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| **The 3rd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-23 (APG23-3)** | **APG23-3/OUT-38** |
| 8 – 13 November 2021, Virtual/Online Meeting | 13 November 2021 |

Working Party 5

**PRELIMINARY VIEWs on WRC-23 agenda item 10**

**Agenda Item 10:**

*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)***

**1. Background**

Agenda item 10 requests WRC-23 to recommend to the Council items for inclusion in the agenda for WRC-27, and to give its views on the preliminary agenda for the subsequent conference and on possible agenda items for future conferences, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention and Resolution **804 (Rev.WRC-19)**.

WRC-19 has established the preliminary agenda for WRC-27 which includes 13 items (see Resolution **812(WRC-19)**).

Further agenda items for WRC-27 will be considered based on inputs from the APT Members.

The principles for development of agendas of WRCs are included in Annex 1 of Resolution 804 (Rev. WRC-19) that encourage regional and interregional coordination on the subjects to be considered in the preparatory process for the WRC, in accordance with Resolution 72 (Rev.WRC-19) and Resolution 80 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, with a view to addressing potentially difficult issues well before a WRC.

The principles also encourage to include, to the extent possible, agenda items that are prepared within regional groups, taking into account the equal right of individual administrations to submit proposals for agenda items.

**2. Documents**

Following documents are received to this APG23-3 for WRC-23 agenda item 10:

* Input Documents APG23-3/INP-[11](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/10/APG23-3-INP-11_AUS_contribution_for_WP5_Preliminary_Views_on_WRC-23_Agenda_Items_2_4_8_9.1Topic_b_and_10.docx) (AUS), [35](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/11/APG23-3-INP-35_J-8_WP5_FUTURE_ACTIVE_SERVICE_APPLICATIONS_PLANNED_TO_OPERATE_IN_THE_FREQUENCY_ABOVE_252_GHZ.docx) (J), [50](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/11/APG23-3-INP-50_Iran-AI10.docx) (IRN)
* Information Documents APG23-3/INF-[01](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/10/APG23-3-INF-01_Preliminary_WMO_Position_on_WRC-23_Agenda.docx) (WMO), [08](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/10/APG23-3-INF-08_Briefing_on_AI10_0.docx) (DG10 Chair), [37](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/11/APG23-3-INF-37_ASMG_Preparation_for_WRC-23.pdf) (ASMG), [39](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2021/11/APG23-3-INF-39_Report_of_APM23-2.docx) (ATU)

**3. Summary of discussions**

**3.1 Summary of APT Members’ views**

**3.1.1 Australia** - **Document APG23-3/INP-11**

Australia supports an agenda for WRC-27 that is consistent with Australia’s long-term objectives for spectrum management, and which will allow for the rational and efficient use of Australia’s sovereign assets in the radiofrequency spectrum. Australia supports the consideration of items that are of international and regional importance, which can only be effectively addressed through a WRC, and which are likely to be resolved within the available time and resources.

**3.1.2 Japan** - **Document APG23-3/INP-35**

The information on THz related activities in ITU-R and APT as well as a preliminary WRC-27 agenda item 2.1 and wideband contiguous spectrum is provided to assist APG23 to develop WRC-27 agenda items in the frequency range above 252 GHz. Japan believes the Table of Frequency Allocations above 275 GHz may need to be reviewed if additional active service applications are identified by the future conference agenda items.

**3.1.3 Iran (Islamic Republic of)** - **Document APG23-3/INP-50**

The Administration of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposes that the following views be adopted as APT Preliminary Views under WRC-23 Agenda Item 10:

1. In developing new WRC Agenda items, APT Members supports the ‘Principles for establishing agendas for WRCs’ as detailed in Annex 1 to Resolution **804 (Rev.WRC-19)** and encourages the use of the *Template for the submission of proposals for agenda items* (Annex 2 of the Resolution).
2. APT Members are invited to carefully examine the proposed new items for inclusion in the agenda of a future conference together with the preliminary agenda items for WRC-27 within Resolution **812 (WRC‑19)** and prepare APT views and proposals on WRC-23 Agenda item 10.
3. APT Members are of the view that the volume of the agenda of a WRC and the workload of the preparatory work needed to be kept at a manageable level. Therefore, number of agenda item shall be absolutely minimum and manageable, taking into account that there are already 12 agenda items for WRC -27 plus 10 standing agenda items including agenda item 7 which could be much more than one item.
4. APT Members are of the view that issues that can be resolved under the standing agenda items of WRCs or through the regular activities of ITU-R should not be converted into separate agenda item of WRCs.
5. Topic/subject under agenda item 9.1 should be strictly avoided since they are more complex than standard agenda items (these are also considered as hidden agenda items).
6. Use of terms such as:
* Constraints
* Due constraints
* Undue constraints
* Additional constraints

Should not be used since:

a) These terms are not quantifiable, and;

b) They have no regulatory consequence in a treaty like RR.

1. Consistency between the title of agenda item and title of the supporting resolutions as well as operative parts of the resolutions are absolutely necessary and needs to be fully respected.
2. Mandates and scope of ITU-R should not be mixed up with mandates and scope of works of other international organizations such as IMO, ICAO and the like.
3. Number of preamble of any/all resolutions should be reduced to the absolute minimum necessary which are needed to justify the operative parts. In particular, recognizing parts of the resolution should only be factual statements already agreed by ITU-R and ITU.

In additions every effort to be made in selecting Terms, Language and wording of the resolutions, in particular resolve parts to be non-ambiguous, meaningful and clear.

Reference to the protection of other services (in band) and (adjacent band if necessary) should be clearly specified in the resolution.

1. A clear and detailed estimated workload of ITU-R Study Groups need to be indicated in consultation with current Study Groups/Working Parties Chairmen/Vice chairmen.
2. RRB Members and Head of BR Departments attending the WRC-23 are also invited to examine the operative parts of the proposed resolutions in order to declare their conformity with the RR and RoP and practices of the BR.
3. Once the text of the resolutions in initial language is agreed its full consistencies in other official languages of the Union needs to be ensured.
4. Inclusion of identical agenda item in two WRCs shall be strictly avoided.

**3.2 Summary of issues raised during the meeting**

During the meeting, there were some discussions how to handle the text proposed in relation to the use of terms (e.g., constraints, due constraints, undue constraints and additional constraints) in terms of Agenda Item 10. Some APT Members were of the view that this proposal is appropriate as APT Preliminary Views. Some other APT Members were of the view that this proposal is not solely related to Agenda Item 10 so that it is difficult to retain in Section 4 Preliminary Views. This particular proposal will be discussed at the APG23-4, as indicated in Section 6.

**4. APT Preliminary View(s)**

In developing new WRC agenda items, APT Members support the ‘Principles for establishing agendas for WRCs’ as detailed in Annex 1 to Resolution **804 (Rev.WRC-19)** and encourages the use of the *Template for the submission of proposals for agenda items* (Annex 2 of the Resolution).

APT Members are of the view that

* the volume of the agenda of a WRC and the workload of the preparatory work needs to be kept at a manageable level. Therefore, the number of agenda item shall be absolutely minimum and manageable, taking into account that there are 13 preliminary agenda items for WRC-27 plus 10 standing agenda items including agenda item 7 which could be much more than one item.
* issues that can be resolved under the standing agenda items of WRCs or through the regular activities of ITU-R should not be converted into separate agenda item of WRCs.
* topic/subject under agenda item 9.1 should, as much as possible, be avoided since some of them are more complex than standard agenda items (these are also considered as hidden agenda items).
* consistency between the title of agenda item and title of the supporting resolutions as well as operative parts of the resolutions are absolutely necessary and needs to be fully respected. In addition every effort is to be made in selecting Terms, Language and wording of the resolutions, in particular resolve parts to be non-ambiguous, meaningful and clear. Once the text of the resolutions in the initial language is agreed its full consistencies in other official languages of the Union needs to be ensured.
* the preamble of any/all resolutions should be reduced to the absolute minimum necessary which are needed to justify the operative parts. In particular, recognizing parts of the resolution should only be factual statements already agreed by ITU-R and ITU. Reference to the protection of other services (in band) and (adjacent band if necessary) should be clearly specified in the resolution.
* mandates and scope of ITU-R should not be mixed up with mandates and scope of works of other international organizations such as IMO, ICAO and the like.
* during the Conference, estimation of workload of ITU-R Study Groups need to be indicated by the BR in consultation with current Study Groups/Working Parties Chairmen/Vice chairmen. This estimation could be facilitated by providing the relevant information in the proposals to the WRC, in accordance with Resolution **804**. Inclusion of identical agenda item in two WRCs shall be strictly avoided.
* during the Conference, RRB Members and Head of BR Departments attending the WRC-23 are also invited to examine the operative parts of the proposed resolutions in order to declare their conformity with the RR and Rules of Procedure (RoP) and practices of the BR.

**5. Other View(s) from APT Members**

None

**6. Issues for Consideration at Next APG Meeting**

APT Members are invited to submit input contributions on this agenda item to the next APG meetings. APT Members are invited to carefully examine the proposed new items for inclusion in the agenda of a future conference together with the preliminary agenda items for WRC-27 within Resolution **812 (WRC‑19)** as indicated in the Table below and prepare APT views and proposals on WRC-23 Agenda item 10.

In addition, APT Members are invited to provide views whether or not the proposal vi) in section 3.1.3 above in relation to the use of terms such as constraints, due constraints, undue constraints and additional constraints, should be converted into APT Preliminary View.

| **Preliminary agenda for WRC-27 listed in Resolution 812 (WRC-19)** | **Responsible Group in ITU-R** *(See Addendum 1 to CA/251)* | **Priority for APT and reason** | **Preliminary Views** |
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| 2.1 to consider, in accordance with Resolution **663 (WRC‑19)**,additional spectrum allocations to the radiolocation service on a co-primary basis in the frequency band 231.5-275 GHz and an identification for radiolocation applications in frequency bands in the frequency range 275‑700 GHz for millimetre and sub-millimetre wave imaging systems; | SG 1/SG 5 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.2 to study and develop technical, operational and regulatory measures, as appropriate, to facilitate the use of the frequency bands 37.5-39.5 GHz (space-to-Earth), 40.5-42.5 GHz (space-to-Earth), 47.2-50.2 GHz (Earth-to-space) and 50.4-51.4 GHz (Earth-to-space) by aeronautical and maritime earth stations in motion communicating with geostationary space stations in the fixed-satellite service, in accordance with Resolution **176 (WRC‑19)**; | SG 4 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.3 to consider the allocation of all or part of the frequency band [43.5-45.5 GHz] to the fixed-satellite service, in accordance with Resolution **177 (WRC‑19)**; | SG 4 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.4 the introduction of power flux-density (pfd) and equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) limits in Article **21** for the frequency bands 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz in accordance with Resolution **775 (WRC‑19)**; | SG 4/SG 5 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.5 the conditions for the use of the frequency bands 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz by stations in the satellite services to ensure compatibility with passive services in accordance with Resolution **776 (WRC‑19)**; | WP 7C |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |

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| 2.6 to consider regulatory provisions for appropriate recognition of space weather sensors and their protection in the Radio Regulations, taking into account the results of ITU Radiocommunication Sector studies reported to WRC‑23 under agenda item 9.1 and its corresponding Resolution **657 (Rev.WRC‑19)**; | WP 7C |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.7 to consider the development of regulatory provisions for non-geostationary fixed-satellite system feeder links in the frequency bands 71-76 GHz (space-to-Earth and proposed new Earth-to-space) and 81-86 GHz (Earth-to-space), in accordance with Resolution **178 (WRC‑19)**; | SG 4 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.8 to study the technical and operational matters, and regulatory provisions, for space-to-space links in the frequency bands [1 525-1 544 MHz], [1 545-1 559 MHz], [1 610-1 645.5 MHz], [1 646.5‑1 660.5 MHz] and [2 483.5-2 500 MHz] among non-geostationary and geostationary satellites operating in the mobile-satellite service, in accordance with Resolution **249 (WRC‑19)**; | SG 4 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.9 to consider possible additional spectrum allocations to the mobile service in the frequency band 1 300-1 350 MHz to facilitate the future development of mobile-service applications, in accordance with Resolution **250 (WRC‑19)**; | SG 5 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.10 to consider improving the utilization of the VHF maritime frequencies in Appendix **18**, in accordance with Resolution **363** **(WRC‑19)**; | SG 5 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.11 to consider a new Earth exploration-satellite service (Earth-to-space) allocation in the frequency band 22.55-23.15 GHz, in accordance with Resolution **664 (WRC‑19)**; | WP 7B |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |

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| 2.12 to consider the use of existing International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) identifications in the frequency range 694-960 MHz, by consideration of the possible removal of the limitation regarding aeronautical mobile in IMT for the use of IMT user equipment by non-safety applications, where appropriate, in accordance with Resolution **251 (WRC-19)**; | SG 5 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |
| 2.13 to consider a possible worldwide allocation to the mobile-satellite service for the future development of narrowband mobile-satellite systems in frequency bands within the frequency range [1.5-5 GHz], in accordance with Resolution **248 (WRC-19)**; | SG 4 |  | [Support/Objection/MOD] |

**7. Views from Other Organisations** (as provided in the information documents to

APG23-3)

* 1. **Regional Groups**

**7.1.1 ASMG - Document APG23-3/INF-37**

ASMG administrations support the principle of Resolution **804**, which aims to set the agenda items for the upcoming radiocommunication conferences, to provide administrations with sufficient time for examine the topics that intended to be included in the work of the next conferences.

**7.1.2 ATU - Document APG23-3/INF-39**

ATU supports, as a matter of principle, the topics/subjects which will allow for rational and efficient use of the radio frequency spectrum and consistent with ATU’s long-term objectives for spectrum management to be included in WRC-27 agenda. In addition, ATU supports the consideration of items that are of international and regional importance, which can be effectively addressed through the WRC-23, and which are likely to be resolved within the available time and resources.

**7.2 International Organisations**

**7.2.1 WMO** - **Document APG23-3/INF-01**

WMO supports studies on the WRC-27 preliminary agenda items to ensure meteorological interests are protected. If work in the ITU-R is conducted on any of the WRC-27 Preliminary agenda items during the preparatory period for WRC-23 WMO will contribute to ensure WMO interests are protected.

The current WRC-27 preliminary agenda has a number of items of interest and/or concern to WMO:

* *Preliminary Agenda item 2.1*

The frequency ranges specified in this agenda item overlap some frequency bands allocated to, or identify for use by, the EESS (passive). Protection of the EESS (passive) must be ensured.

* *Preliminary Agenda item 2.2*

This preliminary agenda item introduces a potential for increased interference to the EESS (passive) in the 50.2-50.4 GHz frequency band.

* *Preliminary Agenda Item 2.5*

The protection of the EESS (passive) in 86-92 GHz through implementation of mandatory limits in Resolution 750 (WRC-19) is a priority for WMO.

* *Preliminary Agenda item 2.6*

This preliminary agenda item is intended as a follow-on to WRC-23 Agenda Item 9.1, Topic A. Under Agenda Item Topic A, regulatory changes are not permitted. This follow-on preliminary agenda item for WRC-27 will address any required regulatory changes.

* *Preliminary Agenda item 2.7*

This preliminary agenda item is related to the same topic covered under Preliminary Agenda item 2.5. From a WMO perspective, either Preliminary Agenda item 2.5 or this agenda item should be retained, but both are not needed to address WMO concerns.

* *Preliminary Agenda item 2.11*

This preliminary agenda item calls for consideration of creating a new EESS (earth-to-space) allocation in the frequency band 22.55-23.15 GHz frequency band to be paired with the existing 25.5-27 GHz (space-to-Earth) EESS frequency allocation. The creation of the new allocation to the EESS would benefit WMO interests.

* *Preliminary Agenda item 2.13*

This preliminary agenda item appears to be a duplicate of Agenda item 1.18 on the WRC-23 agenda. The reason for inclusion on the WRC-27 preliminary agenda is unclear. See WRC-23 Agenda item 1.18 for discussion and WMO position.

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