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| **Subject** | AROS |
| **Society** | IARU Region 1 | **Country:** | N/A |
| **Committee:** | C3, C4, C5 | **Paper number:** | NS20\_C3\_09 |
| **Author:** | Don Beattie, G3BJ |

The Amateur Radio Observation Service is a function that exists in some societies to monitor and report on inappropriate behaviour on the amateur bands. Note it is distinct from the valuable IARUMS program, which concerns intruders and is on-going. At the Varna Conference in 2014, it was recommended that a function be created at Regional Level to coordinate and encourage AROS activity in Member Societies. The Recommendation read:

Recommendation VA14\_C4\_REC\_05: That a Region 1 Amateur Radio Observation Service (AROS) Coordinator is appointed to:

a. Coordinate the establishment of independent AROS operations in around six member societies

b. Commence the monitoring of DXpeditions for malicious QRM

c. Coordinate operation with the aim of identifying any patterns and possible sources of jamming, and

d. Report back by the next Interim Meeting

Proposed by: ROARS Seconded by: SZR. The motion was carried with three votes against and four abstentions

An appointment was made to this role, but in reality very little happened, partly because of lack of interest amongst Member Societies and partly because AROS activity is essentially a national activity, as the reporting of incidents to the authorities needs a national reporting point (CEPT has little interest). It is also likely that national administrations have little interest as well, and so any progress in resolving cases on inappropriate behaviour will require a regulator who has a good working relationship with the Member Society. The person initially appointed to the AROS role subsequently resigned.

Advances in HF direction finding (eg KiwiSDR) have placed in the hands of national societies the means to identify the country and city of origin of deliberate QRM on the HF bands. TDOA direction-finding units offer a similar capability at VHF, but these devices are mostly operated by national administrations and so again there will need to be a relationship between the Member Society and the administration to gain help.

It therefore leaves in doubt the real role of a Regional “AROS coordinator” and the EC proposes that the recommendation from Varna should be suppressed. C4 and C5 are asked to consider this proposal and if supported, to recommend it to the final plenary.