

CGMS-XXIX USA-WP-25
Prepared by USA
Agenda Item: I.1
To be discussed in WG I

ITU COST RECOVERY FOR SATELLITE NETWORK FILING

This document is the USA response to Action 28.20.

ITU COST RECOVERY FOR SATELLITE NETWORK FILING

1 Introduction

The USA provided response for notification of the benefits of meteorological satellites in seeking an exemption from costing recovery for satellite network filings of these systems.

It is stated that the use of meteorological satellites is strictly non-profit, non-commercial and supports safety of life services. Additionally, meteorological satellites constitute a small number (less than 1%) of the total ITU satellite network filings.

2. US Response and Recommendations

Action 28.20: NOAA to inform CGMS Members on the response of ITU regarding NOAA's request to exempt meteorological satellites from ITU cost recovery for satellite network filing.

The US has not sent such a request to the ITU for the following reasons:

1. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and Department of State (DoS) would need to clear on such request. Nations are generally granted one exemption per year; since the filing fee is related to the cost of the satellite series, requests for these exemptions are usually used for the more expensive satellites.
2. The cost of network filing is a relatively small cost when considered as part of the overall cost of a satellite program. It would be difficult for the USA to argue for an exemption based on "hardship". The only known service that has an exemption is the Amateur Satellite where there is clearly a financial consideration.
3. The "door of opportunity" may have closed to the possibility of exemption from cost recovery considered by the ITU, i.e., *fait accompli*.

The USA is open to continued discussion of this issue at the next CGMS if the other participants would like to pursue further.