

19th Conference of the International Amateur Radio Union, Region 3

Bangkok, Thailand

Opening Remarks

04 November 2024

Mario Maniewicz

Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Mr. Thanapant Raichoroen, NBTC Commissioner, Thailand,
Mr. Masanori Kondo, Secretary General of the APT,
Mr. Timothy Ellam, President of IARU,
Mr. Wahyudi Hasbi and Mr. Ken Yamamoto, IARU Region 3 Chairs,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good morning to all of you.

I am thrilled to address you here in Bangkok, in this 19th conference of the International Amateur Radio Union for Region 3. This is a particularly special occasion, since we are gathering in person after six years. More notably, we are on the eve of an important anniversary, as IARU will celebrate its centenary in 2025. This represents a century of rich history.

Dear radio amateurs,

The social value of amateur radio cannot be overstated. It brings radio enthusiasts together, bridges cultural barriers, and seeds technical inspiration to the youth. South-east Asia is a great example of success, with one of the fastest growing communities of young amateur radio enthusiasts.

In addition, amateur radio plays an important role in emergency communications and disaster relief operations.

Especially in this sensitive region of the world, the commitment of the radio amateur community to public service when responding to natural disasters is essential. In numerous occasions, amateur radio enthusiasts provided services, often in hardship and self-sacrifice, as in the case of devastating floods.

The ITU also has its own amateur radio station — 4U1ITU – established in 1962. Since then, it has served as an international pole for the amateur community and for radio enthusiast delegates to ITU.

Distinguished Delegates,

ITU is proud to be part of IARU's history. IARU has been an ITU sector member and a valuable contributor to the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector since 1932.

I commend IARU for the regular presence and active participation in ITU-R meetings and conferences.

Study Group 5 and Working Party 5A leads the work of avid radio enthusiasts – which are also highly qualified radiocommunication experts.

Together, they conduct studies related to the amateur and amateur-satellite services, address ITU-R Questions, and develop ITU-R Recommendations, Reports, and Handbooks.

Another essential part of the work of the SGs and WPs relates to the preparatory study for ITU's World Radiocommunication Conferences.

Towards this end, the participation of IARU Region 3 in the APT Preparatory Group and the presence of radio amateurs in national delegations has proven to be a recipe for success.

First, on the adoption of Resolution **774 (WRC-19)**. IARU contributed with technical studies and identified solutions for the protection of radionavigation satellite service.

Then, during the RA-23 with the approval of Recommendation ITU-R M.2164, and finally at WRC-23, with a constructive work on agenda item 9.1 issue b).

Looking to the future, IARU's contributions to the preparatory studies for WRC-27 have started, notably on the sharing and compatibility studies among radiocommunication services, and also addressing new frontiers in radiocommunications, specifically regarding the Resolution **680 (WRC-23)** studies on lunar orbit and surface communications.

Dear Colleagues,

Having worked with the "amateur" radio community for many years, I am well aware that radio amateurs are perfect examples of the original meaning of the word: dedicated enthusiasts, whose professionalism and vast expertise are born from a true passion for their field.

During its centenary of existence, IARU has developed close working relations, represented, and defended the interests of Amateur Services together with national Administrations, Regional Telecommunication Organizations and the ITU.

As this new study cycle starts, I encourage you to further engage in the work of the ITU-R, involving also younger delegates. This will ensure your expertise will be passed on to future generations and the needs of amateur services will remain preserved.

I wish you every success during this meeting.

Thank you for your attention.