

**Workshop on Space activities in modern realities
Opportunities, novelty and prospects**

Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

Welcome Remarks

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Ladies and gentlemen,

Distinguished colleagues,

It is a privilege to address such a distinguished audience of national regulators, operators, and experts committed to shaping the future of space policy and connectivity.

This seminar offers a unique opportunity to share best practices in creating or improving national legislation for space activities while addressing the challenges surrounding national market access policies for satellite systems.

With the rapid evolution of the global space industry, these exchanges help ensure we are equipped to handle the challenges and opportunities in this new space era.

Dear Participants,

Space sustainability is a key issue on our collective agenda. It encompasses more than mitigating space debris, managing space traffic, or protecting the space environment.

The increasing number of space objects in near-Earth orbit highlights the importance of ensuring long-term access to orbital spectrum resources for all nations. Additionally, we must focus on achieving global standardization and interoperability of telecommunication services to enhance connectivity for everyone.

Since 1963, when regulations governing satellites' use of orbital slots were first introduced, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has been at the forefront of promoting sustainable access to these critical resources.

The ITU has established efficient mechanisms to ensure Member States can secure and maintain their access rights. These efforts remain central to our mission.

Today, the legal framework at both national and international levels is undergoing significant transformation. These changes are driven by the need to address space sustainability and the growing reliance on hybrid connectivity that integrates both terrestrial and space networks. This evolution demands forward-thinking policies and effective international collaboration.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Looking to the future, we have critical milestones to address. One such milestone is the upcoming World Radiocommunication Conference in 2027.

The agenda for the conference is more than 80 per cent space related.

Among the issues under discussion will be regulatory measures to ensure that local access to global or regional services provided by these satellite systems aligns with national policies.

Another crucial topic will be ensuring equitable access to higher frequency bands above 40 GHz, which are becoming increasingly attractive due to advancements in technology.

These issues may require the establishment of innovative regulatory approaches and widespread collaboration among regulators, satellite operators, and service providers.

Another critical topic for this seminar is the introduction of Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN) for 5G and 6G connectivity.

This technology has the potential to expand global connectivity, but it also brings its own set of challenges. Beyond the traditional hurdles of cost, infrastructure investments, and regulatory approval, NTN relies on international cooperation, a unified regulatory framework, and global consensus on technical standards.

WRC-27 will address this issue by exploring potential spectrum allocations for mobile satellite services and the regulatory requirements to enable direct connectivity to IMT user equipment which will complement terrestrial IMT network coverage.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am sure that the discussions that will take place during this workshop will consider the diverse priorities of individual nations on the future of space policy, connectivity, and sustainability.

As we move forward, I invite you to participate in the WRC process and in the studies that take place in ITU-R. Let us work together to ensure that all nations can leverage the benefits of the new space economy and address the challenges that lie ahead.

Thank you for your attention.