

## WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.5

Studies on development of regulatory measures, and implementability thereof, to limit the unauthorized operations of non-geostationary-satellite orbit (non-GSO) earth stations in the fixed-satellite service (FSS) and mobile-satellite service (MSS) and associated issues related to the service area of non-GSO FSS and MSS satellite systems

### Overview

The Agenda Item invites ITU-R to conduct studies to address the regulatory measures, considering also the technical and operational aspects, to limit the unauthorized operations of non-GSO FSS and MSS earth stations in the Earth-to-space direction and to further consider the implementability of excluding the territory of a country from the service area of the non-GSO satellite system, without adversely affecting the rest of the service area, in accordance with Resolution 14 (WRC-23)

### Background

The issue originally brought into the attention of WRC-23 is associated with reported challenges faced by some member states in relation to the unauthorized operation of user terminals operating in their territory in the Earth-to-space direction.

#### WRC-23 resolved to conduct studies for:

- possible regulatory measures that could be adopted to limit unauthorized user terminals operation in the Earth-to-space direction and cease such operations.
- measures, including their implementability, for the possible exclusion of a country territory from the service area of a non-GSO satellite system, without adversely affecting the rest of the service area.

Specifically, Resolution 14 (WRC 23) resolves to invite the ITU Radiocommunication Sector to complete in time for the 2027 world radiocommunication conference:

- studies on regulatory measures to limit the unauthorized operations of non-GSO FSS and MSS earth stations in the Earth-to-space direction in order to address and cease such operations, taking into account technical and operational aspects, as appropriate;
- studies on regulatory measures, taking into account recognizing c) with regard to non-GSO FSS and MSS satellite systems, and the implementability of such measures, without adversely affecting the provision of service in the rest of the service area of the non-GSO satellite system

## GSOA Position

GSOA respects the sovereign rights of all administrations to authorize services provided in their territories and appreciates the concerns that underlie proposals related to non-GSO user terminals operating without authorization.

Moreover, GSOA understands that the current regulations already require that an earth station must be authorized by a country before it operates on the territory under its jurisdiction. All satellite operators should adhere strictly with the Radio Regulations, in particular with Article 18, Resolution 22 (WRC-19) and Resolution 25 (WRC-03), including by implementing available geolocation capabilities and mechanisms in their satellite systems, that could be used, to the extent possible, to exclude the transmission of a terminal from a jurisdiction in which it is not authorized.

Generally, GSOA has concerns about any proposal that would impose additional regulatory burdens on operators and regulators if they are not needed, as these could have the consequence of increasing complexity of regulatory procedures required to bring global connectivity and bridge the digital divide. In particular, any requirement for the territory of a country to be excluded from the service area of the satellite system could have unintended consequences. GSOA welcomes the opportunity to work with administrations to address all relevant concerns.

