



# International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 2011 Regional Conference – Sun City, South Africa 12 to 19 August 2011



Subject	Fallback Band plan for 1 296 MHz Band		
Society	VERON	Country:	The Netherlands
Committee:	C5	Paper number:	SC11_C5_29
Author:	Coen Vermaire, PA5KM		

## Introduction

This paper proposes a process on how to take a worldwide coordinated decision for a changeover of frequencies used, with respect to narrowband operations in the 23 cm band.

## Background

The IARU-Region 1 Conference at Cavtat 2008 has endorsed recommendation CT08\_C5\_Rec27, which states a.o. that the band 1 240,0 – 1 240,75 MHz is designated as an alternative narrowband centre of activity, based on 500 kHz for operators and 250 kHz for beacons.

At that time, it was not decided which activating event will initiate the changeover to this alternative frequency band, nor it was decided that such a decision should be made worldwide in order to maintain worldwide communications on this band.

If not well coordinated, a risk of groups switching to 1 240 MHz and other groups staying at 1 296 MHz will introduce a possible loss of worldwide contacts on this band.

To prevent this risk VERON proposes a process to assure that all active amateur groups are fully aware of the need and discussion for this change.

## Proposal

The Vereniging voor Experimenteel Radio-Onderzoek in Nederland, VERON proposes to form a worldwide group with representatives active on the 23 cm band, being able to take a well balanced decision on the changeover to a fallback frequency for narrowband operations.

This group should be attended by worldwide active amateurs on this band using narrowband modes and EME.

The group should monitor the effects of Galileo interference and, based on significant events, should propose the decision to switch to 1 240 MHz. It is most important that a careful and well-balanced decision is taken, taking into account the risk of losing amateurs not wanting to move to a new frequency.

After such a decision, all effort has to be assured that this is communicated by all possible means.

Decisions to change, without efficient communications about this change, or decisions to change at a too early timing, will cause misunderstanding and decrease of already fragile activity.

#### Recommendation

That the Final Plenary is invited to endorse the idea to start a process on how to take a worldwide coordinated decision for a changeover of frequencies used, regarding narrowband operations in the 23 cm band.