



ECC Decision (16)03

ECC Decision on the withdrawal of ERC Decision (99)17
(on the Universal Shipborne Automatic Identification
System (AIS) channels in the maritime VHF band)

Approved 18 November 2016

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1 INTRODUCTION

In 2016, the ERC Decision of 1 June 1999 on the Universal Shipborne Automatic Identification System (AIS) channels in the maritime VHF band was reviewed and it was concluded that this Decision (ERC Decision (99)17) was suitable for withdrawal and no longer needed.

2 BACKGROUND

AIS use the globally allocated maritime mobile service channels 87 and 88. It uses the high side of the duplex from two VHF radio channels (87B) and (88B): channel A 161.975 MHz (87B) and channel B 162.025 MHz (88B). At WRC-97, the original channels 87 and 88 were split into four single frequency channels. The "high" frequencies were identified for AIS, with the remaining "low" single frequencies now designated as channels 87 and 88 (i.e. now no longer two frequency, duplex channels, but single frequency simplex channels).

ERC/DEC/(99)17 supported the implementation of these common AIS channels throughout the CEPT following the WRC-97, and it is considered that this implementation process has been completed.

Report ITU-R M.2231-1 describes in full the use of Appendix 18 to the ITU Radio Regulations for the maritime mobile service. Hence, an ERC Decision is not needed any longer.

3 REQUIREMENT FOR AN ECC DECISION

The ECC Rules of Procedure foresee that the withdrawal of a Decision is subject to the same procedure as the development and adoption of a new Decision.

ECC DECISION OF 18 NOVEMBER 2016 ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF ERC/DEC/(99)17 (ON THE UNIVERSAL SHIPBORNE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS) CHANNELS IN THE MARITIME VHF BAND)

“The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering

- a) that ITU-R has adopted Recommendation ITU-R M.1371 on the technical characteristics for a Universal Shipborne Automatic Identification System using Time Division Multiple Access in the VHF Maritime Mobile Band;
- b) that Report ITU-R M.2231-1, approved by the ITU-R in 2014, describes in full the use of Appendix 18 to the Radio Regulations for the maritime mobile service;
- c) that the existing ERC/DEC/(99)17 is no longer required and suitable at CEPT level.

DECIDES

1. to withdraw the ERC/DEC/(99)17 of 1 June 1999 on the Universal Shipborne Automatic Identification System (AIS) channels in the maritime VHF band;
2. that this ECC Decision enters into force on 18 November 2016.”