

**Second Session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM19-2)**  
Geneva, Switzerland

**Monday, 18 February 2019**

***Opening Remarks***

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Mr Chairman,  
Mr Secretary-General,  
Fellow Directors of TSB and BDT  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished colleagues,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would also like to welcome you all to this second session of the Conference Preparatory Meeting for WRC-19.

Let me share with you how thrilled I am about being here with all of you this morning. This is my first major ITU-R meeting as Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, and I feel honoured to be succeeding in this position my two highly respected predecessors, Valery Timofeev and François Rancy, who we have the pleasure of having with us today.

As you know, this CPM19-2 is without doubt a major step in the preparation for WRC-19, which will take place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 28 October to 22 November 2019.

The extent of interest in the matters to be discussed is clearly evident from the numbers present in this Room.

As you surely remember, the first session of CPM for WRC-19, held immediately after WRC-15, identified the studies to be carried out by the ITU-R study groups in preparation for the next WRC.

It agreed on a structure for the draft CPM Report to WRC-19, and appointed rapporteurs for the six chapters of the report to assist the chairman and vice-chairmen in managing the development of the draft CPM Report.

All the ITU-R study groups have been involved in one way or another in the preparation for this meeting, and all of the draft CPM texts were completed before the agreed deadline of 31 August 2018.

To illustrate the complexity of the studies performed, let me refer to the over 2300 pages of text included in the TG 5/1 Chairman's Report, to address the sharing and compatibility of the mobile service with a number of existing radiocommunication services, such as satellite communication and passive services.

This example clearly demonstrates the extent of the work carried out by the Study Groups.

After more than three years of intensive and exhaustive preparatory studies, I would like to express my deep appreciation for all the successful work accomplished by you, our membership, under the excellent leadership of the responsible groups' Chairmen.

I am very confident that the remaining ITU-R Recommendations and Reports referred to in the CPM Report will be adopted prior to RA-19.

The draft CPM Report constitutes Document 1 of this second session.

The Radiocommunication Bureau, for its part, has also prepared several documents which will be presented at the appropriate time.

The items addressed in all the contributions before you are numerous and far-reaching.

Almost all the radiocommunication services and many different frequency bands are either explicitly referred to or concerned by a WRC-19 agenda item or issue.

Many of these items relate to complex and delicate issues of frequency sharing, seeking to allow services with significantly differing characteristics to coexist in the same part of the spectrum.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to remind you that CPM is not where final treaty decisions are made. (not a WRC)

CPM's task is to deliver a Report to the WRC setting out the technical, operational, regulatory and procedural up-to-date information.

The information to be included in the Report should represent, to the extent possible, reconciled differences in approaches as contained in the source material, or, in the case where the approaches cannot be reconciled, the inclusion of differing views and their justification.

The CPM reports to the past world radiocommunication conferences were used extensively by Member States to prepare their proposals or common proposals to the conference.

It also provided useful information for the deliberations at the conference itself.

Dear Chairman,

I am confident that you will do everything you can to ensure that this second session of CPM-19 works as efficiently as possible during these two weeks.

And I rely on the delegates present here in this room to contribute to the success of this preparatory meeting by using their expertise and knowledge to understand the interests and constraints of the other parties and to offer the best solutions towards achieving consensus at WRC-19.

Dear Colleagues,

I am very optimistic about the outcome of the work that will be accomplished during the coming days.

The deliberations taking place in this CPM will certainly pave the way to a successful world radiocommunication conference later this year and your decisions will have a huge impact on the future development of radiocommunication technologies, which have become so indispensable to our daily lives and to the functioning of so many different sectors.

The expectation with regards to IMT-2020, HAPS, non-GSO or even GSO Satellite systems are high. These systems have the potential to improve broadband speeds and the connectivity of millions of people.

Other equally important topics include maritime, aeronautical, amateur issues or the development of intelligent transport systems, as well as Meteorological and Earth exploration satellite systems that

provide crucial services to agriculture, to monitor natural resources, and to forecast climate change.

Dear Friends,

As always, the secretariat is ready to assist in whatever way it can. Our various teams in ITU have been working hard for many months to make this meeting a success and they are at your disposal.

In conclusion, I wish this second session of CPM-19, every success and I thank you very much for your attention.