

ATU Celebration during WRC-23

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Speech

14 December 2023

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Honorable Ministers,
ITU Secretary General,
ATU Secretary General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

What a great way to end a WRC! What a joy to participate in this celebration!

I am very pleased to celebrate with you the successful implementation of Resolution 559, and the optimization of the FM Radio Channels for Africa.

I want to start by congratulating all African Administrations and the ATU on these great achievements!

Dear Colleagues,

Resolution 559 offered a one-time opportunity for countries having degraded resources in the BSS Plan to regain better reference situations.

Many national Administrations, Regional Organizations, and the ITU collaborated closely to ensure that Africa could benefit from this opportunity.

I would like to highlight the consistent commitment we had since WRC-19 from both ATU and SADC, in the organization of workshops to ensure countries followed up and developed their submissions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to publicly recognize the work of the team led by Jian Wang, and, in particular, the efforts of BR engineer Thong Pham Viet to ensure the application of Resolution 559 was successfully completed. I am sure that many in your administrations are now familiar with him!

BR experts regularly participated in Workshops organized by ATU and SADC for African countries and other concerned countries, and they assisted your Administrations in preparing and submit the various regulatory documentation required to successfully implement Resolution 559.

As a consequence, a total of 45 Administrations submitted their request to apply this special procedure and 41 Administrations successfully entered their new frequency assignments in the Lists of Appendices 30 and 30A as published in BR IFIC 2993.

We can all celebrate that WRC-23 has decided on the final inclusion of these 41 new entries in the BSS Plan with a much better reference situation than before.

Now, with this victory in hand, we need to continue the work.

I encourage you to use the national assignments for the provision of BSS effectively and ensure this regulatory achievement has a real impact on the African citizens.

Distinguished Delegates,

GE84 Plan Optimization for Africa is another example of successful and fruitful collaboration between ITU and ATU.

The Radiocommunication Bureau provided the necessary software for compatibility analysis, as well as the experts who assisted in technical and regulatory matters to ensure successful and smooth coordination discussions. In particular, I must recognize engineer Ilham Ghazi for her expertise and hard work and all her team for the tremendous dedication to this project.

I thank the active participation and contribution of 50 African Administrations.

After 18 months of work that started in July 2019 in East London, over 18,000 FM radio channels were successfully coordinated in the framework of the most congested broadcasting Plan, established 37 years ago.

This effort will secure the long-term sustainability of radio broadcasting in Africa, whether using analogue or digital technologies.

As a United Nations specialized agency, it is the ITU's role to support all nations in achieving the goals established in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including obtaining access to information through technologies such as broadcasting satellite services and radio broadcasting.

My dear friend, Mr John Omo – Secretary General of ATU

It is my true wish that all African nations can leverage these technological resources to develop and flourish!

I will be most happy to continue to partner with you and ATU toward that end.

Thank you very much.