

1st ITU Inter-Regional Information Session on WRC-27 Preparation

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Opening Remarks

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Chairs of the regional groups and regional organizations,
Chair of the CPM,
Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to this first ITU Inter-regional Information Session (IRIS) on preparations for the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 (WRC-27).

I am pleased to see so many participants both here in this room and online. The six main regional groups are well represented today, and we also have several representatives from sister UN agencies, international organizations, and other stakeholders.

Dear Participants,

As you know, the exact dates and location of the 2027 World Radiocommunication Conference have been confirmed. The conference will take place in Shanghai, China, from 18 October to 12 November 2027. It will be preceded, at the same venue, by the Radiocommunication Assembly 2027 (RA-27), from 11 to 15 October 2027, and will be immediately followed by the first session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for WRC-31.

We are currently at the midpoint of the study cycle leading to the WRC-27, and we have already achieved several milestones in the development of sharing and compatibility studies, using agreed characteristics and parameters of services and applications.

While progress in some areas has been slower than anticipated, I am confident that the ITU-R community, under the capable leadership of the Chairs of the Responsible Groups and their subgroups, will identify appropriate compromises to develop workable solutions and alternatives for each agenda item. These outcomes should be reflected in the draft CPM text by October next year.

Dear Colleagues,

The programme of this 1st IRIS was prepared in close consultation with the CPM-27 Management Team and the Chairs of the main six regional groups, following the advice of the RAG. It focuses on some of the most challenging issues on the WRC-27 Agenda, including:

- Possible IMT identifications in frequency bands around 4.5, 8 and 15 GHz;
- Possible new MSS allocations in “IMT bands” below 2.7 GHz to enable direct connectivity between satellites and IMT user equipment;
- Possible new MSS allocations in the 1.5 and 2.5 GHz range for various MSS applications, including low-data rate non-GSO systems;
- Possible new power limits for FSS, MSS and BSS systems to protect fixed and mobile services in bands above 71 GHz;
- Possible new allocations or identification for radiolocation applications above 230 GHz, such as imaging systems.

Additional challenging issues relating to satellite communications include:

- The use of the 13.75-14 GHz band by GSO FSS earth stations with smaller antenna sizes,
- The use of the 51.4-52.4 GHz band by gateway earth station transmitting to non-GSO FSS satellites,

- The unauthorized operations of non-GSO earth stations in the FSS or MSS and the associated issues related to the service area of non-geo satellite systems,
- Ensuring equitable access to the Q/V bands for FSS networks and systems, and
- Several important topics under the standing items concerning the regulatory framework for satellite services.

Finally, there are some challenging issues related to the science community, which are equally important for our daily life, including:

- The protection of radio astronomy operating in specific Radio Quiet Zones, and in bands allocated to this service, from aggregate interference caused by non-GSO systems,
- The protection of radio astronomy and Earth exploration-satellite passive services in certain bands above 76 GHz from unwanted emissions of active services,
- Possible new primary allocations to the EESS passive for sea surface temperature measurements, and
- Possible new or modified space research service allocations to support future lunar communications.

Dear Friends,

Since 1995, regional groups have worked to develop common and coordinated proposals. At WRC-23, regional common proposals accounted for nearly three-quarters of the 2800 proposals submitted to the Conference. This consensus-building mechanism has proven to be highly effective within and among regional groups.

Moreover, past study cycles have shown how valuable each opportunity is to exchange views, share explanations and ideas, and provide essential information to facilitate the understanding and agreement on the challenges before us. This Information Session is one such opportunity.

We plan to hold two additional ITU inter-regional information sessions over the next two years: one prior to the second session of the CPM, and the other prior to WRC-27 itself.

I thank all of you for your continued support of ITU-R activities in general, and in particular for the work of the Study Groups and Working Parties leading the WRC-27 preparatory studies.

Finally, I thank all those involved in the organization of this event.

Before concluding, I would like to draw your attention to the Network of Women for WRC-27, which continues to promote gender equality in the leadership roles for the upcoming conference. A coffee break for the women and mentors of the NOW4WRC27 will be held during the break this morning.

I wish you a successful 1st information session on the WRC-27 preparation.
