



## Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Administrative Circular  
**CA/267**

10 May 2023

**To Administrations of Member States of the ITU and Radiocommunication Sector Members**

Subject: **Summary of conclusions of the thirtieth Radiocommunication Advisory Group meeting**

The Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) met for the thirtieth time from 1 to 3 May 2023.

The summary of conclusions of the meeting is contained in the attachment to this letter.

Additional information about this meeting may be found on the RAG website at [www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/RAG](http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/RAG).

Mario Maniewicz  
Director

Attachment: 1

ATTACHMENT

**SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS OF THE  
THIRTIETH RADIOCOMMUNICATION ADVISORY GROUP MEETING**

(Source: Doc. [RAG/TEMP/9\(Rev.3\)](#))

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
1	Opening remarks	<p>The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the RAG, Mr. Daniel Obam (Kenya).</p> <p>In his opening remarks, the Chairman of the RAG appreciated the participation of the Director of the Telecommunications Standardization Sector, he mentioned it was his last RAG meeting after 10 years chairing the group.</p> <p>The TSB Director welcomed the participants and thanked the meeting for the invitation to address the RAG. He thanked the RAG for the collaboration with the ITU-T Sector and invited the ITU-R to participate in the activities of the ITU-T.</p> <p>The BR Director extended a warm welcome to all participants, including to those who were joining remotely. He also thanked and expressed his appreciation to Mr Daniel Obam, who chaired the RAG for two and a half terms, as his tenure will end and the end of the current study period. The Director recalled that this RAG meeting is the last before the upcoming World Radiocommunication Conference and recognized with appreciation the work of the ITU-R Study Groups, Working Parties, Task Group and the CPM. Finally, he also appreciated the work of the two RAG Correspondence Groups, noting that their reports will be considered during this RAG meeting.</p> <p>The Deputy Secretary-General in his first time addressing the RAG, extended the greetings and well wishes of the Secretary-General who was unable to attend the meeting. He informed the RAG that the new ITU leadership is keen to raise the ITU's performance – to make ITU more transparent, more accountable to its members, as well as to increase our expertise and tackle problems with an evidence-based approach. The DSG shared his view that while Gender mainstreaming in ITU is yielding positive results, more work needs to be done to increase women's participation in our activities and events. In particular, he noted that while women's participation at PP 22 was at 33 per cent, at the just concluded 2nd Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM-23), women's participation was only 23 per cent. We count on the support of all our members to increase women's participation in the work of the ITU. The DSG also noted that, since the adoption of PP Resolution 70 in 1998, subsequent WTDCs and WTSAs have adopted and updated their sectoral Gender Resolutions that were tailored to meet their specific needs. Since then, ITU has seen that the both the ITU-D and ITU-T have outpaced the ITU-R in increasing the participation of women in the work of their sector. The ITU leadership is therefore highly appreciative of the work being carried out in the RAG toward the development of a Draft Resolution on Gender that will be considered for adoption by RA-23. He concluded by extending his best wishes to the RAG for a successful meeting.</p>
2	Approval of the agenda <a href="#">ADM/5R2</a>	The draft agenda in Doc. RAG/ADM/5(Rev.2) was adopted without changes under the conditions that the RAG functions under the strict application of Article 11 A of the Convention.

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
3	Report to the 30 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group <a href="#">58R1</a>	RAG noted the introduction of the Director's Report to the meeting as contained in RAG/58(Rev.1).
4	PP-22 related results <a href="#">58R1</a> (§2.1)	The RAG took note of the report and of the invitation from Brazil for interested administrations to submit contributions to the 2023 Radiocommunication Assembly for addressing <i>resolves 1</i> of Resolution 219 (Bucharest, 2022).
5	Council-23 related Issues <a href="#">58R1</a> (§2.2)	<p>The RAG took note of the information from the Director of the BR about the issues related to the processing of satellite filings, including the difficulty to treat filings with thousands of satellites without necessary time required to further developing BR software tools. RAG agreed that the BR lacks sufficient dedicated resources needed to continually update and modernize BR software applications used for satellite and terrestrial filings. The RAG also discussed the outcome from Council 2022 with regard to the review of Cost Recovery Methodology and the potential creation of a fund for software development by the Bureau.</p> <p>The RAG advised the Director to request Council 2023 to reactivate the Expert Group addressing Council Decision 482 (modified 2021) so that it can commence its work towards making a recommendation to Council 2024 on the increased costs incurred by the BR from those filings whose size and/or complexity, as well as resubmission of the same system, are such that the current methodology does not accurately capture their costs.</p>

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
6	<p>Implementation of RA-19 Decisions</p> <p>Consideration of the Report of the RAG CG 2 on Possible Revisions of Resolutions ITU-R 1-8 and 15-6 <a href="#">59, 63<sup>1</sup></a></p>	<p>RAG noted the Report of the Chairman of RAG Correspondence Group 2 (CG-2) and considered the output of the CG on the revision of Resolution 1-8 and the related portions of Doc. 63. Based on those considerations, RAG reconciled most differences proposed by the members of the group.</p> <p>RAG agreed that the Report of the RAG to the RA-23 will include the report of the work of CG-2 and the proposed revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-8 for further consideration by the Member States when preparing contributions for the Radiocommunications Assembly.</p> <p>RAG expressed its appreciation to the Chairman of CG-2 and the members of the correspondence group for their work.</p>
7	<p>Implementation of WRC-19 Decisions</p> <p>Consideration of the Report of CG 1 on the Implementation of WRC-19 Gender Declaration and Drafting of a Possible RA-23 Gender Resolution <a href="#">60</a></p>	<p>RAG considered and noted the report of the Correspondence Group 1 (CG-1) on the implementation of the WRC-19 Gender Declaration. The Chair of RAG CG-1 reported that, in carrying out its work, CG-1 took into account the update to PP-22 Resolution 70 and developed a draft Resolution that is considered by the correspondence group to be unique from that resolution and specific to the work of the ITU-R. The RAG noted that enhancing the participation of women in the work of the ITU-R is a matter of great importance. At the same time, some delegations participating in the RAG meeting believe that the RA-23 does not need to adopt a separate Resolution on Gender mainstreaming due to the adoption of Resolution 70 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022). Other delegations believed that it is important for the ITU-R to have its own Gender Resolution to accelerate progress in this area.</p> <p>It was noted that ITU-T and ITU-D have their own Resolutions approved before the amendment of Resolution 70 by PP-22. RAG agreed that the Report of the RAG to the RA-23 will include the report of the work of CG-1 along with the various views expressed by the delegations participating in the RAG meeting and indicating, among other things, that there was no consensus at RAG on the need for a specific ITU-R Resolution on the matter.</p> <p>RAG expressed its appreciation to the Chair of CG-1 and the members of the correspondence group for their work.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Only those aspects related to the work of the RAG CG-2

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
8	RA/WRC-23 preparation <a href="#">58R1</a> (§5), <a href="#">68</a>	<p>RAG noted with appreciation the report on the preparations for WRC-23.</p> <p>The RAG took note of the comments based on the report by the Bureau on the preparations for the WRC-23. The UAE and the Bureau were invited to take note of the concerns expressed regarding the link between the registration and the hotel reservation.</p> <p>Regarding the proposal contained in Document 68, the RAG noted the proposal and reconfirmed that WRC-23 and RA-23 will be an in-person conference and that, due to the risks it would pose to the successful conduct of the conference, remote participation should not be supported in the WRC-23 or RA-23. Those who wish may follow the streaming of the meetings with interpretation online (including the working groups of the plenary).</p>
9	Study Group Activities <a href="#">58R1Add1</a>	<p>RAG noted the report of the ITU-R Study Groups Department found in Document RAG/58(Rev.1)(Add.1)</p> <p>The RAG requested the BR to prepare material to support the work of the Budget Committee of WRC-23 for estimating the budget required for the implementation of WRC-23 decisions and for the preparatory work for future agenda items.</p> <p>RAG discussed the potential risk of the international framework lagging behind the fast developments in the industry and no longer being able to meet the expectations of membership.</p> <p>RAG advised the Director to consider how discussions on this matter can be pursued further.</p>

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
10	Inter-Sectoral Activities <a href="#">56</a> , <a href="#">57</a>	<p>RAG took note of the presentation of LS from TSAG (Doc. 56) on the work underway in the ITU-T on the new edition of Supplement 4 to ITU-T A-series Recommendations "Guidelines for remote participation".</p> <p>RAG considered the presentation of LS from TSAG (Doc. 57) on the work underway in the ITU-T on TSAG on work related to unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). The RAG has significant concern about the work being undertaken within the ITU-T on UAS because the matters related to the use of frequencies for UAS, which are being addressed under Agenda item 1.8 of the WRC-23, the implementation of RR No. 4.10 and the overall requirements for safety of life/flight are not yet resolved in the ITU-R. The RAG also notes that, in addition to the related item in WRC-23, other work on UAS is also being considered by ITU-R Working Parties consistent with their mandates and in coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), as appropriate. Therefore, RAG requests through TSAG that ITU-T refrain from doing any work on UAS at least until these issues are resolved within ITU-R.</p> <p>As a general matter, RAG is very concerned about the growing trend in ITU-T, particularly its Study Groups 5, 13 and 20, of addressing matters that are uniquely within the mandates of ITU-R Study Groups, such as work on High Altitude Platform Stations and satellite technologies, has been increasing. RAG appreciates and encourages the use of Liaison Statements between the relevant groups of the ITU-T and ITU-R to improve coordination of their activities. However, the RAG stresses that both the ITU-T and ITU-R should avoid initiating any work that is clearly within the mandate of the other sector. In that context, recognizing that contributions may be received that are outside of the mandate of a sector, RAG encourages the leadership of the group receiving such contributions to inform the submitting party that this topic is not within their terms of reference and, as appropriate, submit the contribution to the appropriate group.</p> <p>The RAG called upon the Administrations and the Intersectoral coordination group to assist in avoiding overlap between the work of the different sectors, in adherence to Decision 5 of the Plenipotentiary Conference.</p> <p>In light of the above, RAG approved the Liaison Statement that is presented in Annex 1.</p> <p>RAG noted with thanks the report of the Chairman of the Inter-Sector Coordination Group on the work of that group.</p>

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
11	<p>Draft Rolling Operational Plans for 2024-2027</p> <p><a href="#">61</a></p>	<p>RAG noted the explanation from the General Secretariat that due to the change of structure of the Strategic Plan adopted by PP-22, which was based on the OneITU approach, and subsequent presentation of the operational plan without dedicated sections for each ITU Sector/Bureau and the General Secretariat.</p> <p>RAG noted that OneITU does not override the basic text of the Union requesting the development of operational plans for every ITU Sector.</p> <p>RAG also noted that Table 2 in Document 61 where the budget distribution between the GS and the ITU-R for Thematic Priority 1 “Spectrum &amp; Orbit” does not have a clear explanation.</p> <p>RAG therefore was not able to review the operational plan for the ITU-R Sector/Bureau and carry out its mandate under CV 160CA to review the implementation of the operational plan and advise the BR Director on any necessary corrective measures.</p> <p>RAG took note of the document, and advised that at the next RAG meeting, a separate document be presented to the RAG that explains the aspects of the ITU-R Sector/Bureau in the combined operational plan.</p> <p>RAG also noted that if there are difficulties with the presentation or implementation of the operational plan, Member States might want to review the structure of Resolution 71 at the next PP.</p>
12	<p>BR information System</p> <p><a href="#">58R1</a>(§7), <a href="#">66</a>, <a href="#">67</a></p>	<p>RAG expressed its appreciation for the work that has been done by the BR in the development of information systems for both terrestrial and space services.</p> <p>RAG further acknowledged and expressed its gratitude to the administration of Japan for the significant and sustained contributions it has made since 2017 towards the implementation of Resolution 908. RAG also expressed its appreciation for their continued financial and staff support and their indication to continue the voluntary contribution.</p> <p>Regarding the input from China, RAG took note of it and also acknowledged China's offer to assist the bureau, at an appropriate time, in the development of the software for NGSO systems based on the assessment of the Bureau on the scope of assistance to be provided.</p> <p>Other Administrations are invited to join and support the development of the BR information systems for both terrestrial and space services.</p>

Agenda Item	Subject / Document(s)	Conclusions
13	Outreach <a href="#">58R1</a> (§8)	<p>RAG noted the report of the Director on the BR outreach activities and noted the interest it garnered.</p> <p>RAG acknowledges and appreciates the support received from Member States and Sector Members and encourages additional administrations and the private sector to contribute to future events. RAG also noted the encouragement from one administration that future World Radiocommunication Seminars be held at the traditional time – end of November beginning of December. Additionally, RAG noted the encouragement that the seminars organized by the BR address more topics in spectrum management.</p>
14	Date of next meeting	March-April 2024.
15	Any other business <a href="#">62</a> , <a href="#">63</a> , <a href="#">64</a> , <a href="#">65</a>	<p>RAG noted the documents, and the Russian delegation may wish to submit them to the Radio Assembly.</p> <p>RAG expressed its appreciation to the Chairman, Daniel Obam, on the anniversary of his 10<sup>th</sup> year as the Chairman of the RAG.</p>

Annex 1: Reply Liaison Statement to TSAG.

## ANNEX 1

### REPLY LIAISON STATEMENT TO TSAG

## Radiocommunication Study Groups



---

**Document RAG/TEMP/11  
3 May 2023  
English only**

### Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG)

#### REPLY LIAISON STATEMENT TO TSAG

#### **WORK RELATED TO UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS) AND OTHER RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS**

The Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) would like to thank the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) for its Liaison Statement on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), received as [RAG/57](#)<sup>2</sup>.

RAG discussed the LS at its 30<sup>th</sup> meeting (1-3 May 2023) and notes that TSAG is apparently performing several activities addressing the UAS and in particular drones, as a subset. In the view of RAG, UAS (including drones) is a radiocommunication related issue and hence is in the main purview of ITU-R. The operation of such systems is utmost safety related and needs a prior assessment of potential interference situations in the relevant ITU-R Study Groups.

The RAG wishes to inform TSAG that the use of frequencies for UAS, are being addressed within ITU-R, for example under Agenda item 1.8 of the WRC-23. The implementation of RR No. 4.10 and the overall requirements for safety of life/flight have to be resolved in the ITU-R. The RAG also notes that, in addition to the related item in WRC-23, other work on UAS is also being considered by ITU-R Working Parties consistent with their mandates and in coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), as appropriate. Therefore, RAG requests through TSAG that ITU-T refrain from doing any work on UAS at least until these issues are resolved within ITU-R.

RAG would like to emphasize, that any topic relating to the use of radio frequencies, and which could bring possible inconsistencies to the use of the radio spectrum should be dealt with in ITU-R, or in any case with appropriate liaison with ITU-R and not independently by ITU-T. This understanding is also clearly stated in Article 14(2) of the [ITU Convention](#) (CV 193), which states:

---

<sup>2</sup> Also as [4A/868](#), [4C/402](#), 5B/735

*“Technical or operating questions specifically related to radiocommunication as enumerated in Nos. 151 to 154 of this Convention shall be within the purview of the Radiocommunication Sector.”*

Furthermore, and as a general matter, RAG would like to note that a similar consideration – that the main responsibility for the addressed Services lies within ITU-R – is to be applied for several other LS received from ITU-T Study Groups, e.g.:

- [5D/1553](#) (LS from ITU-T SG 13 on "Fixed, mobile and satellite convergence - Requirements of supporting airborne broadband communication in IMT-2020 networks and beyond");
- [4/73](#), [5/117](#) (LS from ITU-T SG 13 regarding the “use cases of satellite communications in developing countries”).

RAG appreciates and encourages the use of Liaison Statements between the ITU-T and ITU-R to improve coordination of their activities, and to avoid initiating any work or considering any contributions that are within the mandate of the other sector. In case of overlapping responsibility, prior consultation would be needed. Recognizing that contributions may be received that are outside its mandate, RAG invites TSAG to encourage the leadership of the group receiving such contributions to inform the submitting party that this topic is not within their terms of reference and, as appropriate, submit the contribution to the appropriate group.

RAG is looking forward to continuing collaboration with TSAG on a proper implementation of the appropriate liaison between ITU-R and ITU-T on issues dealing with Radiocommunication Services.

**Status:** For action

**Contact:** Paul Najarian (USA)

**E-mail:** najarianpb@state.gov

---