Resolution 23-4

EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING 18.1-18.3 GHz METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE SERVICE ALLOCATION

The SFCG

CONSIDERING

a) that sensors onboard Geostationary Meteorological Satellites (Metsats) are an increasingly important tool for monitoring the Earth and its environment;

b) that Metsat operators are developing plans for the third generation of geostationary Metsats that will operate sensors with higher spatial and temporal resolution, including microwave sensors, producing much higher data rates than present geostationary Metsat sensors;

c) that this vital meteorological and environmental data collected by such new sensors will likely require bandwidths exceeding 200 MHz for transmission to a very limited number of CDA ground stations;

d) that the ITU Radio Regulations allocate, via RR **5.519**, the band 18.1-18.3 GHz to Metsats in geostationary orbits on a primary basis with PFD limits as listed in Table 21-4 of the RR;

e) that the present allocation is insufficient to allow for transmission of such anticipated future higher data rates and an expansion by 100 MHz will be required;

f) that to allow for timely implementation of the third generation Metsats, it will be necessary to decide on radio frequency plans by 2007 at the latest;

g) that WRC-03 placed on the agenda for WRC-07 consideration of expanding the current Meteorological Satellite Service allocation in FN 5.519 by 100 MHz (agenda item 1.2);

RESOLVES

that space agencies planning and operating geostationary Metsats conduct the necessary technical compatibility studies concerning all affected services and submit the results to ITU-R;

INVITES

Members planning third generation geostationary Metsat systems to actively participate in ITU-R sharing and compatibility studies between the meteorological satellite service and the fixed, mobile and fixed satellite services and in the relevant WRC preparatory processes with an objective to gaining approval at WRC-07 for expansion of the Meteorological Satellite Service allocation given in FN 5.519 by 100 MHz.