

## **RESOLUTION 91-2 CONCERNING GUIDELINES FOR PACKET RADIO**

The IARU Administrative Council, Bandung, October 1991,

considering the growing popularity of packet radio for the relaying of messages between radio amateurs,

recognizing that a medium as effective as packet radio can invite abuse through the introduction of traffic that is inappropriate to the Amateur Service internationally,

noting Resolution 87-2 (revised 1989) which urges adherence to the spirit and intentions of the ITU Radio Regulations in handling traffic, and calls attention to the undesirable aspects of the uncontrolled proliferation of unattended store-and-forward "mailbox" stations,

resolves that the attached "Guidelines for Packet Radio Operators" and "Guidelines for Packet Radio Bulletin Board Operators" first adopted at the Region 3 Conference, Bandung, October 1991, shall be distributed to IARU member-societies worldwide with the request that they be shared with the amateurs of each country, and

further resolves that future IARU regional conferences are invited to suggest improvements to these guidelines so they will continue to be representative of good amateur radio operating practices as these practices evolve over time.

### **Guidelines for Packet Radio Operators**

1. Amateur Radio takes pride in being self-regulated. Packet Radio Operators should continue this tradition.
2. Packet Radio Operators, like all Amateur Radio Operators, should observe published Band Plans.
3. A Packet Radio Operator should not send the following traffic either direct or via mail boxes:
  - a) All advertising for selling, buying or trading goods, including amateur equipment (except if permitted by local regulations).
  - b) All statements and/or propaganda on political or religious subjects.
  - c) All inappropriate language, as, for instance, the use of swear words, obscenities, defamatory or libellous language etc.
  - d) All material which may infringe copyright.
  - e) All material which infringes privacy, whether personal or corporate.
4. A Packet Radio Operator utilising a BBS should avoid transmitting unnecessary or redundant messages and documents in order to enhance network efficiency.
5. A Packet Radio Operator utilising a BBS should ensure that the callsign of the originating station, including the name of the person responsible in the case of a club station, is clearly shown on every message so that the sender can be identified.
6. A Packet Radio Operator should avoid messages that are too long for efficient relay through the network.
7. A Packet Radio Operator utilising a BBS should ensure that all messages transmitted are addressed to the appropriate group of recipients and not addressed to inappropriate areas in order to ensure network efficiency.

### **Guidelines for Packet Radio Bulletin Board Operators**

1. The Operator of a Packet Radio Bulletin Board is obliged to provide a reliable service, within a defined area for a defined purpose.

2. A Packet Radio Bulletin Board Operator is morally responsible for all messages forwarded by his system. He should make his best efforts to ensure that the traffic forwarded is appropriate to the Amateur Services and in accordance with the Guidelines for Packet Radio Operators.
3. HF Mail Boxes should only be used where there is a genuine need that cannot be provided by VHF and other means.
4. A Packet Radio Bulletin Board Operator may take action to exclude a User who persistently contravenes the Guidelines for Packet Radio Operators. Exclusion of a User should be done as a last resort after the User has been warned and where exclusion does not contravene local regulations.