Minutes of the
IARU Region 2 Executive Committee Meeting
Mexico City, Mexico
September 3-4, 2005

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Executive Committee (EC) met in Mexico City, Mexico September 3-4, 2005. The following Officers, Directors and Observers were present:

Rod Stafford W6ROD, President and Director – Area B
Dario Jurado HP1DJ, Vice President
Reinaldo Leandro YV5AMH, Secretary
Noel Donawa 9Y4NED, Treasurer and Director – Area E
Daniel A. Lamoureux VE2KA, Director – Area A
Pedro Rodríguez CO2RP, Director – Area C
Marco Gudiel TG9AGD, Director – Area D
Gustavo de Faria Franco, PT2ADM, Director – Area F
Reinaldo Szama LU2AH, Director – Area G
Larry Price W4RA, President of IARU – Observer
Ole Garpestad LA2RR, Chairman Region 1 – Observer

The following agenda was proposed:

1. Welcoming Remarks
2. Approval of Meeting Agenda
3. Officer Reports
4. Area Director Reports
5. Committee and Coordinator Reports
6. CITEL Matters
7. Strategic Planning Review
8. Meeting with the Member Society in Mexico
9. Relations with Member Societies
10. IARU Administrative Council & ITU Matters
11. Reports from other Regions
12. Reports on Region 2 Projects
13. Other business
14. Next EC meeting
15. Closing Remarks

1. Welcoming remarks.

1.1. President Stafford opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Executive Committee and observers to the meeting.
1.2. Meeting logistics. Secretary Leandro discussed meeting logistics including arrangements with the hotel for meals, meeting room and other items.

1.3. Remarks by IARU President Price. President Price said he was delighted to join the R2 EC once again for the meeting and will present later a report on the future of IARU and the next ITU Radio Conference in 2007. He also mentioned that due to the proximity of the EC meetings a R1 conference will be held in a few days, Dave Summer IARU Secretary will be present at Bangalore, India for the R3 EC meeting.

2. The proposed agenda for the meeting was approved and adopted.

3. Officer Reports

3.1. President. In his written and oral comments President Stafford reported on his activities since the 2004 Executive Committee meeting and his election as President at the 2004 Region 2 Conference. He elaborated on the need for closer touch with the Member Societies in order to help them to be more active in IARU affairs and secure a larger participation in the next regional conference. He said: “I believe each one of the members of the R2 EC recognize that the R2 EC must get the societies once again involved in our work if we are to be successful in the region.”

President Stafford is pleased with the reappearance of the Region 2 News in electronic format and asked all the members of the EC to collaborate fully with the E-News and promised that a the third issue of the year will be published after this meeting and the R1 Conference. He announced that the R2 web site is online, with a domain completely under the control of the EC, although the content and maintenance of the site requires attention and professional help.

He asked each of the Area Directors to held area meetings with as many MS presented as possible and offers that he or Vice-President Jurado are available to be present at those meetings. He added: “This effort really needs to be high priority. WRC07 will once again involve a number of amateur radio issues including 7.2 to 7.3 MHz. It is important that the Region 2 administrations hold fast in their resolve to maintain that portion of the 40-meter band as exclusively amateur within Region 2. Therefore, we will need to relay on our region 2 societies to persuade their administrations to insist upon no changes in Region 2 on 40 meters.

President Stafford thanked the EC members for their collaboration.

Ole Garpestad LA2RR, the Chairman of Region 1 expressed that in his Region some MS who have difficulties to attend the Conference are assisted by their EC in different ways to help no more than one person attend.

3.2. Vice President. Vice President Jurado referred to his activities as VP in his written and oral comments. Vice President Jurado commented on his participation in the December, 2004 COM/CITEL and CCP 2 meetings Buenos Aires, Argentina. He mentioned Reinaldo Szama LU2AH, Area G director collaboration
during those meetings and his public relations capabilities. He invited Mr. Clovis Batista, General Secretary of CITEL, and Mr. Roberto Blois, Assistant Director of UIT, to dinner, in order to strengthen the ties between IARU and those two Institutions. Vice-President Jurado remarked the convenience that the same person is charged with the duty of assisting to the CITEL meetings. Directors Gudiel and Szama expressed the need that another EC member also be prepared to handle CITEL affairs.

3.3. Secretary. Secretary Leandro supplemented his written report with some oral remarks since he was elected member of the Executive Committee of International Amateur Radio Union, Region 2, at our Regional Conference in Port of Spain, in October 2004. He carried out the normal duties of a Secretary, such as maintaining and updating a list of the Member Societies with their staffs and addresses, managed the correspondence with the International Secretariat, the Administrative Council, and the other Regions, 1 and 3. He mentioned that a significant part of his time was dedicated to the translation of documents and messages from the different people working on the affairs of the Region, either members of the EC or voluntary collaborators, particularly regarding the web page and the R2 E-News. Lately with the consent of President Stafford and Secretary Donawa he contracted a professional translator to handle some of the longer documents, especially the ones for the EC meeting. Finally, he proposed that the Region 2 publish a basic manual that will serve all the Spanish speaking MS to support their ham courses and facilitates the license process. After some comments by the presents in the meeting, President Stafford proposed that Secretary Leandro surveyed the MS in the Region to look into the already available material and report the EC to take a decision.

3.4. Treasurer. Treasurer Donawa presented various financial documents to the attendees and each of those documents was discussed. During 2004, the expenditures were US $ 7,922 higher than revenues, due to disbursements for the Regional Conference celebrated that same year. The members of the EC expressed their concern for the rising costs of the Regional Conferences. Director Lamoureux questioned the practice of rendering the two funds together (Defense and Promotion) in these categories and that for clarity to be separated. Secretary Donawa agreed with the request and proposed that the Executive Committee adopted a resolution declaring: In order to better follow the "Promotion" and "Defense" funds, the Region 2 Executive Committee hereby resolves to separate the PDARF fund into a "Promotion of Amateur Radio Fund" and a "Defense of Amateur Radio Fund" with both funds being reported separately. The EC unanimously adopted the resolution.

4. Area Director Reports
4.1. Area A. Director Lamoureux reported on his nomination to be Area Director, after Tim Ellam was elected IARU Vice-President. His first task was to establish contacts with the member societies in his area. In the case of Canada it was a natural thing, he being the president of that society at that time. In the case of Bermuda he was unable to make contacts; the same experience happened to director Ellam and President Stafford. He has proposal on the subject that will be discussed later.

Director Lamoureux said that: “Towards the end of 2004, Region 2 filed a paper with CITEL giving our position on BPL. In my opinion, the wording of that paper was too soft and I initiated a discussion on the subject with President Stafford. We eventually agreed that I should prepare a Mission Statement adding to Resolution B-03 adopted in Trinidad and giving us, the R2 EC, some more guidelines to pass-on to the EMC Committee that would have to implement them. It would also make our policy more current with where this rapidly evolving technology stands.” He mentioned his participation in the committee chaired by Secretary Donawa for the implementation of the Amateur Radio Education Fund (AREF). He attended the RAC conference in the spring 2005 in Cornwall ON, and is pleased with the steps take by his successor RAC President Smith VE2NM to consolidate the finances of their society.

4.2. Area B. Director Stafford reported on activities of the American Radio Relay League (“ARRL”) which is the only Member Society within Area B. He attended the League Boards meetings held twice a year in his character of Vice-President for International Affairs.

He mentioned the favorable financial situation of the ARRL and their concern for the decreasing number of active amateurs and league members like is happening in almost all of the MS. He commented on the good relations with the FCC and efficient monitoring and rules enforcement thanks to the presence of a Ham Radio Amateur in charge. He and other members of the EC R2 attended the Dayton Hamvention also the site for the ARRL National Convention.

Other subjects mentioned by Director Stafford were those related to Broadband over Power Lines (BPL), the possibility that the FCC drop the Morse Code knowledge as requirement to be radio amateur and the steps taken by ARRL to get a new entry level license like the one in the United Kingdom.

4.3. Area C. Director Rodriguez submitted a written report that was reviewed by the EC. Director Rodriguez congratulated the members of the EC on their dedication and work during the last year. His report noted the attempts to stay in communication with all the Member Societies within Area C with varying success.

Some of the societies are very active and some not. He is pleased to note the contacts with the Dominican Republic and Jamaica Member societies and the excellent interchanges with the Mexican FMRE. He is sad to report that he was no able to get answers from other countries and unfortunately, he is aware of the T & C only during the regional conferences.
4.4. Area D. Director Gudiel supplemented his written report with additional comments. He highlighted the visit to the Area by ARRL President Jim Haynie W5BJP accompanied by Jon Siverling WB3ERA and himself to the MS of Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. He mentioned the good relations that the different member societies have with their administrations and the accomplishments on the Radio Schools and recruiting of new hams. The MS of Nicaragua is still confronting financial troubles. He commented on the LPRA efforts to write modern rules for amateur radio service with the help of Vice-President Jurado as a technical adviser.

4.5. Area E. Director Donawa reported that the period following the General Assembly in Port of Spain was a very busy period due to developments following the implementation of the new Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT). As the chairman of TTARS radio regulations committee he was involved in preparing proposals for the amateur radio regulations and subsequently TTARS responses to Radio Spectrum Regulations, Spectrum Management Policy and Fees Structure documents sent out for public comments. He also chaired the Region 2 Amateur Radio in Education Policy together with Reinaldo, YV5AMH, Marco Tulio, TG9AGD and Daniel VE2KA. As a result his contact with the area E societies were not as frequent as required however he did do follow-up with Vereniging voor Experimenteel Radio Onderzoek in Nederlandse Antillen, Aruba Amateur Radio Club, Dominica Amateur Radio Club, Guyana Amateur Radio Association, Grenada Amateur Radio Club, Radio Club Venezolano. Attempts to contact LCRA through Reinaldo failed. He commented the good relations those societies have with their administration and their participation on the Emergency activities in the region during the hurricanes. GARC have been badly hit and suffered severe lost, and for that reason, they are on arrears with the R2 contributions.

With the agreement of VERONA, he plans to hold an area meeting on the first quarter of 2006 in Curaçao.

4.6. Area F. Director De Faria Franco reported that he has had good communications with the societies in Peru, and Brazil. Communications with the Radio Club Boliviano and Guayaquil Radio Club are non-existent. He reports Brazilian participation in contests is increasing year after year. There are some very good DX and Contests Groups around the country. Next year, LABRE and the Araucaria DX Group will hold the World Radiosport Team Championship WRTC, in the state of Santa Catarina, in the southern part of the country. Both have been working together a great deal to offer a great competition event next year to the entire world.

LABRE is working on the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ARISS project group, and it has been very good to promote Amateur Radio. Because of our Amateur Radio Emergency Net, many people that like off road sports are approaching LABRE and learning more about ham radio. They are doing a great job together.
Director De Faria Franco reported on the Radio Club Peruano many activities with emergency, repeaters, radio courses and their worry by the diminishing members of the club and Ham radio in General. December 6th will be the 75th anniversary of "Radio Club Peruano". In celebration, RCP obtained special call letters 4T75O, and will use them all of 2005.

4.7. Area G. Director Szama reported on activities within his area. The Radio Clubs in the area have not been very active due to several reasons. Changes in their authorities have been frequent and they have lost many members for the reasons we are already familiar with, which affect all our community. Aside from this situation, our region is currently affected by a deep economical crisis that does not escape the Member Societies. The loss of their associates makes it difficult for them to remain as organized as they came to be during periods in which the activity grew notably.

Radio Club Argentino (RCA) continues to have financial difficulties and has recently undertaken the renewal of licenses for five years, which has allowed it additional income.

Unfortunately, Radio Club Paraguayo lost its President and later its Vice-President, and recently renewed its authorities.

Radio Club de Uruguay (RCU) has also changed its authorities, and its treasury has no funds because the previous commission was not concerned about its growth and activities, according to the report Director Szama received from its current President.

"Radio Club de Chile" (RCCH) is the area's MS that seems to be regaining vigor after having lost most of its associates. Its current President agreed last February to hold an area meeting in Chile, which will be officially announced upon his return in September. He doubts all the MS of the area will be able to attend the meeting, but will do his best effort to carry it out.

5. Committees & Coordinators Reports.

5.1. Beacon Coordinator. The EC reviewed the report of the Region 2 Beacon Coordinator Report by Peter Jennings AB6WM. The report noted that worldwide, there are 73 more beacons transmitting now than a year ago. In Region 2, there are 34 more than last year. Most of the growth has been on ten meters, but new beacons have been installed on all bands. Most of the beacons are located in the United States and southern Canada and are an excellent source of information on Sporadic E and other short openings.

The International Beacon Project (IBP) is now managed by a committee consisting of Peter Jennings AB6WM/VE3SUN (IARU Liaison/Webmaster), Charlie Mason W4NJK (NCDXF and Operator Liaison) and Steve Lund K6UM (Technical Operations).

The IBP chain provides good coverage with a coordinated set of beacons on the 20 through 10 meter bands with the notable exception of KH6 not operating on 17 and 12 meters due to FCC regulations.
At this time, all beacons in the network are operating with the exception VR2B, which was recently struck by lightning, destroying the controller, the GPS, and the TS-50. LU4AA has not been heard recently and we are in touch with the operators to determine if there is a problem; Director Szama informed that LU5EB is trying to solve the problem. New hardware was supplied for the OA4B beacon in the past year and it is currently operating from a temporary location and should be permanently installed by the end of the summer.

The EC resolved that the report by AB6WM should be published in a forthcoming IARU R2 E-News.

5.2. Monitoring System Coordinator. Mr. William C. Zellers W4FKI was appointed the Region 2 Monitoring System Coordinator. The former MS Coordinator requests that the EC identify a qualified individual to serve as Assistant MS Coordinator who speak Spanish and that that the R2 Member Societies establish local monitoring system have been not fulfilled. However the name of Mr. Horacio C. Petrera was advanced by Director Szama as a candidate to Assistant MS Coordinator.

5.3. HF Committee. President Stafford presented a paper on the Terms of Reference for the HF Committee. The terms were approved with the provision that a least one member of the Committee is also a member of the EC.

5.4. EMCOR. The EC examined the comprehensive report made by Rick Palm K1CE as Emergency Coordinator (“EMCOR”) for Region 2. He highlighted the following points:
Progress has been made in appointments to the Emergency Coordination Advisory Group (“ECAG”). The following individuals are members of ECAG: Area A – Pierre Mainville VA3PM; Area B – Steve Ewald WV1X; Area C – Arnie Coro CO2KK; Area D – Cesar Santos HR2CPS; Area E – Domingo Hernández YV5IZE and Area F – PT2PC Paulo Cesar de Souza Santos. An ECAG member is still needed for Area G.
The IARU Region 2 EMCOR website has seen a recent surge of interest as a platform for pan-region information to promote mutual assistance among Region 2 nations during disaster situations.
The EMCOR continues to monitor international assistance and traffic nets that would be used during training and coordination of assets and traffic during actual disaster situations in the Region.
The EMCOR continues to seek contact and mutual assistance information specifically for the current tropical weather season. The response has been good and should serve to enable groups across the region to help one another during a severe tropical weather event.
And finally, the EMCOR issued a survey questionnaire to gain basic disaster program and asset information on a country-by-country basis to assist President Stafford on his attendance at the first-ever Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference (GAREC-2005).
He expressed that goal remains for the EMCOR, with the advice and consent of the ECAG and ultimately the Executive Committee, to draft a ten page document of standardized operating procedures for pan-region adoption. Once completed, the plan would be evaluated and updated following each major emergency operation.

5.5. ARDF Coordinator. Dale Hunt WB6BYU is the Region 2 ARDF Coordinator. His report highlights the Third IARU Region II Championships in Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA in collaboration with the appointed National ARDF Coordinators in Region II (VE7BFK for RAC and K0OV for ARRL). They were disappointed that Region II Societies other than the ARRL were not represented, but were pleased to have visitors from Kazakhstan, Australia, and the Czech Republic.

The Region II ARDF web site (www.ardf-r2.org) is available in 5 languages (Spanish, English, French, Portuguese, and Dutch) to encourage and promote the sport of ARDF within Region II. We have noticed a particular increase in the visits to the Portuguese pages in the last few months. Additional information is being added to the site.

The next ARDF World Championships will be held in Bulgaria in September 2006. (We were fortunate that Panayot Danev LZ1US was able to attend the 2005 Region II meeting to give a demonstration on ARDF.) The 2008 World Championships will be held in Region III, either in China or in Australia.

The EC members praised the excellent article in the August issue of QST containing Dale Hunt design for a simple 80m DF receiver.

5.6. Region 2 News. The newly appointed editor for the Region 2 News is former editor Fred Laun K3ZO. He is pleased to work again with the EC and that “under Rod’s leadership two issues have now been sent out”.

President Stafford announced that a third issue this year would be sent reporting on this meeting, the Region 1 Conference and the next IARU AC meeting. He also said that he wants all of the EC members to be involved somehow in the writing of the E-News, perhaps requesting each one to be responsible for individual issues.

5.7. Web Site Administrator. President Stafford expressed that he is not satisfied with progress on the web page. Chairman of Region 1 Garpestad recall their problems with their own page. Because under the budget there is a provision for publications, it was resolved that a paid professional should be hire to administer the page under the EC guidance.

5.8. Region 2 HF Net. The EC again invites the EC members and Societies to join the Region 2 HF Net on Tuesdays at 0100 hours (UTC) at 14.265 MHz +/- 5 KHz. Director Szama will inform in six weeks if there is enough presence on the frequency to warrant the continuation of this activities.

6. CITEL Matters.
6.1. Recent CITEL meetings. Vice-President Jurado commented on some of the CITEL meetings attended by him and others EC members. He also commented on the interest expressed by delegates to the meetings on the BPL paper presented by IARU R-2

6.2. Upcoming CITEL meetings. The EC members discussed the policy related to attendance at CITEL meetings. The view was expressed by the EC that it is important to attend all of the PCC-II meetings and COM-CITEL meetings. It is important to attend the meetings even if the agenda does not deal with any critical amateur radio issues. Vice-President Jurado will continue assisting to the meetings accompanied when necessary by another EC member or local radio club personalities.

6.3. IARP Status Report. The EC continues to encourage Member Societies to seek ratification of the Inter-American Amateur Radio Permit (“IARP”) in those countries that have not done so. It is important that a majority of the countries in the region approves and ratify the treaty as a step to an agreement with European countries under the CEPT (Conférence Européenne des Administrations des Postes et des Télécommunications)
On this subject President Price and Chairman Garpestad said to the EC that discussions between CITEL and CEPT has not progressed beyond the early decision “to agree to have and agreement”

8. As established at Saturday at 4 pm the EC received the visit of Dr. Carlos Levy XE1YK President of the FMRE accompanied by Guillermo Núñez XE1NJ former EC member. Dr Levy with candid and enthusiastic words expressed their satisfaction for the fact that the EC choose Mexico City to hold this year meeting. He also recounted the progress that the FMRE has in the late years, from a low membership of 18 in 2004 to 580 today. There are 38 clubs affiliated in the country. He asked the support of the IARU-R2 on their fight against BPL and the efforts on radio amateur education for young persons.

9. Relations with Member Societies.

9.1. Area Meetings. This item was discussed during the presentations by each Area Directors.

9.2. Relations with FRACAP. Director Gudiel read messages from the MS that are also members of FRACAP. The next convention will be held in November and the traditional Area D meeting will take place. Director Gudiel will represent the EC in the FRACAP convention and chair the area meeting.

9.3 Director Lamoureux


10.1. Comments by IARU President Price. President Price started his comments on ITU Matters, particularly regarding the next WRC conference that will be held in the fall of 2007. He explained to the EC the nature and details of a WRC
conference and the diverse items related to the Amateur Radio Service such as the proposal by Canada for an allocation on the 135 KHz and the revision of the allocations between 4 and 10 MHz except 7.0-7.2. He noted the importance of a unifying front on the Region 2 to maintain our privileges on 7.2-7.3 and try to obtain the full band for all the regions.

In the second part of his comments he addressed the job assigned by the AC to their officers to come about with some proposals for the future and duties of the IARU that will be presented in the next AC meeting in Zurich after the Region 1 conference. After exposing the background and the preliminaries meeting he envisioned that in the future the IARU will continue:

- Representing amateur radio to international telecommunication organizations
- Developing standards, including but not limited to, band plans
- Sanctioning and administering competitive events

The main objectives:

- Increase presence in the ITU and with other UN Agencies
- Retain and enhance present stakeholder interests
- An international secretariat not dependant on a single MS
- Efficient governance structure
- Inclusive of all interested parties (“second societies” and others)
- Funded by the Membership

Suggestions:

- International NGO based in Geneva
- Association registered under Swiss Law
- Permanent Secretariat
- Commissions
- Secretary-General –(senior manager)
- Executive Board- (volunteer managers)
- New Regions?
- Categories of Membership-observers

11. Reports from Other Regions.

11.1. Region 1. The Chairman of Region 1 Ole Garpestad LA2RR expressed his satisfaction to be present at the EC Meeting. He informed about the preparations for their upcoming regional conference in Davos, Switzerland and glad that President Stafford and Vice-President Jurado will represent Region 2. He mentioned that 54 Member Societies of the 91 existing in the region are registered to attend.

Phone, Telegraphy and ARDF are the activities more used by radio amateurs in the Region.

Next November they will have a sub regional meeting in Tunisia to strengthen their contacts with the MS on the Arab Countries.
He regretted that the Region was not able to put up the traditional stand in the Friedrichshafen as happened before since 2003.

11.2. Region 3. No written report or recommendations were received from Region 3. It was noted that Director Donawa will represent the Region 2 in the next R3 EC meeting in Bangalore India.

12. Reports on Region 2 Projects.

12.1. Region 2 Conference – fall 2007

12.1.1. Arrangements for Conference. The 2007 Region 2 Conference will most likely take place 9 to 14 September, before the World Radio Conference that will initiate October 8 and ends November 9. Director De Faria Franco informed that the initial venue for the conference will be the capital city Brasilia. They are working with Federal authorities and private enterprises to get support and negotiating with the Mail officers the issuing of a special stamp to commemorate the conference.

12.2 P.A.R.S. Program President Stafford mentioned that a regional club in the USA is willing to cooperate with the Nicaraguan MS.

12.3 Emergency Communications in Region 2 This item was discussed after the report by K1CE. Secretary Donawa 9Y4NED presented an information paper containing the emergency procedures established by TTARS and the EC recommended his publication.

12.4 Amateur Radio in Education Fund. The secretary should distribute the guidelines approved by the EC with the requirements to apply for this fund.

12.5 Reactivation of the R2 EMC Committee. The EC decided to reactivate this committee and is requesting candidates to staff it. Director Lamoureux presented a paper titled Mission Statement on BPL that was adopted by the EC expressing among other things: “Adopt a firmer stance in regards to BPL in its dealings with CITEL, CTU and any other regulatory or influential forum”

12.6 Revision of Terms of Reference for IARU Region 2 HF Committee. This item was discussed on point 5.3.

12.7 Review of Region 2 HF Award. The EC discussed and adopted the rules and the design of the HF Award presented by Director Szama LU2AH.

12.8 Report on preparations for Americas Telecom 2005. Director De Faria Franco said that arrangements were going well. He presented a project for the
stand and mentioned the support of local LABRE members to help manage the stand. President Stafford will travel to Salvador de Bahia where he will be a panel member at the Forum on Spectrum Management and assist PT2ADM with the stand.

13. Other Business. The EC discussed the possibility of producing a common Radio Amateur Manual in Spanish. Secretary Leandro YV5AMH is in charge of compile the different manuals produced in the region and come with a firm proposal. The EC examined the finals drafts for a new IARU-R2 Logo and adopted one in color and two in B & W, one without grey areas suitable for low quality printing. The secretary will publish the final versions.

14. Next EC Meeting. To avoid conflicting dates with other events, the next meeting of the R2 EC will take place the last week of November 2006. The cities of Aruba, Panama and Buenos Aires were advanced as possible sites for the meeting; the EC will decided later by e-mail.

15. Closing Remarks: President Stafford thanks all the members of the EC and the observers for their collaboration and input on the discussions. At their turn the persons presented expressed their satisfaction for the results of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Reinaldo Leandro YV5AMH
Secretary