

26th Meeting of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG)

Geneva, Switzerland

Monday, 15 April 2019

Opening Remarks

Mario Maniewicz

Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Secretary General,
Fellow elected officials,
Dear colleagues and friends,

Good morning. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Geneva and to the **26th** meeting of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group.

As you know, one of the main functions of the RAG is to provide advice to the BR Director. As I am starting my four-year mandate as Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, I am happy to be able to count on your advice and I am looking forward to working with you over the coming cycle.

Last year was a very significant one for the ITU in general and for the ITU-R in particular. The Plenipotentiary Conference elected the new management team of the Union, as well as the twelve members of the Radio Regulations Board. The first meeting of the RRB in its new composition was successfully held in March 2019. I am happy to announce that the management team of the BR is also being completed, with the additions of Mr. Sergio Buonomo as Chief of the Study Groups Department as well as that of Ms Joanne Wilson, who

will be taking up her functions as Deputy Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, hopefully by 1st May 2019.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As it has been customary over the past years, this meeting of the RAG will consider the draft ITU-R 4-year Rolling Operational Plan 2020-2023, trying to draw the lessons learned over the past cycle so as to be able to reflect them in the new version of both the Strategic and Operational Plans for the R-Sector for the next cycle.

This meeting of the RAG will also review the implementation of WRC-15 decisions, the status of the preparations for the RA/WRC-19, the Study Groups activities and the Inter-sector coordination related activities, the progress achieved in further developing the BR information system and, last but not least, the membership outreach activities carried out by the Bureau. To this end, in addition to the reports submitted by the secretariat, the RAG has received several contributions from Member States, addressing several of the above-mentioned issues.

There are also several contributions addressing possible changes to ITU-R Resolutions, as it is often the case at RAG meetings being held immediately before a Radiocommunication Assembly.

Dear colleagues,

As you can see, the days to come will be filled with important topics to be discussed. As I have already mentioned, I value the advice of the RAG on all these topics and consider it as an essential input to ensure that the membership requirements are satisfied.

Before concluding, please note that we will have two remote participants attending this RAG meeting (Dr. Haim Mazar and Dr. Kyujin Wee). I would also like to let you know that we are introducing an additional technological enhancement to the running of this meeting. For the first time, we will be using an automated captioning system as a trial of such advancements.

In closing, let me wish you a very successful meeting.