

Joint Meeting CWG-SFP / CWG-FHR

Geneva, Switzerland

Opening Remarks

Sunday, 20 March 2022

Mario Maniewicz
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Good morning to all distinguished delegates, and welcome back to the ITU Headquarters for this joint meeting of the CWG-SPF and the CWG-FHR. It is a great pleasure to see all of you in person after this difficult period of the pandemic!

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening also to all delegates that are joining us remotely.

Please allow me first to thank the two CWGs Chairs, Ms Vernita Harris, Chair of the Financial and Human Resources group and Mr Frederic Sauvage, Chair of the Strategic and Financial Plans group for convening this joint meeting back-to-back with the Council 2022 session starting tomorrow.

As you know, I have been chairing the ITU Secretariat's inter-sectoral working group on Strategic Planning. And now that we are close to completing our task of assisting the members in the drafting of the Union's Strategic and Financial Plans for 2024-2027, I am confident that this meeting will help clarify and sort out all questions related to the linkage between these two important documents.

In this cycle, it has been a short but intense period to fulfil our tasks, and in addition we had to do it virtually. So, I trust that today, as we can be together physically, all the commitment and collaboration shown during this period will be reinforced.

After this joint meeting, the CWG-SFP will also celebrate its 4th meeting with the aim of reaching an agreed text for the draft Strategic Plan to be submitted to Council and then to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

We have come a long way since we started discussing the principles and guidelines that would be the basis of the Strategic Plan we wanted for our Union. Let's make a last effort today, to go through the text of the draft Strategic Plan where only a few issues still need to be discussed and agreed; and then focus on the Results Framework, as the tool that will help us monitor and evaluate the implementation and achievement of our plan.

The Secretariat has been working, based on the guidelines agreed by you during our 3rd meeting some weeks ago, in February, analysing and assessing each of the proposals received, including a sector contribution submitted for this 4th meeting, to present you a document from where you can define the Results Framework for the draft Strategic Plan to be presented to Council.

From the side of the Secretariat, we will continue to assist you in this process, following your guidance and providing you with all relevant information and support to fulfil your task.

I wish you all a successful meeting and I trust that today, in-person discussions will lead to the final draft text of the Strategic Plan to be presented to Council.