



## Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Administrative Circular **CA/265** 

7 March 2023

To Administrations of Member States of ITU and Observers at WRC-23

Subject: World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23)

### Invitation, date and venue

As announced by the Secretary-General in Circular Letters <u>CL-22/40</u>, <u>CL-22/41</u>, <u>DM-22/1012</u> dated 15 November 2022, the <u>World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23)</u> will be held from 20 November to 15 December 2023 at the Dubai World Trade Centre, immediately following the Radiocommunication Assembly 2023 (<u>RA-23</u>).

The purpose of this Administrative Circular is to provide further details for WRC-23 to assist participants with their preparations.

The agenda of the Conference, contained in Council Resolution 1399 (C20), is attached in the Annex.

## **Submission of proposals to WRC-23**

Member States and the State of Palestine may wish to consider their proposals for the work of WRC-23. In accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of the General Rules, I also invite you to submit your proposals for the work of the Conference, if deemed appropriate. These proposals should reach the ITU Secretariat at least four (4) months (i.e. **20 July 2023**), before the start of the Conference (No. 40 of the General Rules).

Furthermore, I would like to remind Member States and the State of Palestine that, in accordance with Resolution 165 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), the firm submission deadline for all contributions is established no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days before the opening of the Conference (i.e. **30 October 2023**), so as to ensure timely translation and their thorough consideration by delegations.

Proposals should be submitted by email to the Secretariat at <a href="wrc23@itu.int">wrc23@itu.int</a> by accredited staff and/or Designated Focal Point of the submitting Administration.

Member States and the State of Palestine are also urged to give careful attention to the initial preparation of proposals in order to avoid needless revisions to documents. In order to comply with provisions of Nos. 41 and 42 of the General Rules of conferences, Assemblies and Meetings of the Union with regard to the format of proposals for the Conference, the Secretariat has prepared guidelines for the presentation of proposals to WRC-23 which can be found on the WRC-23 website.

The **Conference Proposal Interface (CPI) for WRC-23**, an electronic tool to facilitate the preparation of conference proposals, is available for this purpose on the WRC-23 website and at <a href="https://www.itu.int/net4/proposals/CPI/WRC23">https://www.itu.int/net4/proposals/CPI/WRC23</a>, along with its user guide.

#### Availability of documents produced before and during WRC-23

In accordance with no. 8 to Annex 2 to Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and to reduce the cost of documentation of ITU conferences, **WRC-23 will be completely paperless**. All documents will be available electronically on the WRC-23 website, including the Provisional Final Acts of the Conference which will be made available in electronic format only.

Wireless LAN facilities will be available for use by delegates in the meeting rooms.

The WRC-23 Proposal Management System, providing an easy-to-use web access to the proposals for the work of the Conference, will also be made available on the conference website along with other electronic tools.

An ITU user account with <u>TIES access</u> is required to access WRC-23 documents and other electronic resources.

#### Exercise of rights and credentials for the conference

Furthermore, you may wish to note that, to be able to exercise their sovereign rights in full at the Conference, Member States must ensure that they have maintained the right to vote in accordance with Nos 169 and 210 of the Constitution and that the delegations representing them at the Conference are duly accredited in accordance with Article 31 of the Convention.

Further information on the submission of credentials for WRC-23 will be sent separately to Member States.

#### **Interpretation and Webcast**

Simultaneous interpretation in the six official languages of the Union will be available for Plenary, Committee and Working Group sessions which will also be webcasted and recorded in the six languages for viewing during and after the sessions, respectively.

#### Registration and visa application

Registration to WRC-23 will open no later than June 2023. Advance registration to WRC-23 is mandatory and will be carried out exclusively online through Designated Focal Points (DFPs) for ITU-R event registration. Further information will be available in due time on the WRC-23 website.

Please note that visas to travel to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) cannot be obtained through the ITU Secretariat. Your confirmation of registration to the RA-23 will be required in your visa application, which you must submit directly to the United Arab Emirates authorities. The Host Country website, which will be accessible from the RA-23 website, will contain information on visa requirements to travel to the United Arab Emirates.

#### **Practical information**

The Host Country website, accessible from the <u>WRC-23 website</u>, will provide practical information on accommodation booking, visa requirements, travelling to the United Arab Emirates, local transportation, etc. It will be updated regularly as more information becomes available.

## **Further information**

Please address any queries on general matters regarding WRC-23 to: <a href="wrc23contact@itu.int">wrc23contact@itu.int</a>.

Mario Maniewicz Director

Annex: 1

#### **ANNEX**

## **RESOLUTION 1399**

(adopted by correspondence)

# Agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23)

The ITU Council,

noting

that Resolution 811 of the World Radiocommunication Conference (Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019):

- *a)* resolved to recommend to the Council that a world radiocommunication conference be held in 2023 for a maximum period of four weeks;
- b) recommended its agenda, and invited the Council to finalize the agenda and arrange for the convening of WRC-23 and to initiate as soon as possible the necessary consultation with Member States,

resolves

to convene a World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) in 2023, preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly, with the following agenda:

- on the basis of proposals from administrations, taking account of the results of WRC-19 and the Report of the Conference Preparatory Meeting, and with due regard to the requirements of existing and future services in the frequency bands under consideration, to consider and take appropriate action in respect of the following items:
- to consider, based on the results of ITU-R studies, possible measures to address, in the frequency band 4 800-4 990 MHz, protection of stations of the aeronautical and maritime mobile services located in international airspace and waters from other stations located within national territories, and to review the power flux-density criteria in No. **5.441B** in accordance with Resolution **223** (Rev.WRC-19);
- to consider identification of the frequency bands 3 300-3 400 MHz, 3 600-3 800 MHz, 6 425-7 025 MHz, 7 025-7 125 MHz and 10.0-10.5 GHz for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), including possible additional allocations to the mobile service on a primary basis, in accordance with Resolution **245** (WRC-19);
- to consider primary allocation of the frequency band 3 600-3 800 MHz to the mobile service in Region 1 and take appropriate regulatory actions, in accordance with Resolution **246 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.4 to consider, in accordance with Resolution **247 (WRC-19)**, the use of high-altitude platform stations as IMT base stations (HIBS) in the mobile service in certain frequency bands below 2.7 GHz already identified for IMT, on a global or regional level;
- to review the spectrum use and spectrum needs of existing services in the frequency band 470-960 MHz in Region 1 and consider possible regulatory actions in the frequency band 470-694 MHz in Region 1 on the basis of the review, in accordance with Resolution 235 (WRC-15);
- 1.6 to consider, in accordance with Resolution **772 (WRC-19)**, regulatory provisions to facilitate radiocommunications for sub-orbital vehicles;
- 1.7 to consider a new aeronautical mobile-satellite (R) service allocation in accordance with Resolution 428 (WRC-19) for both the Earth-to-space and space-to-Earth directions of aeronautical VHF communications in all or part of the frequency band 117.975-137 MHz, while preventing any undue constraints on existing VHF

systems operating in the aeronautical mobile (R) service, in the aeronautical radionavigation service, and in adjacent frequency bands;

- 1.8 to consider, on the basis of ITU-R studies in accordance with Resolution 171 (WRC-19), appropriate regulatory actions, with a view to reviewing and, if necessary, revising Resolution 155 (Rev.WRC-19) and No. 5.484B to accommodate the use of fixed-satellite service networks by control and non-payload communications of unmanned aircraft systems;
- 1.9 to review Appendix **27** of the Radio Regulations and consider appropriate regulatory actions and updates based on ITU-R studies, in order to accommodate digital technologies for commercial aviation safety-of-life applications in existing HF bands allocated to the aeronautical mobile (R) service and ensure coexistence of current HF systems alongside modernized HF systems, in accordance with Resolution **429 (WRC-19)**;
- 1.10 to conduct studies on spectrum needs, coexistence with radiocommunication services and regulatory measures for possible new allocations for the aeronautical mobile service for the use of non-safety aeronautical mobile applications, in accordance with Resolution 430 (WRC-19);
- 1.11 to consider possible regulatory actions to support the modernization of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and the implementation of e-navigation, in accordance with Resolution **361** (Rev.WRC-19);
- to conduct, and complete in time for WRC-23, studies for a possible new secondary allocation to the Earth exploration-satellite service (active) for spaceborne radar sounders within the range of frequencies around 45 MHz, taking into account the protection of incumbent services, including in adjacent bands, in accordance with Resolution 656 (Rev.WRC-19);
- to consider a possible upgrade of the allocation of the frequency band 14.8-15.35 GHz to the space research service, in accordance with Resolution 661 (WRC-19);
- to review and consider possible adjustments of the existing frequency allocations or possible new primary frequency allocations to the Earth exploration-satellite service (passive) in the frequency range 231.5-252 GHz, to ensure alignment with more up-to-date remote-sensing observation requirements, in accordance with Resolution 662 (WRC-19);
- 1.15 to harmonize the use of the frequency band 12.75-13.25 GHz (Earth-to-space) by earth stations on aircraft and vessels communicating with geostationary space stations in the fixed-satellite service globally, in accordance with Resolution 172 (WRC-19);
- to study and develop technical, operational and regulatory measures, as appropriate, to facilitate the use of the frequency bands 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) by non-geostationary fixed-satellite service earth stations in motion, while ensuring due protection of existing services in those frequency bands, in accordance with Resolution 173 (WRC-19);
- 1.17 to determine and carry out, on the basis of ITU-R studies in accordance with Resolution **773 (WRC-19)**, the appropriate regulatory actions for the provision of inter-satellite links in specific frequency bands, or portions thereof, by adding an inter-satellite service allocation where appropriate;
- 1.18 to consider studies relating to spectrum needs and potential new allocations to the mobile-satellite service for future development of narrowband mobile-satellite systems, in accordance with Resolution 248 (WRC-19);
- 1.19 to consider a new primary allocation to the fixed-satellite service in the space-to-Earth direction in the frequency band 17.3-17.7 GHz in Region 2, while protecting existing primary services in the band, in accordance with Resolution 174 (WRC-19);
- to examine the revised ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations communicated by the Radiocommunication Assembly, in accordance with *further resolves* of Resolution **27**

(Rev.WRC-19), and to decide whether or not to update the corresponding references in the Radio Regulations, in accordance with the principles contained in *resolves* of that Resolution;

- 3 to consider such consequential changes and amendments to the Radio Regulations as may be necessitated by the decisions of the conference;
- 4 in accordance with Resolution **95 (Rev.WRC-19)**, to review the Resolutions and Recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision, replacement or abrogation;
- to review, and take appropriate action on, the Report from the Radiocommunication Assembly submitted in accordance with Nos. 135 and 136 of the ITU Convention;
- to identify those items requiring urgent action by the radiocommunication study groups in preparation for the next world radiocommunication conference;
- to consider possible changes, in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks, in accordance with Resolution 86 (Rev.WRC-07), in order to facilitate the rational, efficient and economical use of radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary-satellite orbit;
- 8 to consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account Resolution 26 (Rev.WRC-19);
- 9 to consider and approve the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the ITU Convention;
- 9.1 on the activities of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-19:
- In accordance with Resolution 657 (Rev.WRC-19), review the results of studies relating to the technical and operational characteristics, spectrum requirements and appropriate radio service designations for space weather sensors with a view to describing appropriate recognition and protection in the Radio Regulations without placing additional constraints on incumbent services;
- Review the amateur service and the amateur-satellite service allocations in the frequency band 1 240-1 300 MHz to determine if additional measures are required to ensure protection of the radionavigation-satellite service (space-to-Earth) operating in the same band in accordance with Resolution 774 (WRC-19);
- Study the use of International Mobile Telecommunication systems for fixed wireless broadband in the frequency bands allocated to the fixed service on a primary basis, in accordance with Resolution 175 (WRC-19);
- 9.2 on any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the application of the Radio Regulations; <sup>1</sup> and
- 9.3 on action in response to Resolution 80 (Rev.WRC-07);
- to recommend to the ITU Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next world radiocommunication conference, and items for the preliminary agenda of future conferences, in accordance with Article 7 of the ITU Convention and Resolution **804 (Rev.WRC-19)**.

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This agenda sub-item is strictly limited to the Report of the Director on any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the application of the Radio Regulations and the comments from administrations. Administrations are invited to inform the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau of any difficulties or inconsistencies encountered in the Radio Regulations.