

## **Meeting of Study Group 7 in Study Period 2019-2023**

*Virtual event*

**7 September 2021**

*Opening Speech*

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

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Mr. Chairman,

Dear Delegates,

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to you all.

I am pleased to welcome you to this meeting of Study Group 7. As I usually do in these occasions, let me start by thanking the Study Group Chairman, Mr John Zuzek, the Working Parties Chairmen: Dr Joseph ACHKAR, Ms. Catherine SHAM, Mr. Markus DREIS, and Mr. Anastasios TZIOUMIS, as well as all the Vice-Chairmen of this group, for the time and effort you have been devoting to the important tasks carried out by Study Group 7.

As you well know, even taking the “leap second” into account, time flies fast and we have practically only a year left to complete our studies for CPM-23.

Study Group 7 has always occupied a particular place in ITU’s work. While other study groups deal with technologies for broadband access to support business development, competition or private investment, you are the one concerned about the development of fundamental sciences, environmental protection and research on the universe, improving human and social welfare. This definitely gives a special scientific and humanitarian touch to your mandate for the evolution of the global society in the light of the efforts carried out to implement the SDGs. The current

pandemic situation has somehow brought back the attention to all natural sciences, to the environment and its monitoring, identifying the need of global approaches and promoting a cooperative spirit worldwide.

With regard specifically to WRC-23 agenda items for which Study Group 7 is responsible, your challenge will be to create this regulatory certainty that would preserve and protect public investments. New promising and powerful technologies such as microsatellites and small satellites are emerging fast, space weather monitoring systems, spaceborne radar sounders, and others, but we also have to continue safeguarding the multi-billion-dollar investment already supplied for the development of a global satellite system monitoring the Earth and its atmosphere and thereby helping to ensure the stable future development of the human ecosystem. New developments in space research challenge for potential spectrum demand to support planetary missions and provide radio services on the surface of other planets. I am sure the contribution of this Study Group will be fundamental to such endeavors.

Regrettably, our current experience of certain situations, such as interference in passive bands, suggests that the decisions adopted by WRC may not be always perfect. However, they are not irreversible. Increased demand for radio spectrum places a great responsibility on you to seek acceptable technical solutions, promoting the introduction of new technologies, ensuring harmonious development and protection of science services, as well as encouraging administrations to consider the importance of the use and availability of spectrum for Earth observation, space research and radioastronomy.

I won't take more of your valuable time, as we will have other fora to address the previously mentioned issues. My aim is to keep encouraging you to continue your research and the identification of possible solutions.

I wish you all the very best in your quest, and I am sure that with the guidance of your wise chairman you will be successful in meeting the challenges you are facing.

Mr. Chairman,

To end my brief remarks, let me reiterate that the staff of the Bureau will continue to actively support your efforts and remain at your disposal for any additional information you may need.

I wish you a very successful meeting.

Thank you for your kind attention.