IAFI News

WEEK IN BRIEF

ITU-R WP 4C - Examine Direct-to-Device Connectivity Agenda Item 1.13.
IAFI Meets with new head of ITU Area and Innovation office
ITU-R WP-4B
ITU-R WP-4A
IAFI Member Satellot opens subsidiary in India

The 36th Working Party - 4C meeting



The Working Party 4C (WP 4C) meeting was held from 7 to 16 October 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland. WP 4C aims to ensure a more efficient use of orbit and spectrum resources by Mobile-Satellite Service (MSS) and Radio-determination- Satellite Service (RDSS) systems. Meeting discussed 183 documents. India submitted three contributions regarding Agenda Items 1.11 and 1.13

It was a highly demanding meeting, particularly when dealing with the most challenging topic, Agenda Item 1.13. This item focuses on direct-to-device (D2D) satellites connecting directly to standard mobile phones using terrestrial mobile bands between 694 MHz and 2.7 GHz. The meeting finalized the draft text of CPM for agenda items 1.11, 1.12 and 1.13

IAFI Meets with new head of ITU Area and Innovation office



Mr. Kishor Babu Yerraballa, head of the ITU Area representative for South Asia along with the newly appointed Head of India ITU office and Mr. Anand Raj Khanal visited IAFI office in New Delhi and exchanged ideas on further collaboration to use of spectrum to support innovation and development. The discussions brain stormed new ideas of collaboration between IAFI and ITU-D.

The 59th Working Part - 4B Meeting



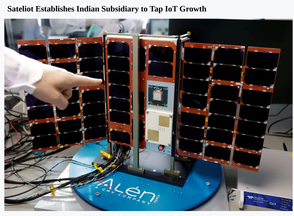
The 59th meeting of the Working Party (WP) – 4B is going on from 14th October 2026 and will continue till 20th October 2026, at Geneva, Switzerland. Working Party 4B (WP 4B) deals with systems, air interfaces, performance and availability objectives for the fixed-satellite service (FSS), broadcasting- satellite service (BSS) and mobile-satellite service (MSS), including IP-based applications and satellite news gathering (SNG). Total 87 contributions were submitted in the meeting. Key Focus Areas & Activities of the WP-4B is regarding studies and technical evaluations integrating and optimizing satellite technologies for modern communication needs, including Satellite IMT-2020 (5G) & IMT-Advanced, developing the vision, requirements, submission, and evaluation processes for satellite radio interfaces to support 5G networks and beyond; IP-Based Applications - Enhancing satellite systems for internet-protocol-based applications and global mobile personal communications and others. WP-4B is actively engaged in developing the Hand Book on Satellite Communications and Technologies.

Meeting of the Working Party - 4A



The 59th meeting of the Working Party (WP)-4A started on 19th October 2026 and will continue till 29 October 2026. The major study areas of Working Party 4A are orbit/spectrum efficiency, interference and coordination and related aspects for FSS and BSS. Its work has significant relevance to the preparatory work for World Radiocommunication Conferences. Total 205 contributions were received by the meeting. India has submitted a contribution regarding further updates to the draft CPM text regarding Agenda Item -1.5. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI is participating in the event physically. WP-4A consists of 14 SWGs, 4A1a to 4A1f, 4A2a to 4A2d, 4A3a to 4A3c and AHG. WP-4A deals with Agenda Items – 1.1 to 1.6, AI-7, ESIM and FSS/BSS General issues and Article-22 matters. Main aim of the meeting is to finalize the draft CPM text on various Agenda Items of WRC-27.

Satellot Establishes Indian Subsidiary to Tap IoT Growth



European satellite operator Satellot has established an Indian subsidiary to tap into the country's rapidly growing Internet of Things (IoT) market. The company specialises in Low Earth Orbit (LEO)-based narrowband IoT (NB-IoT) connectivity, offering affordable, standards-based satellite solutions. Its technology enables machine-to-machine applications across sectors such as agriculture, logistics, utilities and critical infrastructure. By complementing terrestrial mobile networks, Satellot aims to extend connectivity to underserved and remote areas across India.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU-R: Working Party 4B (WP 4B)	14th - 20th October 2026	02nd October 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 4A (WP 4A)	19th - 29th October 2026	07th October 2026
APT: The 27th Meeting of South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-27)	20th - 22nd October 2026	10th October 2026
ITU: PP-26	09th - 27th November 2026	29th October 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 5A (WP 5A)	18th - 26th November 2026	06th November 2026
ITU-R: ITU-R Working Party 5B	18th - 27th November 2026	06th November 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 5C (WP 5C)	18th - 27th November 2026	06th November 2026
ITU-R: Study Group 5 (SG 5)	30th November - 01st December 2026	18th November 2026

Telecom Stories:



India is positioning itself as a trusted partner in global technology supply chains, with a focus on manufacturing, design and other capabilities, Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Wednesday. Speaking at the Bloomberg New Economy Forum on Wednesday, he said trust and cybersecurity were becoming increasingly important in supply-chain decisions, beyond cost considerations.



For India's mobile operators, a second consecutive year without a spectrum auction is less a setback than a reprieve. With large spectrum holdings already on their books, few licenses due for renewal, and 5G returns still trailing the investment made to build those networks, the three private-sector telcos have little appetite for fresh airwaves in the current fiscal year.



The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India will recognize and award the best-performing States/Union Territories (UTs), Police Districts and Police Stations for their exemplary efforts in recovering lost/stolen mobile handsets traced through the Sanchar Saathi portal – a citizen centric initiative of DoT to empower mobile subscribers, strengthen their security and increase awareness about citizen centric initiatives of the Government. The awards will be presented during the upcoming National, Zonal & State level Events of DoT.

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