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| **U.S. Radiocommunications Sector**  **Fact Sheet** | |
| **Working Party:** ITU-R WP-5B | **Document No:** USWP5B36-XX |
| **Ref:** Annex 1.5 to Document 5B/435-E | **Date:** 19 February 2026 |
| **Document Title:** **WORKING DOCUMENT TOWARDS A HANDBOOK ITU-R M. [HDBK\_STATUS.SPECTRUM.RPAS\_DAA]** - Handbook on status of availability of spectrum for detect-and-avoid radars [onboard] remotely piloted aircraft. | |
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| **Purpose/Objective:** This Handbook was intended as a replacement for Report ITU-R M.2204‑0 (11/2010) “Characteristics and spectrum considerations for sense and avoid systems used on unmanned aircraft systems”. Earlier efforts were made to update to Report ITU-R M.2204-0; however, it was decided that a Handbook would be a more appropriate location to catalog the information currently found in Report ITU-R M.2204-0. Unfortunately, there is no consensus on appropriate frequency bands for Detect and Avoid (DAA) radar, characteristics for DAA, nor deployment of DAA in support of unmanned aircraft systems (onboard, ground-based, or both). | |
| **Abstract:** This contribution continues the US position in Document 5B/421 that, since work on the new ITU-R Handbook has been underway for more than 10 years without consensus, and that many administrations believe that ICAO should decide which frequency bands are best for unmanned aircraft DAA, that further work in ITU-R Working Party 5B on this Handbook be discontinued until such time as ICAO provides guidance on which bands they would like to use for onboard and ground based DAA systems. | |

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| **Radiocommunication Study Groups** |  |
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| Source: Document 5B/435-E Annex 1.5  Subject: Working Document Towards a Handbook ITU-R M.[HDBK\_Status.Spectrum.RPAS\_DAA] | Document 5B/XXX-E |
| 19 February 2026 |
| English only |
| United States of America | |
| WORKING DOCUMENT TOWARDS A HANDBOOK ITU-R M. [HDBK\_STATUS.SPECTRUM.RPAS\_DAA] | |
| Handbook on status of availability of spectrum for  detect-and-avoid radars [onboard] remotely piloted aircraft | |

**Introduction**

This Handbook was intended as a replacement for Report ITU-R M.2204-0 (11/2010) “Characteristics and spectrum considerations for sense and avoid systems used on unmanned aircraft systems”. Earlier efforts were made to update to Report ITU-R M.2204-0, however, it was decided that a Handbook would be a more appropriate location to catalog the information currently found in the report. This new ITU-R Handbook was intended to provide information on appropriate frequency bands for Detect and Avoid (DAA) radar systems onboard unmanned aircraft or for ground-based DAA radar systems to support unmanned aircraft operations.

At the November 2025 WP-5B meeting, the United States proposed that, due to the lack of consensus on a way forward, we should discontinue work on this Handbook and leave the debate over which bands are best suited for DAA systems to ICAO. After discussions at the meeting, it was decided to continue seeking additional comments from Administrations for the next two WP-5B meetings to see if Administrations could reach a consensus on a way forward.

**Proposal**

The United States believes that there is a general consensus that ICAO should decide which of the frequency bands are best suited for aviation use. Therefore, the United States maintains its position that we should discontinue work on this Handbook and leave the debate over which bands are best suited for DAA systems to ICAO.