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| **Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-19)Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 21-25 October 2019** |  |
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| **PLENARY MEETING** | **Document RA19/PLEN/78-E** |
| **30 October 2019** |
| **Original: English** |
| SUMMARY REPORT OF THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE RADIOCOMMUNICATION ASSEMBLY |
| Monday, 21 October 2019, at 1000 hours |
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|  |  | **Documents** |
| **1** | Opening of the Assembly by the Dean of the Heads of Delegation and approval of the agendaThe Secretary-General of the ITU, Mr Houlin Zhao, invitedDr El Sayed Azzouz (Egypt), as Dean of the Heads of Delegation, to chair the meeting. Dr Azzouz welcomed all participants to the meeting and officially declared the Radiocommunication Assembly 2019 (RA-19) opened.The proposed Agenda was approved without change. | [ADM/2](https://www.itu.int/md/R19-RA19-ADM-0002/en) |
| **2** | Appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Radiocommunication AssemblyThe Dean presented the proposal for Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Radiocommunication Assembly that was unanimously agreed by the Heads of Delegation meeting held earlier at 0900. The proposal was:Chairman Dr Sergey Pastukh (Russian Federation)Vice-Chairmen Mr Christopher Ross Hose (Australia) Mr Alexander Kühn (Germany) Mr Agostinho Linhares (Brazil) Mr Rizat Nurshabekov (Kazakhstan) Mr Wael Sayed (Egypt) Mr Peter John Zimri (South Africa)The proposal was approved by acclamation.The Dean invited the newly elected Chairman of the RA, Dr Sergey Pastukh, to take over the chairmanship of the meeting. |  |

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| **3** | Address by the Chairman of the Radiocommunication AssemblyThe address of the Chairman of the RA is provided in Annex 1. |  |
| **4** | Address by the Secretary-General of ITUThe address of the Secretary-General of ITU is provided in Annex 2. |  |
| **5** | Address by the Director of the Radiocommunication BureauThe address of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau is provided in Annex 3. |  |
| **6** | Closure of the sessionThe Chairman closed the opening ceremony at 1030 hours. |  |

 Sergey Pastukh

 Chairman, RA-19

ANNEX 1

Opening remarks of the Chairman of the 2019 Radiocommunication Assembly

Your Excellencies,
Secretary General of the ITU,
Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau,
Delegates,

It is a great honour to have been appointed as the Chairman of this Radio Assembly. For my Administration, the Russian Federation, and for the RCC, it is also a great honour as a recognition of the successful work that these organizations have been carrying out in order to make the ITU stronger, more knowledgeable and more significant in the world.

There is no doubt that the Radio Assembly is an important event in the life of the ITU and in the BR, as well as for all people in the world who are engaged in studies and working on development of radio in order to create new technologies, in terms of broadcasting, satellites, terrestrial services, radio location, radio navigation and radio astronomy. All of these different technologies will work towards enabling the sustainable development goals, and enable society to flourish.

The goal of this Assembly is to conclude the studies which began in 2015, four years ago. We will look at the outcome of the studies of the last four years. We have been working excellently since 2015 and have managed to move forward in developing new technologies and developing radio standards for the most modern technologies. We will be looking at five Recommendations at this Assembly, which have been presented by the Study Groups. We must bear in mind that some of the Recommendations are directly linked to the conference, which will be begin immediately after we conclude with our Assembly. We will also be thinking about the fact that some of the Recommendations have received a number of comments during their approval process as they were being considered in the study groups, and it is the Assembly itself which should take a good and balanced decision with regard to those Recommendations.

Of course, we will be considering at this Assembly important issues related to the methods of work of the Study Groups, including preparing for the WRC. In this regard, we must note that the RAG has already worked a great deal in this area, and we have the report of that group for our consideration.

I would also like to note that we are considering renewing the current Resolutions of the RA and we might possibly be adopting new Resolutions as well which are to do with modern technologies, and they have also been submitted to our Assembly.

Ladies and gentlemen, over the next five days, we will have to conclude upon the work which the Assembly normally tackles, and I very much hope and I would call upon everyone to work at this Assembly in a friendly way and in a way which is mutually respectful. At the same time, we will also be keeping to the traditions which we have in the BR and in the ITU‑R and we will be looking towards new innovations, which help our ITU to become stronger and of greater interest to the whole world.

I would like to conclude my introductory remarks by saying that I will be striving and making every possible effort so that the decisions that we take are balanced in nature and also so that in adopting them, we have looked at all of the views that are expressed at the Assembly.

I do believe that at our Assembly, we will be creating a stable foundation for the next four‑year cycle and also we will be making good preparations for the WRC. Thank you so much.

ANNEX 2

Remarks of the Secretary-General of the 2019 Radiocommunication Assembly

Excellencies,

Director of BR,

Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honour to address this Assembly. Allow me first to thank the Arab Republic of Egypt for its generous support and a strong and effective commitment to a successful Radiocommunication Assembly 2019.

The Radio Assembly is an important reminder of the sector's central role in the technological progress of telecommunications. With each new Assembly, issues become more diverse and complex. In turn technical solutions require greater innovation and skills. Consideration of regulatory and procedural issues, however, cannot be divulged from the technical studies. Your task, as defined in the ITU Constitution and Convention, is to provide the necessary technical basis for the work of Radiocommunication conferences and to respond to all requests from these conferences.

This week, you will consider and refine the working methods and procedures of the Radiocommunication Sector. You are asked to consider the structure and to review the working methods of ITU‑R Study Groups, the Coordination Committee for Vocabulary and the conferences preparatory meetings. And ensure that they follow efficient and effective practices commensurate with what is available. You will also be considering future work programs, recognizing the ever increasing, ever changing, global telecommunications environment in which we operate.

In responding to those directives, this Assembly, once again, demonstrates the central role that the Radiocommunication Sector plays in the technological progress of telecommunications. In approving Recommendations and in defining future activities, you are recognizing the rapid changes underway in the global telecommunication environment and reacting in a manner commensurate with its future needs.

I look forward to hearing the results of your important deliberations and I wish you a very successful Radio Assembly.

Thank you.

ANNEX 3

Remarks by the BR Director at the Opening Ceremony
of the 2019 Radiocommunication Assembly

Mr Chairman,
Excellencies,
Secretary-General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,

It is both a pleasure and an honour for me, in turn, to address the 2019 Radiocommunication Assembly.

First, let me thank the Egyptian Administration who welcomes us here in Sharm el-Sheikh. We have experienced a warm reception upon our arrival, and we are sure that we will all find that the facilities provided during the Assembly meet our expectations. The Radiocommunication Assembly marks the end of a study period. Huge amounts of work have been undertaken within the Study Groups, but there is still a bit more to be done. During the next five days, you will have the opportunity to consider a number of draft Recommendations developed by the Study Groups that still require your attention. I am confident that you will find the appropriate solutions to conclude your task successfully.

These new Recommendations will be key to set the stage for further development of radiocommunication systems.

The Radio Assembly also provides a suitable occasion to look ahead and define how we will conduct the next study period and the structure in which it shall be undertaken. The Assembly is also the moment to review the ITU‑R Resolutions that provide guidance to the activities of the Study Groups and the Conference Preparatory meetings. In your hands is the chance to increase the efficiency of the working methods of the Study Group, in the planning of the future work and in the agility of the processes as a whole.

Of particular importance, this RA will consider modifications to Resolution 2, which is an extremely important Resolution that governs the development of CPM reports to the World Radiocommunication Conferences. I have the utmost confidence that the work in this area will significantly enhance the ITU‑R's preparatory process for WRCs. Moreover, I believe this will result in an ever more useful CPM report that will improve the work of the WRC, as well as more efficient consensus building at the national, regional and interregional levels prior to the WRC.

You have the task of electing Chairman and Vice-Chairmen to the Study Groups, CPM and RAG, and in this respect your attention is drawn to the guidance provided in Resolution 208 recently approved in Dubai in 2018.

You have only five days to accomplish your task. The time available for each item of business is extremely short, and the time management of the meetings will have to be approached with the utmost care. As always, you can rely on the staff of the Radiocommunication Bureau. I am confident that what prevails at events such as this, together with the sound leadership of your Chairman, we can look forward to a rewarding Assembly and outcome on Friday.

I wanted to mention that one of the duties of the Radio Assembly is to pay tribute to the members of the ITU-R community that have significantly contributed to our work and have passed away since the RA-15. We will do this at the closing plenary to make sure we get all inputs from the relevant Member States. I wish you a very productive meeting. Thank you.

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