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| **21 April 2023** |
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| ATDI[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Dubai, UAE, RA-23 and WRC-23; Interventions of Remote Participants in WRC-23 and RA-23 meetings |

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| IntroductionWorld Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) will be held from 20 November to 15 December 2023 at the Dubai World Trade Centre, immediately following the Radiocommunication Assembly 2023 (RA-23). The invitations to the RA-23 (Administrative Circular [CA/264](https://www.itu.int/md/R00-CA-CIR-0264/en) 6 February 2023) and to the WRC-23 ([CA/265](https://www.itu.int/md/R00-CA-CIR-0265/en), 7 March 2023) specify the date and venue of RA-23 and WRC‑23, respectively. The circulars state that Plenary, Committee and Working Group sessions will be webcasted and recorded in the six languages: the sole item on remote-participation is the reference to webcast. The RA-23 and WRC-23 meetings are planned as physical meeting **without remote participation**.The plenary meetings of WRC-23 are definitely decision-making meetings. Document [RAG/INFO/9(Rev.1](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=R20-RAG-INF-0009)) ‘Planned measures for returning to physical ITU-R meetings with remote participation ‘provides information on the planned measures for physical ITU-R meetings with **remote participation**.’ Remote participation is not foreseen by the basic texts of ITU for the conferences; ATDI is aware on the issues of accreditation (CV 31), decision making (CS 169, 210) mechanisms and the exclusive role of administrations in interventions. Means of remote participation need to be considered, as it is a common post-pandemic recommendation a chairman with flu-like symptoms to be temporarily working from his hotel room.The ITU Council meeting is confirmed: 11 July till 21 July 2023, in Geneva, after the RAG meeting. Resolution 167 ([Rev. Bucharest, 2022](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/opb/conf/S-CONF-ACTF-2022-PDF-E.pdf)) (all highlights are added by the contact person) ‘Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, and the electronic means to advance the work of the Union’ is directly related to remote participation.2 Quotes from Resolution 167 ([Rev. Bucharest, 2022](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/opb/conf/S-CONF-ACTF-2022-PDF-E.pdf))*considering* *e* ‘that ITU has been gaining experience in the holding of fully virtual meetings and physical’*recognizing a)* ‘that remote participation has been producing significant benefits for the Union's membership, by reducing travel costs, and has facilitated wider participation, particularly from developing countries;*d)* that the budgetary difficulty that delegates from many countries, and in particular developing countries, have in travelling to participate in face-to-face ITU meetings;*e)* that the current status of interactive remote participation allows "remote intervention" rather than "remote participation", insofar as a remote participant cannot take part in decision making.*resolves* 1 that ITU should continue to develop its facilities and capabilities to organize and conduct fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation by electronic means for the meetings of the Union;’ *resolves* 4 that the Union further study the impact of remote participation on existing rules of procedure, especially regarding decision-making in different types of meetings;*resolves* 6 ‘to encourage remote participation of developing countries in meetings, workshops and training…’ instructs the Secretary-General, in consultation and collaboration with the Directors ofthe three Bureaux2 to involve the advisory groups in the further evaluation of the use of fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, including the legal aspects;3 to report to the Council on an ongoing basis on the developments made with regard to fully virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation, in order to assess progress in their use within ITU.3 ATDI ProposalRemote attendance for ITU membership needs to be facilitated at the WRC-23 and RA-23, in order to improve the equitable access of the ITU membership, including developing countries. Remote participation needs to be extended down to the Working Groups levels.  |

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1. **Contact:** Dr. Haim Mazar; [ATDI](https://atdi.com/); h.mazar@atdi-group.com [↑](#footnote-ref-1)