

**Radio Radiocommunications Seminar for the Arab States
RRS-22-Arab States**

FORUM

Online event

Opening Remarks

Monday, 21 March 2022

**Mario Maniewicz,
Director, ITU Radiocommunication Bureau**

Good morning to all participants from the Arab States,

Thank you all for joining the Forum on "Radiocommunication trends and challenges for the Arab States".

We are thrilled to have regional experts with us today to share their knowledge and their views on new radiocommunication technologies and related regulations.

I acknowledge the good collaboration of the ITU with the Arab Spectrum Management Group for the organization of this Regional Radiocommunication Seminar. ASMG has been a key player in both the Regional and the International community.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A week ago, we began the presentations and tutorials of the RRS-22 for the Arab States. We reviewed some of the basic concepts of the Radio Regulations, understood the rights and obligations with respect to the use of spectrum and associated satellite orbital resources, and experimented with ITU-R software and procedures.

Now, as we begin the Forum, we will explore radiocommunication trends and challenges for the Arab States, including topics on the agenda of the next World Radiocommunications Conference in 2023.

The Forum will consider the hot topic of the 6 GHz band. While ongoing discussions are taking place on the use of the band (or parts of thereof) for IMT or Wi-Fi, it is paramount to consider the results of ongoing studies to protect incumbent satellite and fixed services.

Regarding the UHF band, clearly, the use of the band for broadcasting differs significantly from country to country, and in the Arab Region it might not be used as extensively as it is elsewhere. However, some countries are concerned that new UHF allocations for mobile services will further de-harmonize the use of UHF globally, hindering the growth potential and prospects for the broadcasting industry.

In addition, the forum will discuss measures to address the protection of the aeronautical and maritime mobile services located in international airspace and waters from other stations located within national territories.

Finally, the increasing use of satellite constellations to provide broadband connectivity has triggered the need for technical, operational and regulatory measures for non-geostationary orbit satellites to protect existing services.

Decisions of the next Conference will take into account the requirements of existing and future services, sharing and compatibility studies that are taking place within ITU-R study groups, and the regulatory actions to address each agenda item.

Dear Colleagues,

While regulators and policymakers are not expected to solve all telecommunication and ICT issues alone, the priorities of each country when managing spectrum and associated satellite orbital resources can make a significant difference to all – and for the better.

It can open the doors to improve connectivity, provide access to news and entertainment, and allow for more accurate and effective exploration of the Earth and assessment of its changing climate.

Dear Friends,

As I have stated before, the BR will continue working to ensure that both developed and developing countries participate actively in our events, meetings, and decision-making conferences.

We are at the disposal of the Arab States to support you and to provide any assistance you may require.

I hope you enjoy this Forum and I invite you to make the best use of this valuable exchange of information and views.

Thank you very much.