



General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 3 August 2020

Ref: **CL-20/33**
Contact: Ms Béatrice Pluchon
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To Member States of ITU

Subject: **Change of dates of WTSA-20 and Agenda of WRC-23**

Dear Madam/Sir,

Further to the consultation of Council Member States carried out by letter [DM-20/1009](#) of 26 June 2020 relating to the outcomes of discussions of the Virtual consultation of councillors and the results as conveyed in [DM-20/1011](#), I am pleased to inform you that the Council Member States have agreed on the following decisions:

Change of dates of WTSA-20

Council Member States have supported rescheduling the next WTSA from 23 February to 5 March 2021 after the Global Standards Symposium on 22 February 2021 and subject to the restoration of normal work and travel conditions in India and in other Member States by adopting the decision in [Annex 2](#).

Agenda for WRC-23

Council Member States have supported the agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) included in the resolution in [Annex 3](#) and adopted the resolution.

Pursuant to No. 46 of the ITU Convention regarding the dates of WTSA-20, and Nos 47 and 118 of the ITU Convention regarding the agenda of the WRC-23, all Member States of ITU are thus invited to inform the Secretary-General of their concurrence with the changes of dates of WTSA-20 and the agenda of WRC-23 as described above by e-mail to memberstates@itu.int **not later than 31 August 2020**. Please use the format in [Annex 1](#) to reply.

If your country has already responded to the first consultation of Council Member States, **your reply to the first consultation will also be considered as valid** with regard to this consultation of all Member States, **unless otherwise notified by the Councilor or the Administration Focal Point in writing by e-mail to memberstates@itu.int not later than 31 August 2020**, also using the format in [Annex 1](#).

Looking forward to receiving your reply.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Houlin Zhao
Secretary-General

Annexes: 3

[Annex 1](#) – Consultation on Change of dates of WTSA-20 and Agenda of WRC-23

[Annex 2](#) – Decision 608 (Modified 2020): Convening of the next World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-21)

[Annex 3](#) – Resolution: Agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23)

ANNEX 1

Consultation on: Change of dates of WTSA-20 and Agenda for WRC-23

Name of the ITU Member State:

Subject	Reference document No.	Proposal	Yes	No	Abstention
Change of dates of WTSA-20	C20/72	Approve the change of dates of WTSA-20 to 23 February-5 March 2021 by indicating agreement with the modified Decision 608 in Annex 2.			
World Radiocommunication Conference 2023	C20/69	Approve the agenda for WRC-23 by indicating agreement with Resolution 1399 in Annex 3.			

Focal points are kindly invited to send the reply by e-mail to memberstates@itu.int not later than 31 August 2020.

ANNEX 2

Reference: [Document C20/72](#)

DECISION 608 (MODIFIED 2020) (modified by correspondence)

Convening of the next World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-21)

The ITU Council,

noting

- a) that WTSA-20 was scheduled to be held in the last quarter of 2020 in accordance with Resolution 77 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) (Scheduling and Duration of future conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union (2019-2023));
- b) Council [Decision 608](#) adopted at the 2019 Session of Council which decided on the convening of the next WTSA in Hyderabad, India, from 16 to 27 November 2020,

noting further

- a) that [consultation](#) carried out by [Circular Letter No. 19/33](#) relating to the precise place and exact dates of the next WTSA received the agreement of the required majority of the Member States of ITU, in accordance with No. 47 of the ITU Convention;
- b) that in view of the COVID-19 pandemic resulting on restrictions on work and travel, the administration of India proposed to reschedule the next WTSA from 23 February to 5 March 2021 after the Global Standards Symposium on 22 February 2021 subject to the restoration of normal work and travel conditions in India and in other Member States,

decides

that, subject to the concurrence of the majority of the Member States of the Union, the next World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-21) will take place in Hyderabad, India, from 23 February to 5 March 2021 after the Global Standards Symposium on 22 February 2021 and subject to the restoration of normal work and travel conditions in India and in other Member States,

instructs the Secretary-General

to carry out a consultation with all Member States on the exact dates of WTSA-21.

ANNEX 3

Reference: [Document C20/69](#)

RESOLUTION 1399

(adopted by correspondence)

Agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23)

The ITU Council,

noting

that Resolution 811 of the World Radiocommunication Conference (Sharm el Sheikh, 2019):

a) resolved to recommend to the Council that a world radiocommunication conference be held in 2023 for a maximum period of four weeks;

b) recommended its agenda, and invited the Council to finalize the agenda and arrange for the convening of WRC-23 and to initiate as soon as possible the necessary consultation with Member States,

resolves

to convene a World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) in 2023, preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly, with the following agenda:

1 on the basis of proposals from administrations, taking account of the results of WRC-19 and the Report of the Conference Preparatory Meeting, and with due regard to the requirements of existing and future services in the frequency bands under consideration, to consider and take appropriate action in respect of the following items:

1.1 to consider, based on the results of the ITU-R studies, possible measures to address, in the frequency band 4 800-4 990 MHz, protection of stations of the aeronautical and maritime mobile services located in international airspace and waters from other stations located within national territories, and to review the pfd criteria in No. **5.441B** in accordance with Resolution **223 (Rev.WRC-19)**;

1.2 to consider identification of the frequency bands 3 300-3 400 MHz, 3 600-3 800 MHz, 6 425-7 025 MHz, 7 025-7 125 MHz and 10.0-10.5 GHz for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), including possible additional allocations to the mobile service on a primary basis, in accordance with Resolution **245 (WRC-19)**;

1.3 to consider primary allocation of the band 3 600-3 800 MHz to mobile service within Region 1 and take appropriate regulatory actions, in accordance with Resolution **246 (WRC-19)**;

1.4 to consider, in accordance with Resolution **247 (WRC-19)**, the use of high-altitude platform stations as IMT base stations (HIBS) in the mobile service in certain frequency bands below 2.7 GHz already identified for IMT, on a global or regional level;

1.5 to review the spectrum use and spectrum needs of existing services in the frequency band 470-960 MHz in Region 1 and consider possible regulatory actions in the frequency band 470-694 MHz in Region 1 on the basis of the review in accordance with Resolution **235 (WRC-15)**;

- 1.6 to consider, in accordance with Resolution **772 (WRC-19)**, regulatory provisions to facilitate radiocommunications for sub-orbital vehicles;
- 1.7 to consider a new aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service (AMS(R)S) allocation in accordance with Resolution **428 (WRC-19)** for both the Earth-to-space and space-to-Earth directions of aeronautical VHF communications in all or part of the frequency band 117.975-137 MHz, while preventing any undue constraints on existing VHF systems operating in the AM(R)S, the ARNS, and in adjacent frequency bands;
- 1.8 to consider, on the basis of ITU-R studies in accordance with Resolution **171 (WRC-19)**, appropriate regulatory actions, with a view to reviewing and, if necessary, revising Resolution **155 (Rev.WRC-19)** and No. **5.484B** to accommodate the use of fixed-satellite service (FSS) networks by control and non-payload communications of unmanned aircraft systems;
- 1.9 to review Appendix **27** of the Radio Regulations and consider appropriate regulatory actions and updates based on ITU-R studies, in order to accommodate digital technologies for commercial aviation safety-of-life applications in existing HF bands allocated to the aeronautical mobile (route) service and ensure coexistence of current HF systems alongside modernized HF systems, in accordance with Resolution **429 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.10 to conduct studies on spectrum needs, coexistence with radiocommunication services and regulatory measures for possible new allocations for the aeronautical mobile service for the use of non-safety aeronautical mobile applications, in accordance with Resolution **430 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.11 to consider possible regulatory actions to support the modernization of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System and the implementation of e-navigation, in accordance with Resolution **361 (Rev.WRC-19)**;
- 1.12 to conduct, and complete in time for WRC-23, studies for a possible new secondary allocation to the Earth exploration-satellite (active) service for spaceborne radar sounders within the range of frequencies around 45 MHz, taking into account the protection of incumbent services, including in adjacent bands, in accordance with Resolution **656 (Rev.WRC-19)**;
- 1.13 to consider a possible upgrade of the allocation of the frequency band 14.8-15.35 GHz to the space research service, in accordance with Resolution **661 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.14 to review and consider possible adjustments of the existing or possible new primary frequency allocations to EESS (passive) in the frequency range 231.5-252 GHz, to ensure alignment with more up-to-date remote-sensing observation requirements, in accordance with Resolution **662 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.15 to harmonize the use of the frequency band 12.75-13.25 GHz (Earth-to-space) by earth stations on aircraft and vessels communicating with geostationary space stations in the fixed-satellite service globally, in accordance with Resolution **172 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.16 to study and develop technical, operational and regulatory measures, as appropriate, to facilitate the use of the frequency bands 17.7-18.6 GHz and 18.8-19.3 GHz and 19.7-20.2 GHz (space-to-Earth) and 27.5-29.1 GHz and 29.5-30 GHz (Earth-to-space) by non-GSO FSS earth stations in motion, while ensuring due protection of existing services in those frequency bands, in accordance with Resolution **173 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.17 to determine and carry out, on the basis of the ITU-R studies in accordance with Resolution **773 (WRC-19)**, the appropriate regulatory actions for the provision of inter-satellite links in specific frequency bands, or portions thereof, by adding an inter-satellite service allocation where appropriate;
- 1.18 to consider studies relating to spectrum needs and potential new allocations to the mobile-satellite service for future development of narrowband mobile-satellite systems, in accordance with Resolution **248 (WRC-19)**;

1.19 to consider a new primary allocation to the fixed-satellite service in the space-to-Earth direction in the frequency band 17.3-17.7 GHz in Region 2, while protecting existing primary services in the band, in accordance with Resolution **174 (WRC-19)**;

2 to examine the revised ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations communicated by the Radiocommunication Assembly, in accordance with *further resolves* of Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-19)**, and to decide whether or not to update the corresponding references in the Radio Regulations, in accordance with the principles contained in *resolves* of that Resolution;

3 to consider such consequential changes and amendments to the Radio Regulations as may be necessitated by the decisions of the conference;

4 in accordance with Resolution **95 (Rev.WRC-19)**, to review the Resolutions and Recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision, replacement or abrogation;

5 to review, and take appropriate action on, the Report from the Radiocommunication Assembly submitted in accordance with Nos. 135 and 136 of the Convention;

6 to identify those items requiring urgent action by the radiocommunication study groups in preparation for the next world radiocommunication conference;

7 to consider possible changes, in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks, in accordance with Resolution **86 (Rev.WRC-07)**, in order to facilitate the rational, efficient and economical use of radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary-satellite orbit;

8 to consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-19)**;

9 to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention;

9.1 on the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-19:

- In accordance with Resolution **657 (Rev.WRC-19)**, review the results of studies relating to the technical and operational characteristics, spectrum requirements and appropriate radio service designations for space weather sensors with a view to describing appropriate recognition and protection in the Radio Regulations without placing additional constraints on incumbent services;
- Review of the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service allocations in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz to determine if additional measures are required to ensure protection of the radionavigation-satellite (space-to-Earth) service operating in the same band in accordance with Resolution **774 (WRC-19)**;
- Study the use of International Mobile Telecommunication system for fixed wireless broadband in the frequency bands allocated to the fixed services on primary basis, in accordance with Resolution **175 (WRC-19)**;

9.2 on any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the application of the Radio Regulations; and¹

¹ This agenda sub-item is strictly limited to the Report of the Director on any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the application of the Radio Regulations and the comments from administrations. Administrations are invited to inform the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau of any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the Radio Regulations.

9.3 on action in response to Resolution **80 (Rev.WRC-07)**;

10 to recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next WRC, and items for the preliminary agenda of future conferences, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention and Resolution **804 (Rev.WRC-19)**.
