

STATEMENT of GAREC-07

The third Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-07, Huntsville, Alabama, USA, 16 – 17 August 2007,

recommends

- a) the introduction of the call sign suffix “ /D “ for use by stations of the Amateur Radio Service handling traffic related to emergency and disaster situations, and its publication and promotion by the IARU and its Member Societies and by all specialized emergency communications groups;
- b) the extension of the “EmCom Party on-the-Air” emergency communication exercises already introduced in IARU Region 1 to Regions 2 and 3;

suggests

that studies be initiated by the IARU in cooperation with its Member Societies and with specialized emergency communication groups, on the development and possible introduction of standard codes for use in international emergency communications and on the need for the development of a list of standard resource types;

supports

the decision of the IARU Administrative Council to collect information from all Member Societies about the status of implementation and application of the revisions to Article 25 of the ITU Radio Regulations resulting from WRC-03;

appeals

- a) to all IARU Member Societies and specialized emergency communications groups to encourage the accession to and ratification of the *Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Response Operations* by their respective national authorities;
- b) to the IARU to further encourage the development and the application of new modes and technologies in emergency communications;
- c) to the IARU to support the development of training aids, including the completion of the IARU handbook on emergency communications initiated by the GAREC conferences in 2005 and 2006, as well as the development of a hand-out to inform the public, in particular during major conferences such as the forthcoming WRC-07, as already decided by the IARU Administrative Council in 2005.

- d) To the IARU to continue its support to the continuation and further development of the GAREC concept and process;

urges

all organizers of contests, to include in their respective rules an instruction to the effect, that frequencies in the immediate vicinity of the Center of Activity frequencies as proposed by GAREC-05 and subsequently adopted by the competent conferences of IARU Regions 1, 2 and 3 should not be used for contest contacts;

expresses its gratitude

to ARRL Headquarters and to the ARRL Alabama Section for having accepted to host and organize GAREC-07 and for providing an outstanding and pleasant framework for the conduction of the conference, and to the presenters and panelists for sharing their knowledge and their experiences with the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications community.

Adopted in the Closing Session of GAREC-07, 17 August 2007