

QUESTION ITU-R 227/4*

Technical and operational characteristics of emergency communications in the mobile-satellite service**

(2000)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that within the mobile-satellite service (MSS) there is an increasing number of systems offering communication services that offer global or regional coverage;
- b) that users of mobile-satellite services are expected to be using these mobile terminals for emergency services, especially in sparsely populated, uninhabited or remote areas;
- c) that rapid routing of emergency traffic and accurate position data are essential in search and rescue cases;
- d) that mobile radio systems are in operation for other services which can give accurate position data;
- e) that a mobile transmitter subscriber's name and call back number is essential to the rescue effort to contact the caller if the initial connection is severed, as an aid to identifying inadvertent false alerts, and in the prosecution of malicious call cases;
- f) that advanced land mobile systems are in operation for other services which can give the subscriber's name and call back number;
- g) that within the MSS there is a great and growing need to determine standard international routing procedures for emergency traffic;
- h) that many administrations have emergency traffic routing procedures in place that automatically route calls to the responsible response agency;
- j) that the ITU-D has transmitted to the ITU-R a liaison statement with the objective of initiating studies on technical and operational requirements for emergency communications in sparsely populated, uninhabited or remote areas;
- k) that distress, emergency, safety and other communications are defined in Article 33 of the Radio Regulations,

recognizing

- a) that the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) has been implemented for compulsory ships as of February 1, 1999;
- b) that the International Maritime Organization is considering a draft assembly resolution addressing criteria for the provision of mobile satellite communications systems in the GMDSS;
- c) that standards for aeronautical safety and emergency communications, and automatic dependent surveillance are being addressed within the International Civil Aviation Organization, and therefore aeronautical issues will not be considered in this Question,

* Former Question ITU-R 227/8.

** Excluding the aeronautical mobile service.

decides that the following Question should be studied

- 1 What are the preferred technical and operating capabilities of mobile-satellite systems which provide radiocommunication using geostationary or non-geostationary satellite systems, for emergency operations, other than those in the GMDSS, excluding aeronautical mobile operations?
- 2 What are the various technical and operating problems related to the use of MSS systems for emergency and search and rescue operations?
- 3 What are the preferred operational requirements for automatic determination of location (ADL), e.g. procedures, accuracy and coverage?
- 4 What aspects of the routing of emergency traffic carried by the MSS must be considered to insure compatibility with existing international routing procedures?
- 5 What information to be automatically forwarded with the call such as subscriber name and call back number is deemed essential for emergency calls?
- 6 What are the satellite voice and data systems that need to be considered separately with regard to the above questions?
- 7 What type of call or message constitutes an emergency?
- 8 How is the term “emergency” to be defined?

further decides

- 1 that the results of the above studies should be included in one or more Recommendations;
- 2 that the results of these studies should be completed by 2005.

NOTE 1 – The results of these studies should be brought to the attention of the Telecommunication Development Sector.