of 7000-7300 kHz Amateur Exclusive worldwide.

Further, that Member Societies are urged to support that position with their own administration in formulating national positions on Agenda Item 1.13 and to urge their administrations to support this objective at all CITEL meetings.

Further, that the Region 2 Executive Committee shall promote that position at CITEL meetings.
RESOLUTION B-07. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-07 which states as follows:

That the IARU Region 2 member societies support the requirement for a worldwide allocation at 135.7 – 137.8 kHz to their own administration and urge their administration to endorse this position at all CITEL meetings.

RESOLUTION B-08. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-08 which states as follows:

1. That Member Societies should work with those in their country who are responsible for satellite projects intended for operation in the amateur bands to educate them about how good and appropriate frequency planning will benefit their projects.

2. That Member Societies should work with their national administration to promote the proper use of amateur frequencies in accordance with the Radio Regulations.

3. That IARU Region 2 should work closely with the IARU Satellite Adviser and his Advisory Panel, and with national administrations, with respect to requests for satellite frequency coordination originating in their respective countries, to promote the proper use of amateur frequencies consistent with the international Radio Regulations, with a view toward maintaining the integrity of the amateur service and its frequency allocations as well as promoting the success of amateur satellite activities in the region.

RESOLUTION B-09. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-09 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Executive Committee select an editor to publish and distribute an electronic IARU Region 2 newsletter in English and Spanish to Region 2 Member Societies and to other organizations of interest.

RESOLUTION B-10. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation B-10 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Executive Committee review the current HF Committee composition and make additional appointments or modifications as necessary for the HF Committee to continue to perform its activities in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Committee D Chair gave the report of Committee D to the General Assembly and asked that certain recommendations be adopted by the Assembly. Committee D was chaired by Noel Donawa 9Y4NED.

RESOLUTION D-01. The General Assembly adopted Recommendation D-01 which states as follows:
That the policy of increasing the dues invoice amount by 5% per year be changed so that the invoice more closely reflects the actual number of licensed amateur radio operators within each Country or Territory.

**RESOLUTION D-02.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation D-02 which states as follows:

That the General Assembly adopt the following Standard Operating Procedure (“SOP”):

If a Member Society determines that a dues invoice is based upon inaccurate or incorrect figures for licensed amateur radio operators within the Member Society’s Country, the Member Society shall notify the Region 2 Treasurer of any such discrepancy within a reasonable period of time but no later than three (3) months from the date of the annual dues invoice received. The invoices sent to the various Region 2 Member Societies shall be based upon the number of amateur radio operators within the respective Country or Territory as shown by the records of the IARU International Secretariat or a letter of verification of the number of licensed amateur radio operators in the Country from the Telecommunications Administration.

**RESOLUTION D-03.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation D-03 which states as follows:

That the General Assembly allocate a budget of 25,000. US$ annually for the development of amateur radio educational assistance and that the Region 2 Executive Committee prepare an implementation plan for this purpose. Further that a review of the plan be conducted by January 1, 2006.

**RESOLUTION D-04.** The General Assembly adopted Recommendation D-04 which states as follows:

That the Region 2 Treasurer request the Area Directors enter into a dialog with the small societies who are finding it difficult to pay arrears due to economic reasons to determine the possibility of recovery of all or part of any arrears and whether the society is operational. If the arrears for any Member Society cannot be paid or if the Member Society is not operational then the arrears for that society may be written off for accounting purposes.

**RESOLUTION D-05.** The General Assembly adopted the Budget for Region 2 for 2005 – 2007 as presented by the Treasurer and Chair of Committee D.

The Secretary recessed the THIRD PLENARY for lunch.

The Secretary called the FINAL PLENARY to order after the lunch break.

The Secretary reported to the General Assembly that two invitations to host the XVI General Assembly in 2007 had been received. The American Radio Relay League and LABRE submitted proposals to host the conference. The delegate from the United States announced that it had submitted the proposal to host the conference as there had been no other proposals submitted. Upon
learning that LABRE wished to host the event, the ARRL withdrew its proposal. The General Assembly voted unanimously in favor of holding the next General Assembly in Brasil followed by applause. The exact date and location to be determined at a later date by LABRE in consultation with the Region 2 Executive Committee.

The Chair of Committee E is Joel Harrison W5ZN. Committee E conducted the election of the Region 2 Officers and Executive Committee members.

The following persons were elected as Officers of the Union:

President: Rod Stafford W6ROD
Vice President: Dario Jurado HP1DJ
Secretary: Reinaldo Leandro YV5AMH
Treasurer: Noel Donawa 9Y4NED

Based on their election as Officers, Rod Stafford W6ROD was declared elected as Director of Area B and Noel Donawa 9Y4NED was declared elected as Director of Area E.

The following persons were elected as Directors:

Area A: Daniel Lamoureux VE2KA
Area C: Pedro Rodriguez CO2RP
Area D: Marco Tulio Gudiel TG9AGD
Area F: Gustavo de Faria Franco PT2ADM
Area G: Ron Szama LU2AH

The Secretary presented a gift on behalf of the entire Region 2 Executive Committee to retiring President Pedro Seidemann YV5BPG for his many years of service to IARU Region 2.

Closing remarks were made by many of the conference attendees and the Region 2 President announced the closing of the conference.

On Friday evening, 1 October 2004, the Trinidad & Tobago Amateur Radio Society hosted the conference closing dinner. A number of gifts were presented to TTARS as thanks for hosting such a successful conference.