

4th Meeting of Study Group 6 in Study Period 2019-2023

Virtual event

Opening Speech

12 November 2021

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Mr. Chairman,
Dear friends and colleagues,

Good morning, afternoon, or evening to you all.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the fourth meeting of Study Group 6 in this study period. This is also the fourth time that we have a virtual meeting of Study Group 6 under these exceptional circumstances.

As you might have heard, we are resuming physical meetings in ITU, and your next meeting that will take place in February 2022, will be the first ITU-R meeting that will allow us to meet again face to face.

Many logistic aspects will need to be reviewed to still allow remote participation for those that are not able to attend in-person, but I count on your cooperation to come to Geneva and help us reach the normal working conditions early in 2022.

As I usually do, let me take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the chairman, Nishida-san, as well as to the Vice-Chairs of Study Group 6.

I would also like to thank you all, and in particular the Chairmen of SG6 working Parties and Task Group, Mr. Nafez, Mr. Qusted, Mr. Gardiner and Mr. Pastukh, for the good progress achieved after the last SG 6 meeting.

Dear friends,

As I always remind you, ITU-R SG 6 and its predecessors have pioneered the introduction of innovative technologies in broadcasting to better serve the broadcasters and their audiences. Basically, the developments in ITU-R (CCIR) delineate the history of broadcast technology (sound, TV, multimedia and data broadcasting including interactivity). The audio-visual value chain depends on the radiocommunication spectrum, governed worldwide by the ITU-managed Radio Regulations. Broadcasting standards developed by ITU-R are also key to the successful international exchanges of broadcasting programmes between organizations, overall quality assessment methodologies for audio-visual content, and to improving spectrum efficiency, reducing power consumption and costs for the industry and the end users, which are contributing to the global success of this ecosystem. Perhaps most importantly, new technical standards for broadcasting will underpin global efforts to build back better and create a more sustainable and prosperous future in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am very happy to learn that some impressive outcomes on the preparation for the WRC-23 agenda items have been achieved. Task Group 6/1 has organized three meetings, and the outputs indicate good progress that sets a good foundation for the on-time finalization of the preparation of draft CPM text. As the contributing group of WRC-23 agenda items 1.4, 1.5, 1.9, 1.12 and 9.1 topic a), WP 6A has completed the required materials and is continuing to provide additional information, suggestions, and comments on the above agenda items.

Radio broadcasting has also adapted to the rapidly evolving technological landscape and remains one of the most dynamic, reactive, and engaging media. ITU-R SG 6 looks at all aspects of media from creation to delivery by any means. It brings together the experts who are driving broadcasting and media production into the future.

I would like to highlight your excellent work carried out recently in this context:

- Work is ongoing to develop a Recommendation or a Report that describes methods for the introduction of new systems, technologies, and applications in DTTB services including the initiative to include LTE-based 5G broadcast systems into existing SG 6 Recommendations and Reports for reception of TV content on the mobile handsets;
- Work is also ongoing on Digital Interfaces, Integrated Broadcast-Broadband Systems and Audio Metadata for Broadcasting which are applicable to all broadcasting services, including multimedia/ interactive and converged services, for both fixed and mobile terminals;
- Excellent progress has been achieved on studies of advanced immersive sensory media systems, Question 143/6 has been revised, changing its title to “Advanced Immersive Sensory Media Systems for Programme Production and Exchange for Broadcasting” and widening the scope to include any form of sensory media;
- The three Reports on the use of high-dynamic range television (HDR-TV) are being revised regularly to provide a clear set of information for program makers and distributors who need guidance on operations and processing;
- In line with the ITU Strategic Plan 2020–2023, the research on the sustainable broadcasting has been initiated, the target of the study being to assess the carbon impact of broadcasting industry and to suggest next steps of activities to help reduce the environmental impact.

As one of the most productive Study Groups, I noted, as usual, a number of draft Recommendations and Reports on broadcasting that will be reviewed at today’s meeting. Some of them are an important support to the work of other groups.

Mr. Chairman,

To end my brief remarks, let me reiterate that the staff of the Bureau will continue to provide full support to your group on conducting your work and remain at your disposal for any additional information you may need.

With this, Mr. Chairman, let me conclude by wishing you all a very successful meeting. I am looking forward to seeing you all in person very soon.

Thanks very much for your kind attention.