

TDAG-2021

Virtual event

Opening Speech

24 May 2021

Mario Maniewicz
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Madam Chair,
Fellow Elected Officials,
Dear friends and colleagues,

It is a pleasure for me to address you today.

I know the importance of the TDAG meeting in normal circumstances. Along with the pandemic and the uncertainties as we approach the WTDC, this advisory board gains even more relevance. In TDAG many of the important issues of the ITU-D sector will be addressed and perhaps even solved prior to the WTDC.

Dear Friends,

During the last two years the ITU-R and the ITU-D Sectors have been closer than ever before.

- In 2020, we completely revised and updated the Spectrum Management Training Program, a joint project of the BR and the BDT. The new training now includes WRC-19 decisions and updates from the 2020 Edition of the Radio Regulations.
- The BR also worked closely with the BDT on delivering radio spectrum seminars, and spectrum monitoring workshops.

- We participated in relevant meetings of ITU-D Study Groups and Rapporteur Groups, where liaison activities have involved topics such as spectrum management, digital broadcasting and migration from analogue systems, the transition towards and implementation of IMT, and broadband wireless access technologies.
- Finally, we collaborated with the BDT in the identification of study topics in ITU-R that are of particular interest to developing countries.

Looking ahead, we have in our hands a great opportunity to bring together the three Sectors and build on our strengths to provide the best outcomes to our constituents. Council will soon initiate the preparation of a coordinated draft new strategic plan for the Union prior to the plenipotentiary conference. It will draw upon input from Member States, Sector Members and the Sector advisory groups. An orchestrated strategic plan of the Union will enable us to enter the “new normal” with an organization that is aligned, agile and fit for purpose.

As you know, I come from a developing country, Uruguay, and I have worked in the BDT for many years, both in the headquarters and in the field offices. So, I am well aware of the challenges you face.

Now, as the Director of the BR, I would like to reassure you that we are ready to support the work of the ITU-D in all fronts: providing expert knowledge, developing trainings, or delivering projects together. Our goal, as one ITU, is to enable ICT services and applications that can be used for the benefit of all people, in all nations.

Thank you very much.