



Input Contribution to EACO WRC-23
Preparatory Meeting
Online Meeting 28 February 2022

Input Contribution xx

22-February-2022

GSOA

Agenda Item 9.1 Topic c

Part A: Description

WRC Agenda item 9 is a standing agenda item that considers and approves the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention:

Sub Agenda 9.1 deals with the activities of the Radiocommunication Sector since WRC-19:

Topic 9.1 c is to study the use of International Mobile Telecommunication (IMT) systems for fixed wireless broadband in the frequency bands allocated to the fixed service on a primary basis, in accordance with Resolution **175 (WRC 19)**.

Resolution **175 (WRC 19)** resolves to invite the ITU Radiocommunication Sector:

- to conduct any necessary studies on the use of IMT systems for fixed wireless broadband in the frequency bands allocated to the fixed service on primary basis, taking into account the relevant ITU R studies, Handbooks, Recommendations and Reports;

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

- to report to WRC 23 on the results of these studies.

Part B: Key Elements - the notables

During WRC-19, many Administrations questioned the necessity of having this topic on the WRC-23 plan, noting that ITU-R Recommendations addressing FWA in the bands allocated to the fixed services on a primary basis already exist, and the work in ITU-R is generally considered to be technology-neutral. As a compromise, WRC-19 agreed to include this topic for study under agenda item 9.1 with the common understanding that topics included under agenda item 9.1 cannot and should not lead to changes of the Radio Regulations.

In line with the guidelines of CPM23-1 (CA/251), only a summary of the results for Chapter 5 of the CPM Report should be developed under this topic. There should be no related Methods and Regulatory or Procedural considerations.

Part C: Current Status of Band

All frequency bands that have primary allocations to the fixed service are under study in terms of Topic 9.1c.

Part D: Conclusion of the results of studies, if any

WP 5A and WP 5C are the responsible groups for Agenda Item 9.1 Topic c. WP5A will provide the draft text on the results of ITU-R studies to the CPM Chapter Co-Rapporteurs.

It is worth noting that ITU-R WP5D has confirmed that it would not develop any Report on this topic since it is the responsibility of WP5A and 5C.

Based on the latest development of joint meetings between WP 5A and WP 5C, modifying the existing ITU-R Recommendations or developing new Reports, or Handbooks on FWA using IMT technology would be the potential outcome for this topic.

Developing any new ITU-R Recommendations should not be undertaken unless modifying existing ITU-R Recommendations does not address the matter.

This is also highlighted in the summary of the 16th meeting of radiocommunications study groups CVC-16 in June 2020 see paragraph 10 "It is essential to discuss the needs or otherwise to prepare a new ITU-R Report or Recommendation due to the fact that there are already several Reports and Recommendations on the matter. The only aspect to be verified is if such Reports and Recommendations need any amendments/revisions. See paragraph A1.3.1.5bis of Resolution ITU R 1-8"

The results of studies under this topic will only be reflected in the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and lead to possible updates of existing ITU-R publications, e.g. Handbook on Land Mobile, Volume 1: Fixed Wireless Access and relevant Recommendations of ITU-R F-Series. An important objective of the study is to demonstrate that despite the technology used, a new FWA system shall conform to existing technical and regulatory requirements for the FS.

Part E: Options and Associated Implications

There are no "Methods" to satisfy this agenda item, and there are no and Regulatory or Procedural considerations. The output of WP 5A and 5C will only be a recommendation to be included in the Report of the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau to WRC-23.

Part F: Proposed African Common View and/or Position

EACO Member States are requested to consider recommending to ATU that African Administrations, in developing positions on Agenda Item 9.1 Topic c, Administrations should review existing ITU-R Handbooks, Recommendations & Reports on IMT systems for fixed wireless broadband in the frequency bands allocated to the fixed service on primary basis and contribute to the work of WP 5A and WP 5C by proposing modifications, if required.

Part G: Recommendations and Way Forward

Fixed wireless broadband applications in the Fixed Service using different technologies, including IMT technology, could be implemented under the existing regulatory framework and in accordance with relevant existing ITU-R Recommendations. Therefore, there is no need to develop new regulatory provisions in the Radio Regulations for fixed wireless broadband applications using IMT technology. Several existing ITU-R Recommendations/Reports and Handbooks already contain information on various technologies used for FWA. To ensure consistency of material within ITU-R, studies under Agenda Item 9.1 Topic c) need to be focused on updating existing ITU-R deliverables, where necessary.

Based on the above, WRC-23 Agenda Item 9.1 Topic c should be addressed by reviewing the existing ITU-R Recommendations/Reports and Handbooks and considering any necessary modifications for FWA systems using IMT technology, where appropriate. This approach is aligned with Resolution 175 (WRC-19). Any topic under agenda item 9.1 cannot and should not lead to any changes to the Radio Regulations, as confirmed again with the latest development within WP 5A and WP 5C.