



Recommendation ITU-R SM.2149-0
(09/2022)

**Guidance on supplementary elements
on the use of Appendix 10 of the Radio
Regulations to convey information related
to harmful interference to space
radiocommunication services**

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Note: This ITU-R Recommendation was approved in English under the procedure detailed in Resolution ITU-R 1.

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RECOMMENDATION ITU-R SM.2149-0

**Guidance on supplementary elements on the use of
Appendix 10 of the Radio Regulations to convey information related to
harmful interference to space radiocommunication services**

(2022)

Scope

Administrations operating space radiocommunication systems which encounter instances of harmful interference should use the information in this Recommendation when providing the particulars relating to the harmful interference to involved administrations. The form in this Recommendation should be used to provide supplementary guidance information in the format prescribed in Appendix **10** of the Radio Regulations (RR).

Keywords

Space radiocommunication services, harmful interference, reporting form, Appendix **10**

Abbreviations/Glossary

Definition of harmful interference in the ITU RR:

“Interference which endangers the functioning of a radionavigation service or of other safety services or seriously degrades, obstructs, or repeatedly interrupts a radiocommunication service operating in accordance with Radio Regulations” (No. **1.169** of the RR).

BR	Radiocommunication Bureau
CDF	Cumulative distribution function
CR	Circular Letter (Concerning Radio Regulation Frequency Registration)
EESS	Earth exploration-satellite service
epfd	equivalent power flux-density
FDOA	Frequency difference of arrival
GSO	Geostationary-satellite orbit
HEO	Highly elliptical orbit
IFIC	International Frequency Information Circular
LEO	Low Earth orbit
LHCP	Left-hand circular polarized
MEO	Medium Earth orbit
NORAD	North American Aerospace Defence (Satellite Catalogue Number)
pdf	power flux-density
QTE	TRUE bearing (see the most recent version of Recommendation ITU-R M.1172)
RHCP	Right-hand circular polarized
RR	Radio Regulations
SIRRS	Satellite Interference Reporting and Resolution System

TDOA	Time difference of arrival
TLE	Two-line element set
UTC	Universal Time Coordinated

Related ITU Recommendations and Reports

Recommendation ITU-R RS.2106 – Detection and resolution of radio frequency interference to Earth exploration-satellite service (passive) sensors

Report ITU-R SM.2181 – Use of Appendix **10** of the Radio Regulations to convey information related to emissions from both GSO and non-GSO space stations including geolocation information

Report ITU-R SM.2182 – Measurement facilities available for the measurement of emissions from both GSO and non-GSO space stations

Report ITU-R SM.2424 – Measurement techniques and new technologies for satellite monitoring

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that Article **15** of the RR describes the procedure for the resolution of cases of harmful interference;
- b) that the resolution of harmful interference affecting space stations requires the cooperation and exchange of information among multiple parties, including the administrations involved, the space monitoring facility, and the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau;
- c) that, in accordance with No. **15.27** of the RR, full particulars relating to harmful interference shall, whenever possible, be given in the form in Appendix **10** of the RR;
- d) that Appendix **10** of the RR was designed with terrestrial services in mind, its applicability to emissions from space stations is limited;
- e) that it would be desirable and helpful for administrations that a common reporting form for all services be established based on the current information in Appendix **10** of the RR;
- f) that reporting harmful interference affecting certain radio services may require additional information to that contained in Appendix **10** of the RR;
- g) that such dedicated form of reporting harmful interference cases should be kept minimum;
- h) that the Satellite Interference Reporting and Resolution System (SIRRS) online application is the primary mechanism (as per CR/435) for formal submissions of reports and subsequent exchanges of information concerning cases of harmful interference affecting space services;
- i) that this online application implemented by the Radiocommunication Bureau in response to Resolution 186 of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference is an open platform that can support the submission of supplementary information in the format of this Recommendation,

noting

- a) that Recommendation ITU-R RS.2106 provides a reporting form and guidance for Administrations operating EESS (passive) satellite sensors which encounter instances of harmful interference, in addition to the form in Appendix **10** of the RR;
- b) that the additional necessary information in *considering f)* may be different for the cases of different space radiocommunication services and interference scenarios;
- c) that reporting forms and examples mentioned in Annexes 1 and 3 would be useful for administrations and ease their efforts,

recognizing

- a) that obligations to eliminate harmful interference are set forth in relevant provisions of the ITU Constitution, the Radio Regulations and bilateral coordination agreements;
- b) that No. **15.22** of the RR requests that Member States exercise the utmost goodwill and mutual assistance in the application of the provisions of Article 45 of the Constitution and that of Section VI of Article **15** of the RR to the settlement of problems of harmful interference;
- c) that No. **13.2** of the RR stipulates: “When an administration has difficulty in resolving a case of harmful interference and seeks the assistance of the Bureau, the latter shall, as appropriate, help in identifying the source of the interference and seek the cooperation of the responsible administration in order to resolve the matter”;
- d) that the continuous synergistic implementation of these actions by all sectors involved in satellite radiocommunications can guarantee that harmful interference is kept to a minimum for the satellite community and end users,

recommends

- 1 that the guidance information in Annex 1 should, whenever possible, be provided when reporting harmful interference affecting space radiocommunication services under Article **15** of the RR;
- 2 that the interference scenarios indicated in Annex 2 could be used for guidance when reporting harmful interferences;
- 3 that the examples with detailed additional information indicated in Annex 3 could be used for guidance when reporting harmful interferences in each interference scenario;
- 4 that the following Note is part of this Recommendation.

NOTE – This Recommendation is in no way intended to modify the procedure contained in Article **15** and Appendix **10** of the RR but to provide guidance to administrations in dealing with interference to facilitate the course of action to be taken.

Annex 1

Use of Appendix 10 of the Radio Regulations to convey information related to harmful interference to space radiocommunication services

A1.1 Introduction

Article **15** of the Radio Regulations (RR) describes the procedure for the resolution of cases of harmful interference. Full particulars relating to harmful interference shall, whenever possible, be given in the form indicated in Appendix **10** of the RR.

However, Appendix **10** of the RR was designed with terrestrial services in mind, its applicability related to emissions from space stations is limited. This is even more problematic when graphical geolocation information must be conveyed.

Report ITU-R SM.2181 was developed to address these shortcomings and suggests a list of additional information to be attached together with Appendix **10** of the RR when reporting cases of harmful interference related to satellite services. The list of items as suggested in Report ITU-R SM.2181 only

mentioned GSO and non-GSO cases while the guidelines in this Annex facilitate a way for reporting harmful interference for the cases of all space radiocommunication services.

These guidelines aim at introducing procedures for reporting cases of harmful interference related to all space radiocommunication services and providing guidance on preparing a report on cases of harmful interference by administrations and the Radiocommunication Bureau, as appropriate. These guidelines are developed based on the procedures for resolving harmful interference as contained in Section VI of Article 15 of the RR to maximize quality and availability of service to the user by minimizing unusable satellite capacity due to interference.

A1.2 Proposal for solution

To avoid confusion and better convey information related to harmful interference to space radiocommunication services, it is desirable to have one reporting form for reporting harmful interference cases of space radiocommunication services. A common reporting form for necessary information related to harmful interference to all space radiocommunication services would be indicated in § A1.5.

However, some of the space radiocommunication services have their special particulars concerning the report. Therefore, § A1.6 shows the supplementary information to treat cases of harmful interference of different space radiocommunication services.

A1.3 Procedures in case of harmful interference

Section VI of Article 15 of the RR provides procedures to be followed by administrations in the case of harmful interference. The following provides the key points of these procedures:

- 1 The administration responsible for the affected service or satellite carrier (Administration A) shall send to the administration responsible for the station which is likely causing harmful interference (Administration B) full particulars relating to the harmful interference in the form indicated in Appendix 10 of the RR (No. 15.27 of the RR).
- 2 When informed that a station under jurisdiction of Administration B is likely causing harmful interference to Administration A, the former Administration shall acknowledge receipt of that information as soon as possible (No. 15.35 of the RR).
- 3 Administration B shall immediately investigate the matter and take all required measures / actions in order to eliminate the harmful interference if it is confirmed that the interfering station is located on the territory under its jurisdiction.
- 4 If the cooperation between Administrations A and B has not produced satisfactory results, Administration A may forward details of the case to the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) for its information (No. 15.41 of the RR).
- 5 In such a case, a request of assistance may also be sent to the Bureau with all the technical and operational details and copies of the correspondence (No. 15.42 of the RR).

In the cases that harmful interference that originate from Administration B cannot be resolved at operator level, the affected satellite licensed operators / earth station users can:

Step 1: Send a letter to its national administration (Administration A) together with the information to be provided when reporting harmful interference (see § A1.5 for description of the information to be provided) to request its help to communicate with the Administration responsible for the station suspected of causing the harmful interference (Administration B) to eliminate the interfering signal.

Step 2: If there is no response from Administration B or if satisfactory results cannot be reached, invite the national Administration A to send a letter to the ITU in accordance with No. 15.41 and No. 15.42 of the RR. The letter to the Radiocommunication Bureau should:

- Request the ITU-R Radiocommunication Bureau to act in accordance with the provisions of Section I of Article 13 of the RR to help resolving the case of harmful interference.
- Provide the facts of the cases, including all the technical and operational details and copies of correspondence between Administration A and Administration B (i.e. the correspondence associated with Step 1 above).

A1.4 Getting geolocation results for the source of harmful interference

In case of GSO satellite networks, the coverage of a satellite depends on its design and its operating frequencies and would normally cover multiple countries. An uplink from any location within the footprint of the satellite antenna could potentially create harmful interference to the satellite. Without knowing the location of the interfering source, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to identify the responsible administration to communicate with and request for elimination of the harmful interference.

To obtain geolocation results, satellite operators and their responsible administrations may already have facilities or sources for performing the geolocation. Telecommunications regulatory authorities of some countries have their own space radio monitoring facilities and some of these stations may be able to assist other administrations to perform geolocation in cases involving satellite interference; information regarding these facilities can be found in Report ITU-R SM.2182 or http://www.itu.int/online/mms/mars/monitoring/18_station_search.sh. In addition to monitoring/geolocation facilities of administrations, there are commercial companies and satellite operators, which provide geolocation services for customers.

Additional information on interference solutions is included in Section 6 of Report ITU-R SM.2424. It describes the interference type, geolocation principles, geolocation system requirements, techniques for geolocation of transmitter on the Earth and factors affecting geolocation accuracy.

A1.5 Key particulars when reporting harmful interference to space radiocommunication services

The common reporting form for necessary information related to harmful interference to space radiocommunication services is shown below. The classification of the form is in accordance with Appendix 10 of the RR, and item a to item x in Table 1 are extracted directly from it. In addition to this, the other items are determined according to the specific characteristics of space radiocommunication services.

Some items are optional and some are necessary at a minimum to be able to understand and process the report.

TABLE 1

Key particulars concerning the reporting form of harmful interference

General information		
1	Administrations responsible for the interference (Note: The administration responsible for the station, which is likely causing harmful interference, option – Unknown)	necessary
2	Notifying Administration of the station receiving the interference (Note: The notifying administration responsible for the station which is receiving the harmful interference.)	necessary
3	Other Administrations implicated in the interference case (Note: Other Administrations responsible for stations which are affected by the harmful interferences.)	
Interference scenario		
4	Interference scenario: A-Earth-to-space / B-Space-to-Earth / C-EESS (passive sensors) / D-Radio astronomy / E-Space-to-space (Note: Illustrations of interference scenarios are shown in Annex 2.)	necessary
5	Type of station responsible for the interference: Earth / Space (GSO) / Space (non-GSO) / Terrestrial / Other / Unknown	
6	Type of station receiving interference: Earth / Space (GSO) / Space (non-GSO) / Terrestrial / Other	necessary
7	Type of stations affected by the harmful interference: Earth / Space (GSO) / Space (non-GSO) / Terrestrial / Other	necessary
Particulars concerning the station causing the interference		
a	Name, Carrier-ID or other means of identification (Note: This item is more designed for terrestrial services. For uplink interference, it is possible to indicate the interfering earth station or terrestrial emission, when it is known. For downlink interference and interference between satellites, it is possible to indicate the affecting satellite, therefore its special section reference number such as NORAD ID, ITU filing name, commercial name and the affecting transponder number could be mentioned here.)	
b	Frequency measured (Note: the centre of uplink frequency or downlink frequency) Date (Note: Date of the harmful interference spectrum plot taken. It is also possible to describe the occurrence of interference to give more information.) Time (UTC) (Note: Time of the spectrum plot taken. If on the above item (date), a range of date is given to describe the occurrence of interference, it is possible to also specify the exact date of the spectrum plot here.)	necessary
c	Class of emission (Note: Class of emission of the interferer, as defined in RR Appendix 1, is normally difficult to classify, and it is possible to leave this field blank or marked as unknown. When possible, a description of the interference could be provided, such as modulation type, coding type, multiple access type and any additional signal characteristics.)	

TABLE 1 (continued)

Particulars concerning the station causing the interference		
d	Bandwidth of the interference(s) (indicate whether measured or estimated)	
e	Field strength, pfd, epfd, brightness temperature of interfering carrier(s) (Note: This item is used to describe the measured signal strength. Brightness Temperature is a parameter specially for EESS service. It is also possible to provide spectrum plot instead.) Date: (Note: Date of the measurement/spectrum plot.) Time (UTC): (Note: Time of the measurement/spectrum plot.)	
f	Observed polarization: (Note: H/V/LHCP/RHCP)	
g	Nature of interference (Note: Item u and item g in Table 1 has been exchanged compared to Appendix 10 of the Radio Regulations. When possible, the characteristics of the interference could be provided: – Analog modulated carrier – Digital modulated carrier – CW clean carrier – Burst signal – Frequency hopping – Frequency sweeping – Cross polarization – Co-channel – Intermodulation – Unwanted emissions – Adjacent satellite interference – Adjacent carrier interference – Other. When possible, the reason causing the interference could be provided: – Antenna pointing error – Malfunctioning equipment – Insufficient cable shielding – Reference to RR No. 15.1 (unnecessary emissions) – Other)	necessary
h	Location (Note: It is recommended to indicate the number of the interfering sources (estimated number if possible) and the locations of the interfering sources. When possible, provide longitude if GSO / (latitude, longitude) if earth station or terrestrial station / satellite ephemeris in TLE format if non-GSO.)	
i	Location of the facility which made the above measurements (Note: The location of the measurement (e.g. where the spectrum plot taken) and the location of facility for performing geolocation and monitoring dish size.)	

TABLE 1 (continued)

Particulars concerning the transmitting station interfered with (Note: For cases of uplink interference, it refers to the earth station transmitting the wanted carrier; for cases of downlink interference, it refers to the space station transmitting the wanted carrier.)		
j	Name, call sign or other means of identification (Note: This item is more designed for terrestrial services. It could indicate name of station notified to ITU, NORAD ID, or commercial name, as appropriate.)	
k	Frequency assigned (Note: The centre frequency notified to ITU.)	necessary
l	Frequency measured (Note: Both uplink frequency and downlink frequency could be provided.) Date (Note: Date of the harmful interference spectrum plot taken. It is also possible to describe the occurrence of interference to give more information.) Time (UTC) (Note: Time of the spectrum plot taken. If on the above item (date), a range of date is given to describe the occurrence of interference, it is possible to also specify the exact date of the spectrum plot here.)	
m	Class of emission (Note: Class of emission of the affected frequency assignment as defined in RR AP1.)	
n	Bandwidth (indicates whether measured or estimated, or indicate the necessary bandwidth notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau)	necessary
o	Location/position/area (Note: When possible, provide longitude if GSO / (latitude, longitude) if earth station / satellite ephemeris in TLE format if non-GSO.)	
p	Location of the facility which made the above measurements (Note: It can be the location of where the spectrum plot is taken and monitoring dish size.)	
Particulars furnished by the receiving station experiencing the interference (Note: For cases of uplink interference, it refers to the space station receiving the interference; for cases of downlink interference, it refers to the earth station receiving interference.)		
q	Name of station (Note: It could indicate name of station notified to ITU, NORAD ID, or commercial name, as appropriate.)	necessary
r	Location/position/area (Note: When possible, provide longitude if GSO / (latitude, longitude) if earth station / satellite ephemeris in TLE format if non-GSO.)	necessary
s	Dates and times (UTC) of occurrence of harmful interference	
t	Bearings (QTE) or other particulars (Note: This item is more designed for terrestrial services. It is possible to leave this field blank.)	
u	Class of station and nature of service (Note: The class of station and nature of service is defined in Table 3 and Table 4 of the Preface in BR IFIC, the preface can be downloaded in http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/space/Pages/prefaceMain.aspx .) (Note: Item u and item g has been exchanged compared to Appendix 10 of the Radio Regulations.)	necessary

TABLE 1 (end)

Particulars furnished by the receiving station experiencing the interference		
v	Field strength or power flux-density or brightness temperature of the wanted emission at the receiving station experiencing the interference (Note: This item is used to describe the measured signal strength. Brightness Temperature is a parameter specially for EESS service. It is also possible to provide spectrum plot instead.) Date (Note: Date of the measurement/spectrum plot.) Time (UTC) (Note: Time of the measurement/spectrum plot.)	
w	Polarization of the receiving antenna or observed polarization (Note: H/V/LHCP/RHCP.)	
x	Action requested (Note: The action you want the Administration responsible for the station causing the harmful interference to perform.)	necessary

A1.6 Additional particulars when reporting harmful interference to space radiocommunication services

The additional information presented in this section is considered as supplement to Appendix 10 of the RR for the purpose of better understand the interferences.

For Interference Scenario C (EESS (passive)), see Tables in Recommendation ITU-R RS.2106. These Tables define the fields for reporting the system characteristics of the affected EESS (passive) system.

For the Interference Scenarios A (Earth-to-space), the following Table defines the particulars of graphical information, the satellites and geolocation facilities involved in the harmful interference.

TABLE 2

Additional information concerning the reporting form of harmful interference

Graphical information		
8	Spectrum plot of interfering carriers	
9	Spectrum plot of wanted carriers	
10	Geolocation results	
11	Satellite footprint in which the interference is uplinked	
12	Satellite footprint in which the interference is downlinked	
Particulars concerning the satellite in which the interferer is appearing		
13	Satellite orbit:	
14	– GSO orbit position (nominal):	
15	– LEO/MEO/HEO orbit:	
16	– Orbital period	
17	– Time of visibility	
18	– Orbit type	

TABLE 2 (continued)

Particulars concerning the satellite in which the interferer is appearing		
19	– Name of the satellite system	
20	– Number of satellites in the system	
21	Satellite downlink:	
22	– Frequency range (nominal) (MHz)	
23	– Frequency range measured (MHz)	
24	Transponder in which the interferer is appearing:	
25	– Transponder on satellite	
26	Transponder name/number for uplink	
27	Transponder name/number for downlink	
28	– Polarization (downlink)	
29	– Polarization (uplink)	
30	– Centre frequency (downlink)	
31	– Bandwidth (downlink)	
32	– Centre frequency (uplink)	
33	– Bandwidth (uplink)	
34	– Description/identification of authorized signal	
Particulars concerning the facilities making the measurement (for item i)		
35	Name of monitoring station:	
36	– Organization	
37	– Location (country, state, area, town)	
38	– Position of the monitoring station which made the measurements	
39	Geolocation principle (Note: TDOA/FDOA with 2 satellite, FDOA/FDOA with 2 satellite, TDOA/TDOA with 3 satellite, doppler shift with single satellite)	
40	Satellites used for geolocation measurement:	
41	– Name of the main satellite	
42	– Name of the adjacent satellite 1	
43	– Name of the adjacent satellite 2	
44	Equipment used for interferer detection:	
45	– Antenna type (1 st antenna for geolocation)	
46	– Antenna size	
47	– G/T (dB/K)	
48	– Antenna location (country, state, town)	
49	– Antenna type (2 nd antenna for geolocation)	
50	– Antenna size	
51	– G/T (dB/K)	
52	– Antenna location (country, state, town)	
53	– Antenna type (3 rd antenna for geolocation)	

TABLE 2 (*end*)

Particulars concerning the facilities making the measurement (for item i)		
54	– Antenna size	
55	– G/T (dB/K)	
56	– Antenna location (country, state, town)	
57	Other equipment besides antennas	
58	Interfering signal:	
59	– Frequency measured (downlink) (MHz)	
60	– Frequency calculated (uplink) (MHz)	
61	– Bandwidth (kHz)	
62	– Power flux-density (dBm/m ² /Hz)	
63	– Date of measurement (yyyy-mm-dd)	
64	– Time of measurement (UTC)	
65	Ground based geolocation measurement:	
66	– Accuracy Prediction for the measurement	
67	– Interferer position result (Lat./Lon.)	
68	– Interferer location (country, state, town)	
69	– Semi-major axis (km)	
70	– Semi-minor axis (km)	
71	– Orientation of ellipse (true north clockwise)	
72	– Repetition of geolocation measurements	
73	Remark (Note: Any descriptions concerning the interference or measurement could be addressed.)	

Annex 2

Illustrations of different interference scenarios and key particulars to be reported

A2.1 Interference Scenario A (Earth-to-space)

This case describes a geostationary satellite located at 7° East receiving interference from an earth station intended to communicate with an adjacent geostationary satellite located at 9.5° East. The interference signal is retransmitted and received together with the wanted signal by the earth station associated to the geostationary satellite located at 7° East.