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| **Subject** | Future of the Contest Robot |
| **Society** | IARU Region 1 | **Country:** | N/A |
| **Committee:** | C5 | **Paper number:** | NS20\_C5\_12 |
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# Introduction

Since 2011 the IARU-R1 is working on a contest robot. It was not clear how this was done. If we want to bring this project to a good end we need a clearly defined project plan. The purpose of this paper is to define this project plan for the upcoming period.

# Background

This problem is already discussed during our interim meeting in Vienna. We came to this recommendation;

**VIE19\_C5\_Rec\_15: DL3MBG on behalf of DARC and OE1MCU on behalf of ÖVSV to take over the responsibility and financing for the Contest-Robot in line with the VHF-Handbook and the CWG under the guidance of C5. Furthermore, to share the Contest-Robot with all Member Societies when the Contest-Robot has accomplished an appropriate maturity.**

Unfortunately this arrangement is not working, our needs are not recognised fully by our sponsors, who are using the same software for their contest evaluation.

A full report was send to the EC and discussed in the virtual meeting from 2020. The need to have a software under our control was acknowledged and further action was delegated to a small working group. It was also decided to “open” the market an see if some Member Societies, who have own contest robot, could also being involved in the development of our own contest robot.

We make a requirement text about our needs and contacted all MS who have a contest robot about a possible cooperation as well to the actual company who is now actual running the software.

Several MS answered in a positive way on our appeal. The received recently the requirement text with also a cost estimation[[1]](#footnote-1). This was also sent to the software company who is now implementing the software. This took some time to achieve and unfortunately we have no answers from now.

# Key points and proposal

First of all we need an acknowledgement from our MS to get forward with this project

There is need of clear decisions and a project plan to finish the work.

We are now waiting for the responses of the different “players on the market”.

We will inform the VGC about the outcome of these responses, so that the VGC can take action, based on a project plan and a financial plan.

The appointment of a project manager is mostly recommended.

# Recommendation:

1. **The VGC agrees that we need a contest robot under our own control.**
2. **That the EC can decide about which with party we will work together to achieve this goal, taking in consideration the financial consequences.**
3. **The EC will confirm a project manager to manage this project on a non-payed base.**

# Financial Implications

Will be sent in September as extra information.

1. If wanted we can send this document [↑](#footnote-ref-1)