

Meeting of Study Group 4 (SG 4)

Virtual Meeting

4 March 2021

Opening Remarks

Mario Maniewicz
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Mr. Chairman,
Dear friends and colleagues,

Good morning, good afternoon, good evening. It is my pleasure to welcome you all to this meeting of Study Group 4.

As I usually do in these occasions, I would like to thank you all and in particular the Chairman of SG4, Mr. Strelets, along with the Chairmen of Working Parties 4A, 4B and 4C, respectively Mr. Wengryniuk, Mr. Weinreich and Mr. Kawai, for the good progress achieved during the current block of meetings, as well as in the last 10 months during this new study cycle. I hope that all of you will continue to contribute to the success of the work of ITU-R Study Group 4.

After two and a half weeks of very intensive activities, I am pleased to note the progress on the development of various documents by WPs 4A and WP 4C in support of WRC-23 agenda items 1.11, 1.15, 1.16, 1.17, 1.18, 1.19, 7 and 9.1 topic b), in particular related to:

- Introduction of additional GSO MSS systems into the GMDSS (agenda item (AI) 1.11, resolves 3 of Res. 361 (Rev.WRC-19));
- Operation of earth stations on aircraft and vessels communicating with geostationary space stations in the fixed-satellite service in the frequency band 12.75-13.25 GHz (Earth-to-space) (AI 1.15);

- Operation of earth stations in motion communicating with non-geostationary space stations in the fixed-satellite service allocations at 17.7-18.6 GHz, 18.8-19.3 GHz and 19.7-20.2 GHz (space-to-Earth) and 27.5-29.1 GHz and 29.5-30 GHz (Earth-to-space) (AI 1.16);
- Study of technical and operational issues, and regulatory provisions for satellite-to-satellite links in the frequency bands 11.7-12.7 GHz, 18.1-18.6 GHz, 18.8-20.2 GHz and 27.5-30 GHz (agenda item (AI) 1.17);
- Studies relating to spectrum needs and potential new allocations to the mobile-satellite service in the frequency bands 1 695-1 710 MHz, 2 010-2 025 MHz, 3 300-3 315 MHz and 3 385-3 400 MHz for future development of narrowband mobile-satellite systems (AI 1.18);

I am sure that this information will be very useful for the preparation of WRC-23 and beyond.

In addition to the above, I am also pleased to note the progress on the development of important draft new and revised Recommendations and Reports, a draft new Question and a draft new Handbook related to:

- Description of systems and networks in the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth and space-to-space) and technical characteristics of transmitting space stations operating in the bands 1 164-1 215 MHz, 1 215-1 300 MHz and 1 559-1 610 MHz;
- Characteristics and protection criteria for receiving earth stations in the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth) operating in the band 1 215-1 300 MHz;
- Non-geostationary satellite orbit systems;
- Technical and operational characteristics of FSS and MSS systems for Machine-to-Machine/Internet of Things (M2M/IoT) applications;
- Small satellites.

The last time I addressed your meeting, which was back in November, I noted the challenges and obstacles that are on our path to achieve widely accepted agreements on various of the WRC-23 agenda items. I also mentioned that, in order to reach agreement, the same constructive and cooperative spirit that you have shown in the past will be the key for success in this new study cycle.

I would like to reiterate the trust I have in you as a group, under the guidance of the elected leadership of the Study Group and the support of the BR counselors, to collaborate and compromise, particularly for the most controversial issues, so that we can jointly advance towards a positive result.

Administrations and national authorities, GSO and non-GSO satellite operators and manufacturers, as well as all related service providers are counting on ITU-R Study Group deliverables to advance their work.

Last but certainly not least, let me remind you all that the above-mentioned efforts should be carried out in a constructive environment of collegiality and mutual respect, as it has been traditional in ITU-R.

So, with this, Mr. Chairman, let me conclude by wishing you all a very successful meeting.

Thank you very much for your attention.