

## **Meeting of Study Group 4 (SG 4)**

*Virtual event*

**6 November 2020**

***Opening Remarks***

**Mario Maniewicz**  
**Director, Radiocommunication Bureau**

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Mr. Chairman,  
Dear friends and colleagues,

Good morning, good afternoon, good evening to all.

It is a real pleasure for me to welcome you all to this meeting of Study Group 4.

I would like to start by thanking you all and in particular the Chairman of SG4, Mr. Strelets, along with the Chairmen of the SG4 Working Parties 4A, 4B and 4C, respectively, Mr. Wengryniuk, Mr. Weinreich and Mr. Kawai, for the good progress achieved in the last two and a half weeks, as well as in the last 6 months since the start of this new study cycle.

I hope that you will all continue your fruitful contributions for the future success of the work of ITU-R Study Group 4.

The developments of ITU-R Study Group 4 and its Working Parties are always most welcome by the administrations/national authorities in charge of issuing licenses for satellite services in their respective countries.

SG 4 deliverables are also highly valuable for the GSO and non-GSO satellite operators and manufacturers, as well as service providers.

After two and a half weeks of very intensive activities, I am pleased to note the initial development of various draft documents by WP 4A and WP 4C in support of WRC-23 agenda items 1.11, 1.15, 1.16, 1.17, 1.18, 1.19, 7 and 9.1 topic b), in particular related to:

- Introduction of additional GSO MSS systems into the GMDSS (agenda item (AI) 1.11, resolves 3 of Res. 361 (Rev.WRC-19));
- Operation of earth stations in motion communicating with non-geostationary space stations in the fixed-satellite service allocations at 17.7-18.6 GHz, 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) (AI 1.16);
- Study of technical and operational issues, and regulatory provisions for satellite-to-satellite links in the frequency bands 11.7-12.7 GHz, 18.1-18.6 GHz, 18.8-20.2 GHz and 27.5-30 GHz (AI 1.17);
- Studies relating to spectrum needs and potential new allocations to the mobile-satellite service in the frequency bands 1 695-1 710 MHz, 2 010-2 025 MHz, 3 300-3 315 MHz and 3 385-3 400 MHz for future development of narrowband mobile-satellite systems (AI 1.18);

I am sure that this information will be very useful for the preparation of WRC-23 and beyond.

In addition to the above, I am also pleased to note the initial development of important draft revised Recommendations and draft new Question related to:

- Description of systems and networks in the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth and space-to-space) and technical characteristics of transmitting space stations operating in the bands 1 164-1 215 MHz, 1 215-1 300 MHz and 1 559-1 610 MHz;
- Characteristics and protection criteria for receiving earth stations in the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth) operating in the band 1 215-1 300 MHz;
- Technical and operational characteristics of satellite IoT services;

Dear friends,

I know there are some challenges and obstacles that are on our path to achieve widely accepted agreements on various of the WRC-23 agenda items. I am aware of the fact that today you will be confronted to a particularly challenging issue, which will be the object of a complex debate. I also know that the use of virtual meetings has introduced additional challenges to achieving progress on such difficult issues.

Having said that, I have the utmost confidence in the elected Study Group leadership, working together with their respective counsellors, to coordinate and organize these meetings with efficiency in mind and in keeping with normal practices, to the extent possible. To reach agreement, the same constructive and cooperative spirit that you have shown in the past will be the key for success in this new study cycle.

Today, as the BR Director, I would like to reassure all of you – once again – that you can count on my full support and that of the entire BR to conduct your work.

I would end by encouraging you, once again, to continue your efforts towards providing excellent products to the ITU membership and the radiocommunication industry as a whole.

So with this, Mr. Chairman, let me conclude by wishing you all a very successful meeting.

Thank you very much for your attention.