

## **27th Meeting of the Arab Spectrum Management Group**

*Virtual event*

**24 March 2021**

***Opening Speech***

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Director, Radiocommunication Bureau**

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Good morning Mr. Chairman,

Good morning, good evening and good afternoon to all participants

I would like to thank the ASMG, for inviting the BR to participate in the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Arab Spectrum Management Group and for inviting me to give some opening remarks in this plenary session. It is a pleasure for me to address you today.

Let me start by recognizing the valuable contribution of Arab Member States in supporting the work of the ITU-R and the importance of ASMG in conducting the Regional preparation for WRC-23 and RA-23.

The development of studies, consolidation of common positions, and the cooperation amongst regional groups have been fundamental for the success of world radiocommunications conferences.

I also want to thank you for nominating two Regional Co-Chairs to support the Network of women for WRC-23. This is an important initiative aiming at increasing the participation of women in leadership roles in the ITU-R.

Dear colleagues,

A few weeks ago, marked one year since all our meetings and events went virtual. During this time, the ITU has made full use of the available technological resources to ensure ITU's core functions and services to members were maintained.

As we move forward in this new 4 year-cycle, the work of the ITU-R Study Groups and their Working Parties is progressing well. And I am also pleased to note the advance made on the development of important draft new and revised Recommendations and Reports.

By the middle of the year, the characteristics and parameters of service and applications will be provided. And learning from previous cycles, we know how relevant it is for countries and Regions to use these parameters in order to conduct sharing and compatibility studies. That will then feed the development the draft CPM text.

I recognize the challenges that virtual meetings pose. But in a similar way that we adapted in so many aspects of our lives, we are also adapting to this new meeting environment.

We are continuously striving to make virtual meetings as productive as possible and finding ways of enabling more offline discussions and progress between meetings.

Responding to discussions from the last RAG meeting, I am very pleased to confirm that we have recently restored the periodic meetings of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Radiocommunication Study Groups and Working Parties, or CVC meeting as we call it. I believe that restoring the group of ITU-R leadership will help the work of the study groups to progress smoothly.

As you can see, we are fully committed to keeping the work toward the WRC-23 on track and holding the Conference on schedule.

I am confident that with your support and with your spirit of collaboration the WRC process will continue advancing as planned – even in virtual meetings, and even for those agenda items that by nature are more contentious.

We recognize that services and industries rely on our work and on the regulatory certainty provided by the Radio Regulations for their development. And postponing the WRC will be of no benefit to anybody.

We have reasons to be optimistic with multiple vaccines being rolled out. So, we are looking forward to holding physical meetings again, seeing you all in person very soon, and being at what I am sure will be an excellently organized WRC in the UAE in 2023.

So, let us concentrate our efforts and continue working together without delay or distraction to ensure efficient and effective preparations for WRC-23.

Dear friends,

If we were living in a normal situation, I would tell you that the door of my office is always open for you. Now, in this virtual setting, I assure you that I can be equality reached by an email or a phone call.

I am available to support you throughout the study cycle. So, please feel free to contact me if you need my support.

Delegates and regional leaders are also more than welcome to bring their ideas or suggestions to ameliorate the process towards WRC-23, as well as the decision-making process during the next conference.

I am counting on you and please also count on me along the path to WRC-23.

With this Mr. Chairman, I conclude by wishing you a productive meeting and fruitful deliberations.

Thank you very much.