

**ITU Regional Radiocommunication Seminar for Africa
RRS-21-Africa**

Virtual event

Opening Speech

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**Mario Maniewicz
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Mr. John Omo, Secretary General of ATU,
Distinguished participants,
Dear friends,

Good morning, good afternoon, and good evening to you all,

It gives me great pleasure to open this Regional Radiocommunications Seminar 2021 for Africa. In the ITU we are delighted to organize this event in collaboration with the African Telecommunications Union (ATU).

I am pleased to note that around 165 participants from over 40 countries, including more than 35 from the African region itself, will be joining us during the next two weeks to discuss various aspects of Spectrum management and regulation.

Dear colleagues,

As you know, the ITU-R Sector produces ICT content that is of fundamental importance for the global management of radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits. Our work encompasses radio regulations, recommendations, reports and handbooks. And our range of products goes from service publications to software and databases.

However, this is just the first step. Once the content has been produced, we want to make sure it reaches all four corners of the globe.

Towards this end, during the last years, the Radiocommunications Bureau has been working to expand its outreach and communication activities. We have done so by organizing seminars, workshops, and capacity building events; by providing technical assistance to Administrations; and by publishing more articles in the ITU news and other specialized magazines.

The main purpose of this work is twofold:

- First, we want to cater for the needs and requests of developing countries with regards to spectrum management and regulation.
- Second, we want to ensure that the outputs produced by the ITU-R Sector are disseminated worldwide, so that they may construct the basis for the formulation of national and regional policies for a better use of the radio spectrum.

The Regional Radiocommunication Seminars are an important part of this broad portfolio of initiatives. It focuses on use of the radio-frequency spectrum, and satellite orbits, and has a special emphasis on the application of the Radio Regulations at both regional and national levels.

The Regional Seminars complement the World Radiocommunications Seminar that happens every other year. In 2020, the WRS was a big success. The virtual event attracted many more participants than the physical editions.

Chers amis,

Une autre initiative que certains connaissent peut-être est le Programme de formation de la gestion du spectre, un projet conjoint du BR et du BDT. En 2020, nous avons complètement révisé et mis à jour ce programme, et il comprend maintenant les décisions de la CMR-19 et les mises à jour de l'édition 2020 du Règlement des radiocommunications.

De plus, nous avons publié la mise à jour du logiciel du Tableau d'attribution des fréquences RR5 et nous sommes en train de mettre à jour l'outil de navigation du Règlement des radiocommunications. D'ailleurs, il y a seulement quelques

semaines, lors de l'atelier PRIDA, le Tableau d'attribution des fréquences RR5 et ses fonctionnalités ont été présentés aux pays africains.

L'utilisation de ces outils facilite la navigation et l'analyse des textes réglementaires et techniques et permet à un pays d'extraire son Tableau national des attributions de fréquences, sur la base des dispositions de l'article 5 du Règlement des radiocommunications. Cela peut grandement faciliter l'intégration de la réglementation internationale dans le cadre national après chaque Conférence mondiale des radiocommunications.

Comme vous pouvez le constater, même si les temps sont difficiles, notre équipe du Bureau des radiocommunications a travaillé dur afin de vous fournir les informations et les outils dont vous avez besoin pour mettre en œuvre la réglementation et les normes internationales.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I will now turn to the agenda of this Regional Radiocommunications Seminar. The first part of the Seminar will cover concepts related to international spectrum management and to the procedures for recording of frequency assignments in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR).

The second part of the Seminar will consist of tutorials on notification procedures for terrestrial and space stations. It will enable the participants to get experience with ITU software and electronic publications made available by the Radiocommunication Bureau to the Administrations of Member States and to the ITU-R Sector Members.

The RRS-21-Africa will conclude with a Forum on: "Radiocommunications Trends: Opportunities and challenges for the Region". This forum will be an opportunity for industry representatives to share their knowledge with ITU Member States to help advance and accelerate the development of radiocommunications.

Chers amis,

Les réunions virtuelles, les sessions de formation en ligne et le travail à domicile sont devenus notre nouvelle routine. Heureusement, nous avons pu profiter de ce nouveau scénario pour augmenter le nombre de webinaires et d'événements que nous offrons à l'UIT.

Je vous encourage également à saisir cette occasion unique de participer activement aux travaux des groupes d'étude de l'UIT-R et de participer à des événements comme celui-ci.

I wish you a very fruitful seminar.

Thank you very much.