

International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO)

41st Meeting of the Assembly of Parties

Washington D.C, United States of America

Opening Remarks

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Mario Maniewicz

Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Mr Chairman,
ITSO Director General,
Distinguished guests,
Honorable delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to address the Forty-First Meeting of the Assembly of Parties of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization. I appreciate the opportunity to join you today.

Let me start by acknowledging the importance of the core principles of ITSO to maintain global connectivity and global coverage, serve lifeline connectivity customers, and provide non-discriminatory access to Intelsat's system. These principles reflect our common heritage in space – one that views space as a global resource, benefiting all humanity irrespective of borders or economic standing.

The International Telecommunication Union recognizes your efforts and the significant progress you have made to ensure the provision of international public satellite services.

ITSO's mission is aligned with the ITU's strategic goal of universal connectivity. Hence the successful collaboration between the ITU and ITSO in providing satellite communication training and capacity-building initiatives that support Member States in using satellite technologies to improve connectivity.

Dear Colleagues,

The ITU is committed to address developing countries' specific needs and to ensure the equitable use of satellite resources.

We not only say it, but we also try our best to do it.

Towards this end, let me take the example of Resolution 559, which offered a one-time opportunity for countries having degraded resources in the BSS Plan to regain better reference situations.

After extensive work, at the last World Radiocommunication Conference, 41 administrations successfully entered their new frequency assignments in the Lists of Appendices 30 and 30A. Many of which are here today.

I assure you that the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau stands ready to support ITSO's activities, providing technical assistance and expertise. We remain available to continuing working with you to address the challenges and opportunities in satellite communications.

As we look to the future, space sustainability must remain at the forefront of our discussions. The growing challenges of space debris, increasingly crowded orbits, and the threat of harmful interference demand our urgent attention. We have a collective responsibility to safeguard the space environment through responsible and collaborative practices. The decisions we make today will shape not only the future of satellite communications but also the future of space as a shared resource for all generations to come.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I understand this is an important meeting for ITSO with the election of your new Director General. As we bid farewell to ITSO's outgoing Director General, I recognize the contribution of MR. PATRICK MASAMBU, whose leadership, dedication, and achievements, have significantly advanced ITSO's goals. We also look forward to continuing our collaboration with ITSO's new leadership, confident that their vision and expertise will build on past successes.

Let me conclude by wishing you a productive and successful Assembly. The discussions and decisions made here will ensure that satellite communications continue to expand and are available to all nations on a truly global and non-discriminatory basis.

Thank you.