

**19th meeting of the RCC Commission on the use of radio frequency spectrum
and satellite orbits**

Virtual event

15 April 2021

Opening Remarks

**Mario Maniewicz
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau**

Mr. Mukhiddinov, Director- general of RCC,

Mr. Butenko, Chairman of the RCC Commission on the use of radio frequency spectrum and satellite orbits,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to start by thanking the RCC for inviting the BR to participate in the 19th meeting of the Commission. It is a great pleasure for me to address you today.

I would like to congratulate the delegates on the upcoming 30th Anniversary of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications (RCC). 30 years is a great age! For a human being, this is the age of energy, initiative, and maturity. For a family this is the age of a mutual respect and stability.

I am confident that the same fully applies to the RCC. You are a family of countries who have been working together for three decades to promote emerging telecommunication technologies in the Region, while preserving the interests of each country.

During all these years, RCC has been a very professional and proactive organization and has been very active in ITU activities in general. I would like to express my appreciation for your valuable contribution to the work, in particular, of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector.

Mr. Chairman,

Your meeting will consider the outputs of the three working groups that deal with the preparations for the next World Radiocommunication Conference and Radiocommunication Assembly, with spectrum management and with broadcasting.

Regarding WRC-23, we will soon announce the exact dates of the Conference that will take place in the United Arab Emirates.

As you know, WRC-23 will consider agenda items covering terrestrial and space services. It will attempt to satisfy growing frequency requirements of mobile broadband in the UHF band and in mid-bands below 10.5 GHz. And I understand these are important and sensitive issues for RCC countries.

The Conference will also consider further evolution of modern satellite communications, including the regulations of earth stations in motion and inter-satellite links.

I am very happy to see that Common RCC's proposals for WRC-23 are gradually taking shape.

Concerning the Spectrum Management Group, I note the continued development of the RCC Table of Frequency Allocations, the work on satellite and mobile communications, and on the implementation of 5G systems. These activities are very important, since they promote regional harmonization and enable more affordable communications to all the population.

As for the Broadcasting Group, I recognize the effort to examine additional channels for digital television below 694 MHz, given the possible release of the 700 or 800 MHz band for the mobile service.

In this respect, I would like to emphasize that the Bureau is ready to share with you its knowledge and experience gained in similar replanning activities done in Africa, the Arab Region, Central America and the Caribbean Region.

Dear Colleagues,

One month ago, marked one year since all our meetings and events went virtual. During this time, the ITU has made full use of the available technologies to ensure its core functions and services to the membership were maintained.

We are continuously striving to make virtual meetings as productive as possible and finding ways of enabling more offline discussions and progress between meetings.

Despite the challenges posed by virtual meetings, the work of the ITU-R Study Groups and their Working Parties is progressing well. And I am pleased with the advancements made on the development of important draft new and revised Recommendations and Reports.

We are also fully committed to keeping the work toward the WRC-23 on track and holding the Conference on schedule. I am confident that with your support and with your spirit of collaboration the WRC process will continue advancing as planned – even in the new environment of virtual meetings.

There are all the reasons to be optimistic with multiple vaccines being rolled out. So, we are looking forward to holding physical meetings again, seeing you in person very soon. Towards this end, we are planning the first Inter-regional Workshop on WRC-23 Preparation in December 2021 as a physical event.

Mr. Chairman,

I see on your agenda the election of the regional co-chair to support the Network of women for WRC-23. I want to thank you in advance for supporting this initiative and the consideration of the matter. With the RCC co-chair, we will have completed the nominations from all 6 regional groups.

Dear friends,

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the great contribution of your Regional group to the harmonization of spectrum use in the region, to the ITU-R studies, and to building international spectrum regulations.

As for the Radiocommunication Bureau, you can be assured that, together with my colleagues, we will do our utmost to facilitate and support your activities and to provide you any assistance you may need.

Looking into the future, my intention is to continue strengthening the Radiocommunication Sector, and making it more dynamic and responsive. I am sure you share this vision with me.

I wish you a very productive and successful meeting.

And once again, happy birthday to the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications and to the Commonwealth of Independent States!