



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

2014 General Conference – Varna-Albena, Bulgaria

21 – 27 September 2014

Formal Notice and Call for Papers

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to take part in the 23rd IARU Region 1 Conference, to be held at Varna-Albena, Bulgaria, on the above dates. The opening Plenary will take place on Sunday 21 September 2014, and the closing Plenary on Thursday 25 September 2014. There will be a leisure day on Friday 26 September. Delegates will depart on Saturday 27 September 2014.

You can participate by sending a delegation to the Conference and/or by submitting papers for the Conference to consider.

If your society is unable to send a delegate, you may like to consider giving your **proxy** to another Member Society of Region 1, to represent your views at the Conference. See below for details of how to do this.

What to do if you plan to attend

Member Societies planning to attend the Conference must notify the organising society, the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs, of this. The BFRA must receive this information by **1 December 2013**, as we need to confirm numbers to the hotel.

Please complete and return the attached pro-forma ("Notice of Intention to Send a Delegation"). Send it by e-mail to secretary@iaru-r1.org and bfra_hq@hotmail.com

The Conference will take place in a high quality hotel with a purpose-built Conference Centre.

What to do if you do not plan to attend

Please complete and return the attached pro-forma ("Notice of Intention to Send a Delegation"), **even if you do not plan to attend the conference**.

Also, please consider whether you wish to appoint a proxy to represent you at the conference. For details on this, see later in this note.

Conference Format

The 2014 Conference will follow the format of the successful Davos Conference of 2005, the Cavtat Conference of 2008 and the Sun City Conference of 2011, to allow for a shorter Conference and reduced costs for delegates. As usual, there will be an opening ceremony followed by working group meetings on Sunday 21 September. Delegates should therefore plan to **arrive on Saturday 20 September**. Conference sessions will take place Sunday – Wednesday. The closing Gala Dinner will be on

the Thursday evening (25 September). There will be a leisure day on Friday 26 September.

Visas

Below is a note concerning visas. **Please read it carefully if you intend to attend the Conference.**

1. The citizens of the European Union, Norway, Switzerland and Iceland do not need a visa to enter Bulgaria. They may enter with a passport or ID.
2. The citizens of Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania may enter Bulgaria without a visa if they possess biometric passports.
3. The holders of a Schengen visa may enter Bulgaria.
4. The rest of Region 1 citizens need a visa to enter Bulgaria. To check whether you need a visa (that includes guests from Region 2 and Region 3), please visit http://www.mfa.government.bg/uploads/files/VisaRegime_for_foreigners_ordinary_passports_en.pdf

If there is no Bulgarian Embassy or Consulate in your country, you **MUST** apply to the Bulgarian Embassy or Consulate in the country nearest to you. If there is a Bulgarian Embassy or Consulate in your country, you will need to apply there for a visa (if you need one.) For visa details and application forms, visit <http://www.mfa.government.bg/en/pages/109/index.html>. To get official invitation from BFRA, please contact bfra_hq@hotmail.com

Conference Papers

You are invited to submit papers for consideration by the Conference. **Papers must be submitted by 1 May 2014 by e-mail to the Conference Secretary at secretary@iaru-r1.org.** Member Societies, the Executive Committee, the IARU Region 1 Specialised Bodies, the Administrative Council, the International Secretariat and other IARU Regions may submit papers.

Please ensure that papers reach the Secretary by this date. Late papers may not be accepted.

A guide note is attached on preparation of papers. **Please make sure that all papers are prepared in this format.** Papers will be available for download from the IARU Region 1 Web and the Conference Web from **1 June 2014**. Member Societies are responsible for distributing papers to their delegates.

The business of the Conference will be conducted in English.

Support for Attendance

A Member Society, which for financial reasons is unable to send a delegate to the General Conference, may apply for financial assistance from IARU Region 1 funds. The application for such assistance must reach the Executive Committee at least seven months before the scheduled date of the General Conference, **i.e. no later than 1 February 2014**, and must provide a detailed explanation of why such assis-

tance is being requested.

Applications for assistance received after this date shall only be considered in a case of emergency and at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The financial assistance (if any) given from IARU Region 1 funds shall be limited in each case to one single delegate from a Member Society. The amount shall depend on available financial resources and the total number of applications received and shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee. In general it will not be possible to cover the full costs of attendance for one delegate, and normally assistance may be given with hotel and living costs in Varna-Albena only.

Attendees

Delegates, observers and proxies are accredited provisionally until their credentials have been examined by the Credentials and Finance Committee and approved by the Plenary Meeting at the Conference. All requirements for accreditation as well as other requirements for the IARU Region 1 General Conference may be found in the IARU Region 1 Constitution and Bye-laws as can be found on the Region 1 web site at

http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=55&Itemid=70.

Partners and observers will be welcome. Member societies may wish to consider whether to extend an invitation to their national administrations to send an observer.

The Conference Secretary must receive applications from those wishing to be given observer status at least six weeks before the Conference start date.

Proxies

Member Societies may allocate their Proxy to another Member Society of IARU Region 1 together, if they wish, with instructions on how to vote on each paper. A form will be included in your Conference papers to enable you to do this. That form must be completed, and sent to the Head of Delegation of the society to which you are allocating your proxy. That Head of Delegation must bring the original of the form to the Conference.

Note that each member society may hold one proxy only.

Regional Conferences are a great way to meet and discuss the important issues facing amateur radio today. I hope you will decide to send a delegation. Remember, a "delegation" can be just one person!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "HP Blondeel" followed by a stylized monogram consisting of a vertical line, a horizontal line, and a diagonal line forming a square-like shape.

**Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T
President, IARU Region 1**