

**First Session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-23  
(CPM23-1)**

Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

**25 November 2019**

*Opening Remarks*

**Mario Maniewicz  
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau**

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Madam Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you again this morning, this time for the holding of the first session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-23.

I hope that you have started to recover well from the efforts carried out during the last five weeks, which resulted in a great success for both RA-19 and WRC-19.

These two major events of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector were ably chaired by Mr. Sergey Pastukh from the Russian Federation, and Mr. Amr Badawi from Egypt, respectively. I would like to thank them both again for their great work.

This morning I would like to congratulate Ms. Cindy Cook very warmly, for being the first lady appointed as Chairman of the CPM. I am sure that she will carry out her duties with great efficiency and leadership, as she has done in other similar chairmanship roles she has had in the past.

I would also like to thank all the newly appointed vice-chairmen of the CPM, as well as all the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Study Groups, who will also have to play an important and, I would rather say, a key role in the coming years.

I am sure that this morning we are all ready to work together to prepare the best organization possible for the work to be carried out during the study cycle starting today until the holding of WRC-23.

Dear colleagues,

In parallel to the work to be done for the implementation by the ITU Secretariat and the Radiocommunication Bureau of the decisions taken by WRC-19, we must also prepare without delay the regulatory and technical answers to the future spectrum requirements, as identified by the 19 new specific items on the WRC-23 agenda, in addition to the other standing items on this agenda and to the 13 provisional items on the WRC-27 preliminary agenda.

I will not go through them in detail this morning, but let me just refer to some key topics on this Agenda:

- Spectrum requirements or regulatory solutions to facilitate the further development of terrestrial and satellite **broadband** applications, such as:
  - ✓ those for IMT, including on high-altitude platform stations (HIBS) or to provide cost-effective solutions for coverage (UHF band in Region 1);
  - ✓ those on earth stations in motion (ESIM) communicating with GSO and NGSO FSS networks in Ku and Ka bands;
  - ✓ or those for satellite-to-satellite communications.

Once again this highlights the importance placed by our membership on the role of wireless in making broadband accessible to all;

- New spectrum for **narrowband** mobile-satellite systems (MSS) for the collection of data from terrestrial devices;
- The enhancement of aeronautical communications:
  - ✓ by satellite in part of the VHF band;
  - ✓ with the introduction of digital technologies in the HF bands;
  - ✓ or for non-safety aeronautical mobile applications;
- The development of the Global Maritime Distress Safety Systems (GMDSS) and e-navigation will be addressed further;
- Spectrum related issues for science services will also be on the WRC-23 agenda in particular to address:
  - ✓ the transmission of future scientific data at high data transmission speeds;
  - ✓ the requirements for more up-to-date remote-sensing observation;
  - ✓ the use by administrations and space agencies of **space borne radar sounders** at specific frequency to provide unique information on physical properties of the Earth and other planets;

Finally, I would like to point out that studies will again be carried out to ensure that satellite regulatory procedures are accurate and up to date, thus facilitating a rational, efficient, and economical use of spectrum and orbital resources.

Dear Friends,

With the revision and clarifications introduced to Resolution ITU-R 2 last month by the Radiocommunication Assembly, the ITU-R Study groups will have a clearer framework to address these aspects within their respective mandates.

I am confident that once again ITU-R will continue to successfully address and complete the preparatory activities for the next conference, with the support and cooperation of the regional groups.

This work is essential to enable our Union to provide the solutions needed to continue to drive the future of sustainable, global ICT development – for the benefit of all nations and of all humankind.

Thank you.