

CYPRUS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



CARES EMERGENCY OPERATING PROCEDURE

As Adopted by all IARU Regions

1. General

Amateur radio is one of the radio communication services set up by the International Telecommunication Union. In all these services emergency traffic has absolute priority over their normal operation.

Emergency operation requires an efficient forwarding of traffic. Efficiency of communication is not self-evident in amateur radio so each operator has to think about how he should react in case of emergency and should obtain as much preparedness as possible.

2. Measures in case of emergency

- if you hear the word "emergency", "welfare-traffic" or the abbreviation QUF – stop transmitting and listen.
- if you receive such traffic - stand by, observe it and write down all you hear.
- don't leave the frequency before you are sure that you cannot help and somebody is helping.
- don't transmit before you are sure that you can help.
- follow the instructions the traffic controlling station (if there is one) is giving you. The traffic is controlled by the station in emergency or the station appointed by the station in emergency.
- keep messages short - don't transmit useless information.
- in case of interference by other stations, the traffic controlling station or other stations appointed by it should transmit the word "emergency", "welfare-traffic", "stop sending" or the abbreviation QUF to the interfering station.

Gather information by following system

When? (date, time, frequency)

Where? (emergency place)

What? (what happened, what is to be done)

How? (how can be helped)

Who? (who is able to help)

3. Confine to communication

Amateur radio is perhaps the last communication possibility in case of emergency. Confine to it. Leave advice and planning of aid to persons and institutions in charge of emergency relief.

4. Message form

Establish contact with persons and organizations involved in the emergency or the relief actions and help them by relaying their traffic.

Communication is most efficient if a message reaches its destination written down exactly as it left the originator. So any originator should write down his message (telegram style) with a sufficient address and normally a sufficient signature.

Example:

Doctor Brown, River City (address)
Refer to your message November 16 1230 utc stop
How many units of xyz do you need? (text)
Nicosia Red Cross (signature)

5. (1) Preamble

The station which puts the message into the amateur radio network composes the preamble.

The preamble contains the following information in the following order.

number	The number is a serial number assigned to the message
precedence	The precedence may be: E:- Emergency P:- Priority R:- Routine
station of origin	Station of origin is the call of the station which first sent the message over the air.
word count	Total number of words in the message to be transmitted.
place of origin	Place of origin is the place (city, town, village, ship) from where the originator sends his message.
filing time	Filing time and filing date is the time when the message was originated in utc.
filing date	

Example:

nr 32 p XY1ZZ 27 xyz avenue 2215 jan 14 =
red cross nicosia
please send us information about following persons stop
andreas georgiou, athens street 4 stop
marios georgiou and family, egypt avenue 16 stop
eva black makariou street 28 =
information bureau for the nicosia district disaster +

(2) Quick preamble

For traffic in vhf-fm nets where communication is easier you may use a shorter type of preamble.

number	The number is a serial number assigned to the message.
station or origin	Station of origin is the call of the station which first sent the message over the air.
filing time	Filing time is the time when the message is originated.

Example

Nr 4 XY1ZZ 1832 =
larnaca hospital =
two more ambulances needed at harbour street =

6. Operation Example Phone

- YX1AA this is XY1ZZ, I have a message, **over**
- this is YX1AA, I am ready, **over**
- **message begins,**
number four
x-ray yankee one zulu zulu
one eight three two,
address hospital lake city
text,
two more ambulances needed at harbour street,
message ends, over
- repeat word after more, **over**
- more ambulances **over**
- received number four YX1AA **out**
- ok XY1AA **out**

7. Operation example cw

- YX1AA de XY1ZZ **qtc k**
- de YX1AA **qrv k**
- -.-.- Nr 32 p XY1AA 24 poor town 2215 Jan 14 -...-
- red cross lake city -...-
- please send us information -...-
- information bureau for river district disaster .-.-.
- wa please **k**
- please send **k**
- de YX1AA **qsl 32 sk**
- de XY1ZZ **ok sk**

- message begins -.-.-
- separation sign -...-
- message ends .-.-.

8. Phonetic Alphabet

To avoid confusion use only the following phonetic alphabet:

alpha	india	quebec	yankee
bravo	Juliet	romeo	zulu
charlie	kilo	sierra	
delta	lima	tango	
echo	mike	uniform	
foxtrot	November	victor	
golf	oscar	whiskey	
hotel	papa	x-ray	

9. Special cw/rtty abbreviations for emergency traffic

QOD can you communicate with me in ...

I can communicate with you in....

0 - Dutch	5 - Italian
1 - English	6 - Japanese
2 - French	7 - Norwegian
3 - German	8 - Russian
4 - Greek	9 - Spanish

QTV Shall I stand guard for you on the frequency ... kHz (from ... to ... hrs)?

Stand guard for me on the frequency ... kHz (from ... to... hrs)

QTX Will you keep your station open for further communication with me until further notice (or until ... hrs)?

I will keep my station open for further communication with you until further notice (or until....hrs)

QUA Have you news of ...?

Here is news of ...

QUF Have you received the distress (emergency) signal sent by ...?

I have received the distress (emergency) signal sent by

- QUM** May I resume normal working?
 You may resume normal working.
- QRR** Are you ready for automatic operation?
 I am ready for automatic operation.

10. What to do afterwards

Do not forget to inform CARS about your emergency - or welfare traffic handling.

Reference:

- IARU HF International Emergency Operating Procedure by DJ6TJ (30.06.98)

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