

Meeting of Working Party 5D

ITU, Geneva, Switzerland

Opening Speech

12 June 2023

Mario Maniewicz
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Mr. Chairman,
Dear delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the last meeting of Working Party 5D in this cycle. I would like to start by acknowledging our chairman, Mr. Stephen BLUST, as well as the vice-chairmen, Dr. K.J. WEE and Dr. Hakan OHLSEN, as well as the Working Group chairmen Dr. Hu WANG and Mr. Michael KRÄMER for the work carried out under their leadership on the various subjects assigned to this Working Party. I am happy to be here in person today to provide some opening remarks at the start of your meeting.

ITU-R Working Party 5D, its Membership and the Radiocommunications Bureau, have been working very intensively and have achieved remarkable results in this Study Period towards the **preparation of WRC-23**. You all are aware of the 1120 pages of the CPM text that has been drafted. Study Group 5, together with its four Working Parties, were responsible for 10 agenda items and 2 issues therein.

As you know, besides WRC-23 preparatory work and related tasks, ITU-R Study Groups and their Working Parties are **working in parallel on several non-WRC-23 issues**. In this regard, Working Party 5D has a very special, permanent, and recurring task, which is the development of the standards of several generations of mobile communication, namely IMT. With IMT-2000, IMT-Advanced and IMT-2020, already three generations of IMT have been successfully developed, which was the very basis for a successful deployment of 3G, 4G and in the recent years the very powerful 5G.

As we all know, the work on the next generation (**IMT-2030**) has already been started – both in ITU and externally. According to the well-known IMT-process, two important documents stand at the beginning of the process, unfolding a Vision for IMT-2030: A report on the “Future Technology Trends” (which has been published as ITU-R M.2516 in November 2022) and a new Recommendation describing the “Framework and overall objectives” of IMT-2030.

Everyone is aware of the ITU-slogan on our website: *ITU is committed to connecting the world ...* While this is particularly relevant to LDCs, this is also applicable when developing the next generation technologies. I have been made aware of the fact that the views by the Membership on the “**IMT-2030 Framework**” have not yet converged in terms of content and timing, and hence the progress might not be as expected and needed.

Let me emphasise one very important aspect: **The whole industry trusts ITU** in providing a timely and qualitative definition of IMT-2030 and is committed to applying and working along that IMT-process, as it was the case in the past. While this may seem to be arbitrary to some, it's essential that the whole industry works along an overall agreed timeline. Each step of the IMT-process is planned and timed very careful to fit precisely with parallel activities towards the implementation of 6G networks: From ITU, to global research activities, to standardisation fora, to system manufacturers, to Administrations (providing spectrum and licences) and finally to operators and service providers (responsible for the deployment) – the IMT-2030 Framework is a needed motivation towards 2030 and the rollout of whatever this next generation of IMT and 6G might bring to the global user community.

In conclusion, the IMT-2030 Framework Recommendation and its timely availability for the next Study Period (2023-2027) as planned and anticipated by the market, is of utmost importance:

- to the ITU internal work (e.g. alignment within ITU-R, but also between ITU-R and ITU-T),
- to the work of the industry and its research,
- to the Membership and the Member States - also for LDCs, which will see that *“ITU is indeed committed to connecting the world”*,
- and hence to the worldwide community.

In closing, I believe in the ITU process and I count on you, the Working Party 5D Membership, to solve all pending issues at this meeting and to agree on a way forward, which will show the entire world that ITU is laying the path for the next generation of Mobile Communication.

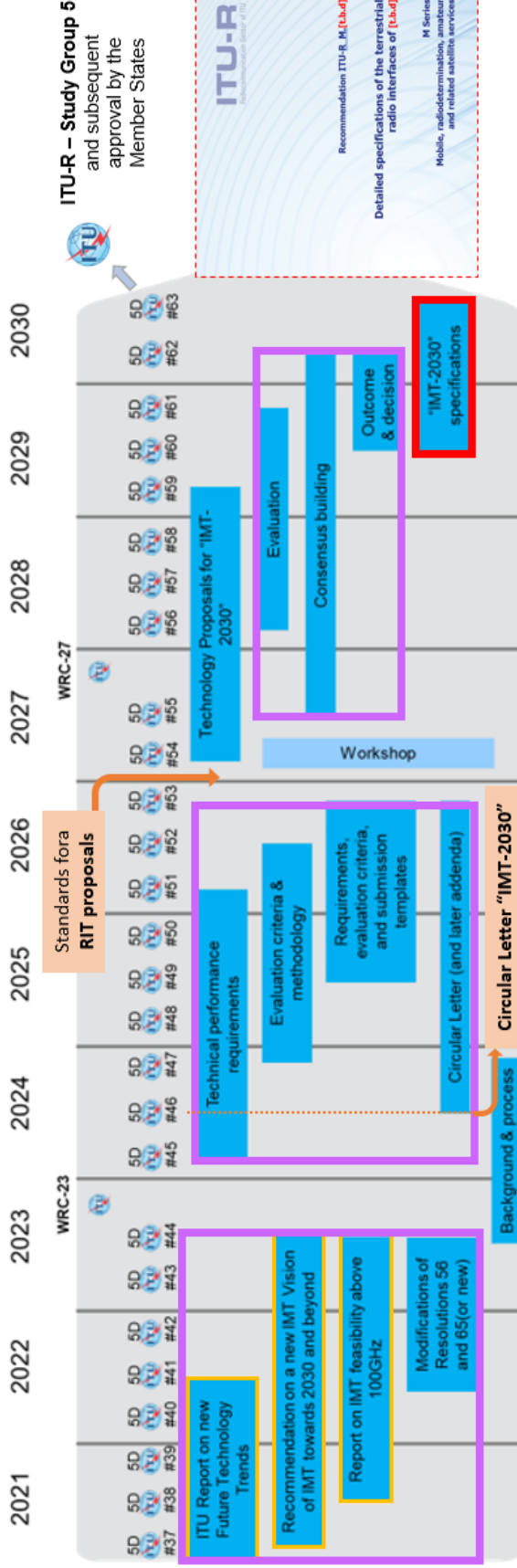
I thank you for your attention, and I wish you a very fruitful meeting.

Annex: Timeline for IMT-2030



Committed to Connecting the World

Timeline for "IMT towards 2030 and beyond"



Note 1: Meeting 5D#59 will additionally organize a workshop involving the Proponents and registered IEGs to support the evaluation process
 Note 2: While not expected to change, details may be adjusted if warranted. Content of deliverables to be defined by responsible WP 5D groups

Framework → Requirements and Evaluation criteria → Evaluation and Consensus building → Specification → Approval

Note: Timeline as agreed at meeting #41 of ITU-R WP 5D (see 5D/1361, Ch. 2, Att 2.12)

EuCNC & 6G Summit, June 6-9, Gothenburg, Sweden