

5th meeting of Study Group 5 in Study Period 2015-2019
Geneva, Switzerland

02 September 2019

Opening Remarks

Mario Maniewicz
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Mr Chairman, dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 5th meeting of Study Group 5 in this study cycle.

Let me first express my gratitude to the chairman, Mr Martin Fenton, for his leadership in the activities of Study Group 5, as well as my sincere appreciation to the Vice-Chairs of Study Group 5. I also wish to thank the leading role of the Chairs of Working Parties 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, Dr Jose Costa, Mr John Mettrop, Mr Pietro Nava, Mr Stephen Blust and – last but not least – the Chair of Task Group 5/1, Mrs Cindy Cook.

We have reached the end of the study cycle and it is clear that this Study Group has carried out an enormous amount of work resulting in a large quantity of important deliverables for the next WRC and for the benefit of the entire radiocommunication community.

In the next years, the ITU Membership is expecting significant enhancements to radio systems such as intelligent transport systems, high altitude platform systems, PPDR applications, unmanned aircraft systems, radio local area networks and important progress on all other aspects in the use of terrestrial systems. Let's not forget maritime, aeronautical and radiodetermination systems, which also remain highly relevant to the ITU-R community.

Apart from the several publications on sharing studies to support WRC-19 that I am sure I do not need to mention to you, I would like to highlight important Recommendations & Reports as follows:

In WP 5A: Harmonization frequencies and Radio interface Vehicle-2-Vehicle and Vehicle-2-Infrastructures for Intelligent transport systems (ITS); Spectrum needs for Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR); Description of Railway Radiocommunication Systems; Deployment of broadband wireless access systems for local coverage operating below 6 GHz; Characteristics of systems operating in the amateur and amateur-satellite services.

In WP 5B: Data exchange system in the VHF maritime mobile; Technical and operational characteristics of and protection criteria for aeronautical mobile systems operating in various frequencies; Global aeronautical distress and safety system.

In WP 5C: Deployment scenarios for point-to-point systems in the fixed service; Technical characteristics and Spectrum needs of HAPS;

Indeed, it is a long list which is far from being exhaustive.

I will of course have to acknowledge the impressive work on IMT-2020/5G that WP 5D is performing. Together with all major standardization bodies around the world, the ITU is leading this project and bringing it to a success. The IMT evaluation phase that is currently analyzing the proposed technologies will be complete early next year and the IMT-2020 standards will be in place by the end of 2020.

I am sure that IMT-2020 technologies will impact also other terrestrial systems such as ITS and HAPS and drive their future evolution. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the participants to WP 5D and SG 5 for their outstanding work in developing globally harmonized standards for IMT.

With several trillion dollars expected investment in 5G, it is important for Study Group 5 to continue building consensus on a global standard for the radio interface. The world cannot afford a fragmentation of the market into several, incompatible standards. I know that Study Group 5 is working hard to meet these expectations.

I know there are some challenges and obstacles that are on the path to achieve widely accepted agreements. Some contentious issues are also in the agenda of this meeting and you have limited time to solve them, but I know that you will be wise and successful as you always have been in the recent years.

To achieve agreement, the same constructive and cooperative spirit that you have shown in the past will be the key for success.

The staff of the Bureau will continue to actively support your efforts in building a sustainable ecosystem for terrestrial radiocommunications.

Thank you for your attention. I wish you a very successful meeting.