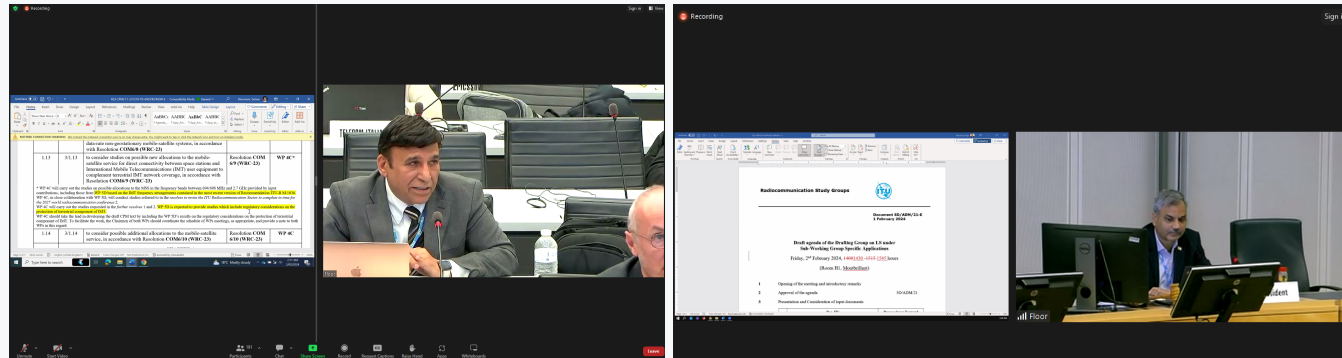


THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

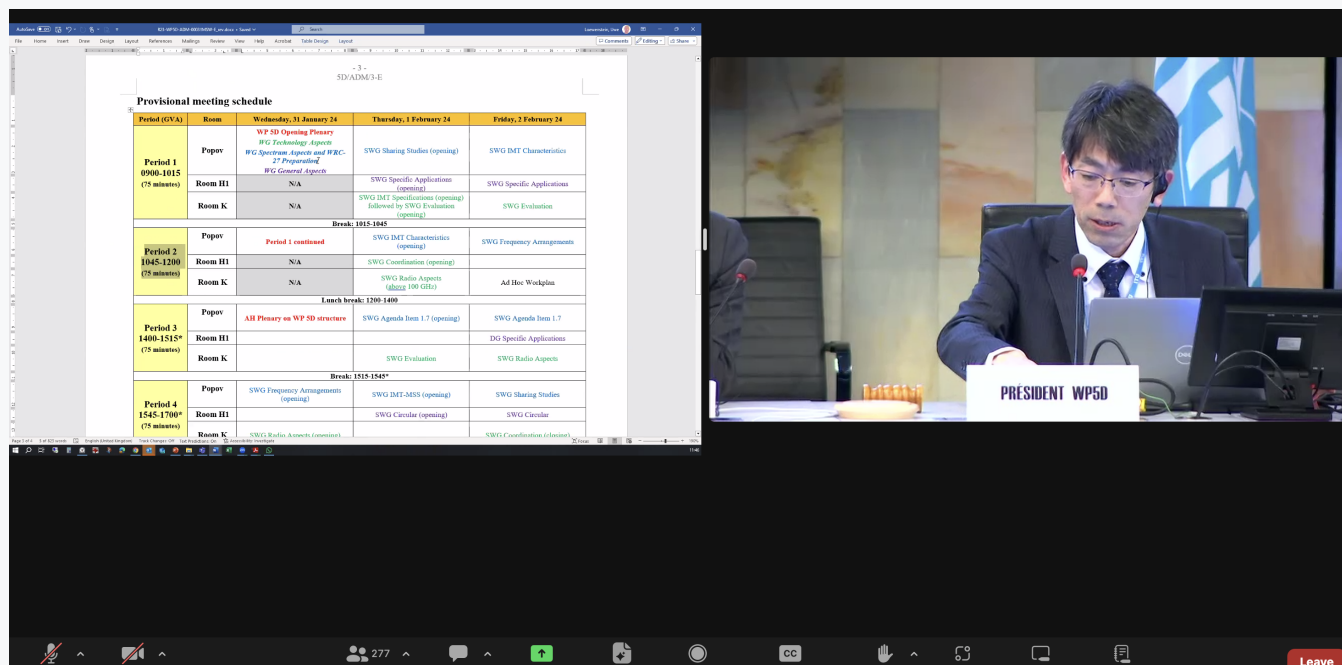
IAFI News

45 th Meeting of ITU-R WP-5D at Geneva, Switzerland



45 th meeting of ITU-R Working Party -5D commenced on 31-01-2024 at ITU Headquarter, Geneva, Switzerland. Mr Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI and Shri Jitendra Singh, Vice-President, An interim management team was nominated until the SG5 meeting that will happen in May 2024. Mr Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI continued as the Chairman of working group on IMT applications and usages. Shri Jitendra Singh, Vice-President also continued as a DG chair. IAFI attended the meeting as delegates from India. IAFI submitted seven contributions demonstrating active participation in ITU activities and India also submitted three contributions. Meeting will continue till 07-02-2024. Throughout the inaugural week of the WP-5D meeting, spanning from January 31, 2024, to February 2, 2024, IAFI participated in the WP-5D Plenary/WGs/SWGs meeting and also presented five contributions.

Highlights of the inaugural week of 45th WP-5D meeting



During the first week of the WP-5D meeting from 31-01-2024 to 02-02-2024, IAFI presented five contributions and remaining two will be presented in the next week, on 05-02-2024. Details of the discussions held on five IAFI contributions are as follows.

- Regarding C-5: IAFI presented this contribution during the WP-5D plenary meeting; a "Proposals for structure and working process of Working Party 5D towards RA-27 and WRC-27" and many countries also shared their perspectives on this vital matter. Recognizing the gravity of the issue, a dedicated session of the AH WP-5D Plenary was convened to deliberate all submissions. Following thorough discussions, it was collectively agreed to maintain the current configuration of WP-5D, as the establishment of additional working groups could potentially escalate financial responsibilities for the ITU.
- Regarding C-58: IAFI presented this contribution in the SWG IMT-MSS meeting; addressing "Proposed frequency arrangements under WRC-27 agenda item 1.13" and comprehensive discussion was held on the various issues involved in the Agenda Item 1.13. Many members expressed diverse/controversial views, so consensus could not be reached. Issue will be further deliberated in the next meeting of the SWG IMT-MSS on 05-02-2024, exploring all perspectives and to arrive at a well-consensus decision.
- Regarding C-59: IAFI presented the contribution in the SWG WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.7 meeting, regarding liaison statement on Agenda Item 1.7. Meeting unanimously agreed to send the liaison statement to all the relevant working parties.
- Regarding C-60: IAFI presented the contribution in SWG Radio Aspect, addressing "Considerations on preliminary draft new Report ITU-R M.[IMT.ABOVE 100 GHZ]". IAFI suggested some changes in the proposed PDNR and after incorporating the changes, report should be elevated to DNR. Following a thorough discussion, IAFI's suggestions received unanimous acceptance, with the suggested amendments being seamlessly incorporated into the report.
- Regarding C-61: IAFI presented the contribution in SWG Specific Application, regarding "Proposal for a new ITU-R Report on IMT application for financial inclusion". After a comprehensive discussion, it was unanimously agreed upon that rather than creating a new ITU-R report, the recently released ITU-R Report M.2527, addressing applications of the terrestrial component of International Mobile Telecommunications for specific societal, industrial, and other usages, could be revised and updated. IAFI committed to preparing the revised draft report for submission at the next WP-5D meeting, tentatively scheduled for the end of June 2024.

India Satcom Symposium 2024



The inaugural edition of the India Satcom Symposium 2024, a single day conference, was organised by ET Satcom on 31-01-2024, witnessed good participation from top industry executives worldwide as well as regulatory and government officials from the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), New Space India Limited (NSIL), and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Event was addressed by Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, Hon'ble MOC and Shri Devisinh Chauhan, Hon'ble MOS (C). In his opening address, Hon'ble MOC emphasized India's ambitious vision of leveraging satellite communication to deliver broadband services to underserved regions reaching remote villages in the Northeast, Himalayas, forests, and islands. The government encourages collaboration with satellite service providers like Eutelsat-OneWeb, Reliance Jio, Starlink, Amazon, Telesat, and Tata Group. This strategic move aligns seamlessly with India's Space Policy 2023, allowing private LEO and MEO satellite operators to offer broadband-from- space services.

Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI participated in the conference remotely from Geneva, highlighting the pivotal role of Satcom in achieving ubiquitous connectivity and addressing spectrum allocations alongside other pertinent challenges. Shri Bhatia also informed the participants regarding the discussion held at WRC-23, recently held at Dubai.

Participants were briefed on a significant decision made during WRC-23 concerning the allocation of the upper 6 GHz band (6425-7125 MHz) for IMT (5G/6G) usage in Region-1, particularly in the Middle East, Africa, and India may commence using after WRC-27, till time satellite systems should relocate in other bands. Similarly, the compatibility between GSO and Non-GSO satellite systems, a controversial agenda, regarding revision of the limit of transmitting power by Non-GSO satellites, was also discussed in detail.

Shri Bhatia also inform the participants regarding the increasing role of the Regional Groups impacting WRC decisions, a good trend.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI preparatory Meetings
ITU-R: Forty-fifth meeting of Working Party 5D	31st Jan - 07th Feb 2024	19th Jan 2024	-
APT: APT Preparatory Group for WTSA-24 (APT WTSA 24- 2)	05th - 06th Feb 2024	29th Jan 2024	-
ITU-R: Radio Regulations Board (RRB)	04th - 08th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
APT: The 32nd Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-32)	04th - 08th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	14th Feb 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 6A (WP 6A) - Terrestrial broadcasting delivery	05th - 13th Mar 2024	27th Feb 2024	-
ITU-T: SG13 - Future networks and emerging network technologies	04th - 15th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6B (WP 6B) - Broadcast service assembly and access	11th - 14th Mar 2024	04th Mar 2024	-

Telecom Stories:



This budget propels Bharat into the top three economies while deftly balancing needs of weaker sections. It continues to build on the four pillars of investment in physical and digital infrastructure, focus on manufacturing, inclusive growth, and simplification. Typically, governments tend to be swayed by populism ahead of elections. But this government hasn't compromised the country's interests for electoral gains. PM Modi has his eyes fixed on the goal of Viksit Bharat@2047.



Union Minister of State for Communications Devisinh Chauhan informed the Upper House in a written reply to a question.

Noting that 5G services were launched in India on October 1, 2022, the MoS said "Within a span of 14 months, more than 4.15 lakh 5G sites are providing connectivity across 742 districts in the country."

"This is the fastest roll-out of 5G anywhere in the world," Chauhan said while replying to the question of Independent MP Kartikeya Sharma, adding "The government is implementing various schemes to further improve telecom connectivity in the country."



The government is looking to earn Rs 1.20 lakh crore from the telecom services in the financial year 2024-25 through licence fees and spectrum charges from the telecom players against Rs 93 541.01 crore in the previous year, as per Interim Budget documents released on February 1. The government, however, hasn't specified the receipts from the auction in the sector's overall revenue target. Communication services include licence fees from telecom operators and receipts for spectrum usage charges.

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