

Meeting of Study Group 1 (SG 1)
Physical Meeting (with remote participation)

8 July 2022

Opening Remarks

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Mr. Chairman,

Dear friends and colleagues,

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to you all.

It is a real pleasure to welcome you all to this 3rd meeting of Study Group 1 during this study period.

As usual, let me start by thanking you, Mr. Wael Sayed, Chairman of SG 1, as well as the Chairmen of Working Parties (WP) 1A, 1B and 1C, respectively Mr. Garcia de Souza, Mr. Liu Bin, and Mr. Trautmann, for all the work done in preparing these meetings and for your excellent leadership during these two weeks.

I would like to also thank all the Chairmen of the subgroups, as well as all the participants, for the intensive work carried out and the good progress achieved since the 28th of June.

In line with the WRC-19 Gender Declaration, it is again good to see that we are having a more and more balanced situation of women and men involved in the SG 1 activities.

I am happy to observe that we have finally replaced virtual meetings with in-person meetings and still offer the possibility for some delegates to participate remotely. I hope that in-person meetings will remain the norm and that remote participants will gradually be able to join the future meetings physically.

Let me remind you that, according to the ITU rules in force, remote delegates participate in the consensus building process, decisions are ultimately taken by the delegates physically present in the meeting room.

However, I have encouraged the Chairmen of SGs and WPs to take due account of the positions and views of remote participants and give them, as much as possible, equal opportunities with respect to the participants in the room.

Dear colleagues,

I normally dedicate most of my opening remarks to highlight some key outcomes from the WP meetings, which you know very well already on topics related to:

- regulations for short range devices;
- spectrum availability, spectrum use efficiency and economic value;
- impact studies and guidance on the use of wireless power transmission;
- unwanted emission limits;
- technology trends in the use of spectrum above 275 GHz;
- cooperation with other SDOs on other source of interference;
- reporting of satellite harmful interference cases;
- use of commercial drones or satellite for monitoring;
- measurement of electromagnetic fields (EMF) to assess human exposure;
- use of Optical Wireless Communication
- etc.

However, today I would like to mainly recall the increasing importance given by governments, regulatory authorities, and other entities to the spectrum management and monitoring activities, at the national, regional, and international levels.

This was once again illustrated by the discussions and outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2022 (WTDC-22), which took place last month in Kigali, Rwanda.

Indeed, as pointed by the SG 1 Chairman at the opening of the WP meetings last week, WTDC-22 declared that *“Capacity building/development in different ICT areas, including spectrum management, remains a challenge”*.

In that respect, the revised WTDC Resolution 9 and some other WTDC Resolutions continue to provide an excellent framework, facilitating the organization of Seminars, Workshops, and other similar events to share information and practices, and benefit from the experiences of experts on topics such as:

- The effective spectrum management for country's economic and social development;
- The establishment of national tables of frequency allocations and spectrum redeployment;
- The automation of frequency management and monitoring systems;
- The economic and financial aspects of spectrum management;
- The preparation of WRCs, as well as the follow-up and implementation of their decisions;
- The transition to digital terrestrial television broadcasting and the best utilization of the digital dividends;
- The use of emerging technologies and approaches in using spectrum, such as for IMT-2020/5G and large satellite constellations, including the associated licensing regimes;
- The management of interference caused by devices used in derogation of national spectrum allocations;
- The disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response;
- The use of ICT to bridge the digital divide;
- or the enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations,
- etc.

The BR is directly involved in these capacity building activities, a remarkable example being our regular World or Regional Radiocommunication Seminars.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all experts participating in ITU-R WPs who have kindly accepted to be involved so far, as well as all the others who are interested in sharing their knowledge in future opportunities. I look forward to continuing this fruitful collaboration with all of you.

In addition, several of the regional initiatives approved at WTDC-22 include spectrum related issues, which again highlights the importance of the studies carried out by you within ITU-R SG 1, which could be used to implement projects in countries of those regions.

I am also invited regularly to participate in regional Conferences on Spectrum Management where top leaders exchange views on current and future best uses of the radiofrequency spectrum. These participations provide me with useful opportunities to share with them recommendations from ITU-R Study Group 1 as well as from the other Study Groups.

Several of the new ITU-D Questions are also related to spectrum management activities, such as:

- deployment of broadband in developing countries;
- telecommunication/ICT in rural and remote areas;
- Strategies and policies on human exposure to electromagnetic fields.

Activities in response to these ITU-D Questions will also benefit from the studies performed by ITU-R Study Group 1 and its working parties.

Dear friends,

Before ending my remarks, I would like to reassure you all, once again, that you can continue to count on the full support of the BR to conduct your work.

I also encourage you to continue your efforts in providing excellent products to the ITU membership and to the radiocommunication industry as a whole.

With this, Mr. Chairman, let me conclude by wishing you all a very successful meeting today and all the best for the remainder of this study cycle.

Thank you very much for your attention.