Mr. Chair,
Dear friends,
Good morning.

I am sorry not to be able to join you in person this morning at the opening of this first meeting of the CPG27. Let me start by congratulating Stephen Talbot for his appointment as chair of this group. I am sure that Stephen will do an excellent job leading the CPG27, and I look forward to working with him, and with all of you, of course, during this new study cycle.

WRC-23 broke its previous records with almost 4000 participants from 163 Member States and more than 150 other entities. The conference considered over 6000 proposals to update the Radio Regulations and pave the way for new technologies. Overall, the results were successful for the CEPT, with several European common proposals being adopted at the conference.

I am pleased to share with you that all the minutes of the Plenary have been published and the definitive Final Acts of the Conference are available for download on the ITU webpage. I encourage all administrations to use it as the basis for updating their national tables of frequency allocations.

As you have surely heard me mention before, I count on all Member States to support the BR in the Council 2024 session to ensure the BR has the financial resources required to implement the decisions of WRC-23, in particular those
related to updating and modernizing, when necessary, the BR software tools that are used by both the BR and Member States for filings to be made and processed in accordance with the latest version of the Radio Regulations.

Mr. Chair,

Using the new WRC-23 Resolutions on the WRC-27 agenda and WRC-31 preliminary agenda, the first session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-27 (CPM27-1) approved the organization of the ITU-R preparatory studies for the next two conferences, the structure of the CPM Report to WRC-27 and appointed the CPM Vice-Chairs and Chapter Rapporteurs.

As per the CPM working methods, a single responsible ITU-R Working Party was identified for each of the WRC-27 agenda items, along with several contributing Working Parties. A responsible Working Party was also identified for each of the items on the WRC-31 preliminary agenda. The results of the first session of CPM-27 were summarized in BR’s Circular CA/270 and published on 26 January 2024.

I note that there are WRC-27 agenda items with overlapping frequency bands, and the responsible groups will need to coordinate their work so that any potential difficulties can be addressed.

Very importantly, CPM27-1 set a general deadline on criteria, characteristics, and methodologies on 31 December 2024. If necessary, this deadline may be extended up to 1 July 2025 by the CPM-27 Steering Committee after consideration of a justified request by the concerned Working Party. Of course, I encourage all the groups to work towards meeting the current deadline which will facilitate entire WRC-27 preparatory process.

Responsible and contributing groups should work as much as possible towards common parameters and other relevant elements. The responsible groups should take them into account in the preparatory studies on an agenda item.

In fact, the work in the ITU-R has already begun, with some working parties and study groups having had their first meeting of this cycle and beginning to organize their work programs.
Dear colleagues,

Within the Regional Organizations, this is a time of putting in place the framework, and the leadership team for the new study cycle, including the coordinators, vice coordinators, rapporteurs, and alternate rapporteurs for the WRC Sub Working Groups and agenda items. It is also an opportunity to ensure more women are appointed to leadership positions.

The role of the regional coordinators was discussed during WRC-23, and now is the time to review this consensus-building mechanism to ensure that it continues helping to enhance mutual understanding and find common ground across Regions while duly capturing the different views within each Region.

Mr. Chair,

The Radiocommunication Bureau is pleased to continue supporting the CEPT and its Administrations throughout this new study cycle.

I appreciate the opportunity to address you and wish you fruitful discussions.

Thank you very much.