Doc. SRD-MG(21)030-REV1



Meeting #82

Web meeting, 12-14 April 2021

Date issued: 24 March 2020

Source: ESA-EUMETSAT-EUMETNET-CRAF

Subject: Concerns on the use of RR No5.340 band by Low Frequency MicroWave

Security Scanners (MWSSc)

Group membership required to read? (Y/N)

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Summary:

Last WG FM #98 considered an ETSI System Reference document (SRdoc) on Low Frequency MicroWave Security Scanners (MWSSc) that are assumed to use the whole frequency range from 3.6 GHz to 12.4 GHz (see document FM(21)040).

A number of comments and concerns were raised from Administrations as well as ESA and EUMETNET and WGFM did not create a new work item but tasked SRD/MG to review the SRdoc and to identify the gaps compared to the current regulatory framework as well as the possible challenges.

Consistently with the ESA and EUMETNET statement made during last WGFM meeting, the present document raises serious concerns about this SRDoc that is in contradiction with Radio Regulations since it is proposing new radio applications expected to transmit in the band 10.68-10.7 GHz that is an exclusive passive band covered by RR No. 5.340 (all emissions are prohibited).

It should be noted that this band is to be used by the high-priority Copernicus expansion mission CIMR of the European Union.

ESA, EUMETNET, CRAF and EUMETSAT are also highly concerned by the fact that ETSI seems to take as granted that compatibility studies can now be done in every passive bands, including those covered by 5.340.

This is in total opposition with the decision reached by ECC at its March 2020 meeting related to the UWB radiodetermination applications in the frequency range 116-260 GHz, making it clear that "The studies on this very specific type of application (in particular very low number of devices) shall not be understood as precedence for general allowance for studies in bands covered by ITU RR 5.340."

Proposal:

SRDMG is asked to identify as a major "gap compared to the current regulatory framework" the fact that these Low Frequency MicroWave Security Scanners (MWSSc) are proposed to intentionally transmit in the band 10.68-10.7 GHz, in violation of the Radio Regulations since it is an exclusive passive band covered by RR 5.340 (all emissions are prohibited).

Beside any other comment that would be necessary, SRD-MG should confirm to WGFM that the band 10.68 - 10.7 GHz cannot be used by MWSSc.

Background:

Document ECC(20)055 (Minutes of the March 2020 ECC meeting).

Document FM(21)050 (Minutes of the January 2021 WGFM meeting)