

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

Hectic third week at WRC-23 to tackle diverse Agenda Items and achievements made after third week of the WRC-23



The ITU's flagship event, the World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23), has now passed its three-quarter mark, with three weeks completed out of its four-week duration and now entered in its final phase. Conference has covered almost all the current agenda items and completed detailed discussions on new ones for WRC-27/31.

The third week of WRC-23 proved highly active for all three committees, 4, 5, and 6, as discussed and reviewed wide range of agenda items, covering the following topics.

- Mobile broadband issues (Agenda Items 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5)
- Satellite communication and Earth observation (Items 1.15, 1.16, and 1.17)
- Aeronautical and maritime radio-communication (Items 1.6, and 1.7, 1.11, 1.13)
- Spectrum management and regulatory frameworks (Items 4, 7A, 7C, 7E, 8, and 9)
- Technical studies and proposals (Items 9.1d, 9.3, and eirp mask for 6425-7025 MHz)
- Agenda for the next WRC (Item -6)

A total of 60 proposals were submitted by various sub-groups formed under committees 4, 5, and 6, demonstrating the intense focus and diverse range of issues under consideration. Additionally, 40 proposals were submitted to the Editorial Committee for further review and potential inclusion in the final documents presented during the WRC-23 Plenary Meeting, which is scheduled for the closing week of the conference.

This significant volume of proposals highlights the crucial role played by committees 4, 5, and 6 in shaping the future of radio-communication technologies and regulations at the international level. Their diligent work throughout the third week paved the way for comprehensive discussions and potential decisions during the final phase of WRC-23. With a substantial number of proposals still pending, the WRC-23 conference faces the prospect of weekend sessions and extended working hours throughout the remaining weekdays, to achieve meaningful progress on the diverse agenda items and finalize critical decisions.

IAFI delegates extended their full support to Indian administration, to significantly contribute and for active participation in most of the deliberations.

Well covered in media: <https://www.communicationstoday.co.in/indias-strengthening-participation-in-the-itu-premier-event-the-wrc-23-dubai/>

Meeting of IAFI delegates participating in WRC-23 at Dubai



On December 6th, 2023, IAFI delegates attending WRC-23 in Dubai were invited for a strategic meeting during the event. The objective was to review the progress on issues previously discussed and formulate a comprehensive strategy for tackling remaining topics likely to be addressed in upcoming meetings. This proactive approach ensures IAFI remains at the forefront of IMT and Satellite systems developments, poised to effectively advocate for the best interests of its members and contribute to a thriving global telecommunications landscape.

Challenging tasks assigned to Committee-4



Major technical work of WRC-23 is carried out in three committees as 4, 5 and 6. Committee -4, deals with all important issues pertaining all terrestrial services including IMT, Aeronautical, and Maritime mobile services etc. Three Working Groups (WG-4A, 4B and 4C) under COM4 , which were actively deliberating on the issues allocated to COM4, completed their tasks and submitted their outcomes to COM 4 on Friday.

Committee-4 with Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI as a Vice-Chairperson and the sole representative from the Indian subcontinent to hold such a position, started considering all the outcomes of the working groups and continued to meet during the entire weekend to achieve consensus on critical issues. Significant progress was achieved during the third week of WRC- 23, adopting texts for five key agenda items: 1.6, 1.10, 1.11, and 9.1(b). These finalized texts will now undergo review by the Editorial Committee before being presented to the Plenary Meeting for final approval. Total eight proposals have been finalized and send to the editorial committee by the Committee-4 till date.

IAFI new contribution to restructure WP-5D



IAFI actively involved in the various activities of the ITU and regularly contributes for the development and evolution of IMT, Satellite, Aeronautical/Maritime communication systems. Recently, IAFI submitted a new contribution (No. 1257) to Working Party 5D (WP-5D) proposing to streamline the structure and working process of the WP-5D, for discussing and deliberating the issues and submitting the proposals to be next RA-27 and WRC-27.

WP-5D plays a crucial role in the overall radio system aspects of IMT, encompassing existing and future generations, including IMT-2000, IMT-Advanced, IMT-2020, IMT-2030, and beyond. The recent WRC-23 witnessed vibrant discussions exploring the diverse platforms leveraging IMT technology. Looking ahead, several new agenda items for WRC-27 will involve IMT as a key stakeholder. This underscores the critical need for WP-5D to prioritize compatibility and co-existence studies to ensure seamless integration and optimal performance across the expanding IMT ecosystem.

IAFI's contribution effectively addresses this challenge by proposing a more efficient structure and working process for WP-5D. This initiative demonstrates IAFI's unwavering commitment to spearheading the advancement of IMT and ensuring its continued success in driving global connectivity.

TRAI Consultation Papers

Consultation Papers	Submission Dates	status
Assignment of spectrum in E&V bands, and spectrum for microwave access (MWA) & microwave Backbone (MWB)	13th Dec 2023	Under Development
Digital Transformation through 5G Ecosystem	26th Dec 2023	Under Development

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI preparatory Meetings
ITU-R: ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23)	20th Nov - 15th Dec 2023	20th Oct 2023	-
ITU-T: First Inter-regional Meeting for WTSA-24 Preparation	18th Jan 2024	11th Jan 2024	-
ITU-T Third meeting of the Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG)	22nd Jan - 26th Jan 2024	15th Jan 2024	-
ITU-R: Forty-fifth meeting of Working Party 5D	31st Jan - 7th Feb 2024	24th Jan 2024	20th Dec 2023

Telecom Stories:



Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday said India is looking to take a giant leap in Artificial Intelligence to empower its citizens and asserted that it won't be an exaggeration to say the country achieved in a few years with technology what took others a generation. In a LinkedIn post inviting people to the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence Summit 2023, which he described as a fascinating programme celebrating strides in AI and innovation, the prime minister said India is poised to be an active contributor to the evolution of AI as the world leaps into a not-so-distant future.






Union Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Electronics & IT, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, addressed the Pre-Vibrant Gujarat Summit event, "Startup conclave 2023" held at the Helpad Exhibition and Centre in Gandhinagar, on Thursday. While addressing startups, investors, industry leaders, and key government officials, the Minister emphasized that startups play a pivotal role in propelling India's growth. He underscored that the present times hold unprecedented opportunities for startups to thrive, owing to the transformative initiatives implemented by the Narendra Modi government since 2014.



In Q1 FY24, consumer spend on mobile services (post-GST) rose 2.5% QoQ / 9.7% YoY to Rs 524 billion.

Net revenue grew 2.2% QoQ / 9% YoY to Rs 500 billion led by higher intercomer settlements. Postpaid net revenue fell 1.3% QoQ / 3.3% YoY on lower average revenue per user. Bharti Airtel Ltd.'s postpaid sub base (including machine to machine) rose 13.4% QoQ / 38.3% YoY to 40.4 million, and its postpaid sub market share was up 421 basis points QoQ at 42.8%. Prepaid net revenue rose 2.6% QoQ / 10.4% YoY as ARPU increased 3% QoQ / 11.8% YoY to Rs 144. 4G subs base fell 7.8% QoQ (net less: 61.9 million) to 733 million as 5G subs rose 76 million.

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