



PRESS RELEASE

WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE 2015 (WRC-15)

The Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) would like to inform the general public that in accordance with ITU Council Resolution 1343 (C12), the forthcoming World Radiocommunication Conference will take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 2nd to 27th November 2015. The conference will be preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly from 26th – 30th October, 2015.

On the basis of the proposals from various administrations and taking into account the results of World Radio Conference 2012 (WRC-12) as well as the Report of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM 15-2), and with due regard to the requirements of existing and future services in the frequency bands under consideration, the WRC-15 will consider and take appropriate action in respect of over 30 agenda items tackling various radiocommunication issues. The World Radio Conference is landmark for the radiocommunication world as it brings together over 3000 radiocommunication experts to discuss the efficient use of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits.

Malawi is chairing the preparatory process for WRC-15 for the SADC region. WRC-15 is expected to pass resolutions on the agreed agenda items. However, based on the preparatory meetings a number of key issues are expected to dominate the discussions at the conference.

Global Flight Tracking

In respect of the current aviation safety concerns like disappearing of Malaysian Airline MH 370, the recent International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary meeting adopted resolution number 185 on Global flight tracking for civil aviation. The ITU convention will therefore include this item in its agenda as a matter of urgency to consider global flight tracking in line with ITU practices.

Public Protection and Disaster Relief

The effects of global warming are being experienced in most parts of the world including Malawi. This year, Malawi felt the effects of climate change when heavy rains caused floods in many parts of the country. The resolution encourages administrations, for the purpose of achieving regionally harmonized frequency bands with regard to advanced public protection and disaster relief solutions, to consider certain identified frequency bands or parts thereof when undertaking national frequency planning.

Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems

This is also another concern of safety taking into consideration that some member states are concerned that it is not safe to have unmanned aircraft systems in the air space where pilot controlled passenger aircrafts are also flying.

Protection of Fixed Services

ICT penetration in Malawi is largely contributed by the emergence of mobile communication services in terms of both voice and data. The transmitting stations for these Operators require connection using microwave links. The increasing use of mobile services translates to an increase in GDP hence the need to protect some fixed services used for the delivery of such services.

All interested stakeholders are therefore invited to attend the National Stakeholder consultation meeting to be held at Mount Soche Hotel in Blantyre on Monday, 27th April, 2015 from 08:30 hrs.

Contacts

For any further enquiries, regarding this press release and confirmation of your reservation to attend the national stakeholder consultation meeting, please contact the following;

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