

**3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Preparations for the
World Radiocommunication Conference in 2023 and
Radiocommunication Assembly in 2023**

Virtual event

2 April 2021

Opening Speech

Mario Maniewicz

Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Excellency, Director general of RCC, Mr Mukhitdinov,

Distinguished Chairman of the RCC Commission, Mr. Butenko,

Dear Chairman of the Working Group on preparations for the World Radiocommunication Conference and Radiocommunication Assembly in 2023, Mr. Nalbandian,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to thank the RCC and you Mr Chairman for inviting me to give some opening remarks in this plenary session. It is a pleasure for me to address you today.

As we all know, ICTs are changing the World. Radiocommunications such as mobile broadband communications, satellite communications, radionavigation and other radio applications are changing the way we live and the way our societies are organized.

These technologies have the potential to connect everyone around the World. They provide instant access to information and can deliver a wealth of important services by combining, for example, wireless communications with positioning data.

The first pillar that supports the development of radiocommunications in the world is timely and responsive international spectrum regulations. Achieving this requires extensive international cooperation, so that regional, or preferably global, spectrum harmonization, can take place.

Such cooperation can bring benefits of economies of scale and international roaming, in a way that encourages new technologies without threatening past investments in radiocommunications networks.

Achieving harmonization is the role of the ITU and of regional communities which you are representing here.

Dear Colleagues,

WRC-23 will be an important conference in many ways.

Many of the topics that will be considered by WRC-23 touch on the future development of radiocommunication technologies. As such, they are vital to the world's future needs and to enable the ever-growing digital economy. Especially in today's world where, due to pandemic, telecommunications has become a primary means to connect people and societies.

WRC-23 agenda has several important items, and I would like to name some of them. WRC-23 will examine:

- Additional spectrum for IMT in the mid-bands,
- It will consider possible measures to protect existing services in the 4.9 GHz band while affording more flexibility to deploy IMT.

- And of especial interest to RCC countries, it will review the spectrum use and spectrum needs of existing services in the frequency band 470-960 MHz.

The Conference will also consider the agenda items that enable further evolution of modern satellite communications.

- A particular focus of WRC-23 will be on the development of worldwide harmonized approach to the deployment of earth stations in motion to support growing global communication requirements,
- And on regulatory provisions for inter-satellite links.
- WRC will also take decisions on the modernization of GMDSS and possible new allocations to other services.

These are few examples showing how important the Conference agenda is and how intensive discussions could be in preparation to WRC-23.

All the agenda items need complex frequency sharing studies. These studies seek to allow services with differing characteristics to coexist in the same part of the spectrum.

Therefore, as we advance in this study cycle, I would like to highlight the importance for Members to provide characteristics of the services and applications involved in the WRC-23 studies. This will enable the efficient progressing of ITU-R studies.

Finally, I acknowledge the invaluable contribution of Regional groups in the WRC preparatory process. The development of a common vision reflects the desired use of spectrum and orbit to satisfy the Regional radiocommunication requirements in the coming years.

Dear friends,

Virtual meetings have changed the way we work in the ITU and also in the RCC. But in a similar way that we have adapted in so many aspects of our lives, we will also adapt to this new environment.

I wish you a very productive and success meeting.

You can be assured that, together with my colleagues of the ITU, we will do everything we can to facilitate and support you in the preparation for WRC-23.