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INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

A UN SPECIALIZED AGENCY

ICAO WRC-27 Preparatory Workshop

Agenda item 3.1
Status of African Telecommunication Union (ATU) preparations for WRC-27

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AFI WRC-27 (World Radiocommunication Conference 2027) Workshop
(Dakar, Senegal, 02-03 February 2026)

Presentation Overview

01 **Background**

02 **Potential Issues**

03 **ATU Position**

04 **Conclusion**

BACKGROUND

COMPOSITION

The African Telecommunication Union convenes the ATU Preparatory Meetings **(APM)**

and Working Group **(WG**) which are responsible for developing the African Common

Position **(AfCP)** and briefs for the WRC - 27 and RA - 27.

The objectives of the meetings included the following:

Noting of milestones in ATU Radiocommunications sector

Consideration of ITU preparatory work plan for WRC-27

Noting of Sub-Regions' work plans for WRC-27

Noting of Other Regions' preparatory work plans and highlights of key views/positions on WRC-27 agenda items

Development of the African preliminary common views/positions on WRC-27 Agenda items based on Recommendations of the ATU WRC-27 Preparatory Working Groups

BACKGROUND

APM 27-2 STRUCTURE

Chair	Mr. Mohamed HAJI (Kenya/EACO)
Vice-Chair	Mr. Karim HASSINE (Tunisia/North)
Rapporteurs	Ms. Josiane GONDIO A KOKOH (Cameroun/ECCAS)
	Mr. Kwame Baafour OSEI AKOTO (Ghana/ECOWAS)
	Ms. Mercy NDEMA (Malawi/SADC)

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REPRESENTATION

MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

The ATU is composed of 44 African member states, including North African states – Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Sudan

with four African Regional Economic Communities.

1. EACO-East African Communications Organisation	2. ECCAS-Economic Community of Central African States	3. ECOWAS-Economic Community of West African States	4. SADC- Southern African Development Community

REPRESENTATION

MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Forty-four Associate Members

Access Partnership, Airtel, Amazon, Apple Inc, AST Space Mobile, Broadcast Network Europe, CAMTEL, Coleago, Ericsson, E-Space	*Global Star, GSA, GSMA, Huawei, Inmarsat, Intel Corporation, ISOC-Kenya, LS Telcom, Meta, Motorola Solutions*	*MSN – South Sudan, MTN, Newsky, Nilesat, Nokia, OneWeb, Orange, Policy Impact Partners (PIP), Qualcomm, Regent Square Group*	*Safaricom, Sateliot, Sentech, SES, Shure, Space X, Telekom SA, Telecommunications Management Group (TMG), Telesat, Viasat, Vodacom*

POTENTIAL ISSUES

WRC-27 ATU WORKING GROUP STRUCTURE

CHAPTER	TITLE	AGENDA ITEMS	WORKING GROUP
Chapter 1	Fixed-satellite and Broadcasting-satellite issues	1.1, **1.2**, 1.3, 1.4, **1.5**, 1.6 and 7	Working Group 1
Chapter 2	Fixed, Mobile and Radiolocation issues	**1.7**, 1.8**, 1.9,** 1.10	Working Group 2
Chapter 3	Mobile-satellite issues	1.11, 1.12, 1.13, 1.14	Working Group 3
Chapter 4	Science issues	1.15, **1.16,** 1.17**,** 1.18, **1.19**	Working Group 4
Chapter 5	General issues	4, 8, 9, 10	Working Group 5

1.1 Fixed-satellite and Broadcasting-satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.1

*To consider the technical and operational conditions for the use of the frequency bands **47.2-50.2 GHz and 50.4-51.4 GHz** (Earth-to-space), or parts thereof, by aeronautical and maritime earth stations in motion*

APM27-2 **African PRELIMINARY Common Position**

Support the studies on the technical and operational conditions for the use of the frequency bands 47.2-50.2 GHz and 50.4-51.4 GHz (Earth-to-space), or parts thereof, by A-ESIMs and M-ESIMs communicating with space stations in the fixed-satellite service and develop regulatory measures, as appropriate, to facilitate the use of these frequency bands

1.2

Fixed-satellite and Broadcasting-satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.2

*Possible revisions of sharing conditions in the frequency band **13.75-14 GHz***

APM27-2 **African PRELIMINARY Common Position**

Support, *based on preliminary results of studies and regional usage, the review and possible relaxation of the current regulatory limits and sharing conditions 13.75-14 GHz as set out in RR no.5.502 and 5.503 with the aim to enable efficient usage of the band 13.75-14 GHz by allowing deployment of cost-effective satellite earth station with small antennas while ensuring the protection of the services mentioned in RR n°5.502 and 5.503.*

1.3

Fixed-satellite and Broadcasting-satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.3

*To consider studies relating to the use of the frequency band **51.4-52.4 GHz** to enable use by gateway earth stations transmitting to non-geostationary-satellite*

***APM27-2* African PRELIMINARY Common Position**

Support the ongoing studies on the use the 51.4–52.4 GHz frequency band (Earth-to-space), by gateway earth stations transmitting to non-geostationary satellite orbit (NGSO) systems, provided that ongoing studies yield favorable results and that adequate protection must be ensured for incumbent services in the 51.4 - 52.4 GHz and adjacent frequency bands (including mobile services).

1.4

Fixed-satellite and Broadcasting-satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.4

*To consider a possible new primary allocation to the fixed-satellite service (space-to-Earth) in the frequency band **17.3-17.7 GHz** and a possible new primary allocation to the broadcasting-satellite service (space-to-Earth).*

APM27-2 **African PRELIMINARY Common Position**

Support further technical studies to assess the potential impact/implications of introducing epfd limits in the 17.3–17.7 GHz band in Region 1. The outcome of these studies will help determine the applicability or not of Region 2 epfd limits to operating and future non-GSO FSS systems in the 17.3-17.7 GHz band in Regions 1 and 3.

1.5

Fixed-satellite and Broadcasting-satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.5

Possible regulatory measures and the possibility of implementing these measures to limit the unauthorized operation of non-geostationary earth stations in the fixed-satellite service and the mobile-satellite service, and to consider the associated issues related to the service area of non-geostationary systems in the fixed-satellite service and mobile service-satellite

APM27-2 **African PRELIMINARY Common Position**

Support the studies on the development of regulatory measures that are practical, technologically neutral and feasible to limit unauthorized transmissions from (i.e. Earth to Space direction) the territory of administrations that have not given the necessary authorization for the operation These measures should enable the administrations on whose territory earth stations operating with non-GSO systems are located to have information on their existence and the means to be able to stop unauthorized transmissions; provided such measures do not result in additional constraints and additional burden on the part of developing countries.

1.7

Fixed- Mobile and Radiolocation issues

Agenda Item : 1.7

Use of IMT in the frequency bands **4 400-4 800 MHz *and 125-8 400 MHz***

***APM27-2* AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION**

Support the studies under this agenda item with emphasis on:

Ensure the protection of existing services, particularly Earth exploration-satellite systems (EESS) in the 8,025–8,400 MHz band, Fixed Services in the 8,025 – 8,400 MHz and 14.8 - 15.35 GHz bands and Radio Altimeters in the 4,200–4,400 MHz band as well as the worldwide AP30B Plan in 4,500 - 4,800 MHz, without imposing any constraints or limitations on their operation.

Consider the possibility of identifying the frequency bands under study, or parts thereof, for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) systems, based on the results of coexistence and compatibility studies with existing and adjacent services.

1.8

Fixed- Mobile and Radiolocation issues

Agenda Item : 1.8

*To consider possible additional spectrum allocations to the radiolocation service on a primary basis in the frequency range **231.5-275 GHz** and possible new identifications for radiolocation service applications in frequency bands within the frequency range **275-700 GHz** for millimetric and sub-millimetric wave imaging systems*

APM27-2 **AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION**

Support the possibility of adding new allocations in **231.5-275 GHz** for radiolocation services on a primary basis and possible new identifications in **275-700 GHz** for radiolocation service applications based on the outcomes of ITU studies, provided that:

the actual spectrum needs of these systems are clearly identified;

the regulatory measures are imposed to ensure compatibility with, and protection of, existing radiocommunication services within the same and adjacent frequency bands including the services identified in RR Nos 5.564A and 5.565;

any potential new allocations or identifications do not impose

1.9

Fixed- Mobile and Radiolocation issues

Agenda Item : 1.9

Update Appendix 26 to the Radio Regulations in support of aeronautical mobile (OR) high frequency modernization

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Consider possible updates to Appendix 26 of the RR provided that:

Compatibility and protection of incumbent services as well as the services operating in adjacent frequency bands are ensured;

Any modification to Appendix 26 of the Radio Regulations must be contingent upon the outcomes of compatibility and sharing studies, and must ensure protection criteria for radiocommunication services with primary allocations in the band or in adjacent frequency bands

1.11

Mobile Satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.11

Regulatory provisions, for space-to-space links among non-geostationary and geostationary satellites in the frequency bands ***1 518-1 544 MHz, 1 545-1 559 MHz, 1 610-1 645.5 MHz, 1 646.5-1 660 MHz, 1 670-1 675 MHz***

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support to follow the ongoing studies under this agenda item concerning potential new allocations to the Mobile-Satellite Service (MSS) (space-to-space) and the inter-satellite service with emphasis on the following points:

Ensuring the protection of incumbent services/systems in the frequency bands under study, as well as in adjacent frequency bands, particularly the Mobile-Satellite Service (MSS), fixed, and mobile services;

Any possible new allocation to the MSS (space-to-space) or to inter-satellite service should not impose constraints or limitations on existing services/systems.

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1.12

Mobile Satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.12

Possible allocations to the mobile-satellite service and possible regulatory actions in the frequency bands 1 427-1 432 MHz (space-to-Earth), 1 645.5-1 646.5 MHz (space-to-Earth) (Earth-to-space), 1 880-1 920 MHz (space-to-Earth) (Earth-to-space) and 2 010-2 025 MHz (space-to-Earth)

APM27-2 **AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION**

Support to follow and contribute to the ongoing studies aimed at establishing a global allocation for the Mobile-Satellite Service (MSS) in one or more of the frequency bands under consideration, to support the connectivity requirements of low-data-rate (LDR) non-geostationary satellite orbit (non-GSO) communication systems, with emphasis on the following aspects**:**

Establishing a clear definition and technical characterization of low-data-rate (LDR) systems, including the identification of their typical applications, operational requirements, and relevant use cases.

Determining spectrum requirements based on realistic and practical usage scenarios, in order to promote the efficient and rational utilization of the frequency spectrum.

1.13

Mobile Satellite issues

Agenda Item : 1.13

Possible new allocations to the mobile-satellite service for direct connectivity between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment to complement terrestrial IMT network coverage,

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Consider adopting an approach that seeks to support enabling the envisaged service, subject to the following key conditions where the envisaged service must:

Operate as an application under the Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) on a secondary basis with respect to mobile services in the applicable frequency bands (typically IMT bands), recognising the need to protect the primary status of the existing Mobile Service allocations identified for IMT. The protection of existing services, particularly IMT must be ensured, and the incoming MSS should not restrict nor adversely affect the continued operation and/or expansion of existing IMT (operations of IMT in both TDD and FDD must be protected);

1.15

Science issues

Agenda Item : 1.15

Consider studies on frequency-related matters, including possible new or modified space research service (space-to-space) allocations, for future development of communications on the lunar surface and between lunar orbit and the lunar surface.

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Actively follow the ongoing studies and support the allocation of SRS (space-to-space) for lunar communications to the identified frequency bands while ensuring the protection of the incumbent services particularly the IMT services, Metrological services, and Fixed links operating in lower 7GHz (7110-7425 MHz), Upper 8 GHz (8275-8500 MHz), 26 GHz (24.5-26.5 GHz) and 28 GHz (27.5-29.5 GHz)

1.16

Science issues

Agenda Item : 1.16

Consider studies on frequency-related matters, including possible new or modified space research service (space-to-space) allocations, for future development of communications on the lunar surface and between lunar orbit and the lunar surface.

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support the ongoing ITU-R studies on AI 1.16 to ensure studies consider the specific needs of African Administrations.

Support the protection of RAS, in studies under *resolve 1) and* support technical studies under *resolve 2)* of Resolution **681 (WRC-23).**

Consider establishing a framework, without regulatory and technical constraints on non-GSO systems, to support advanced radio astronomy undertaken in the RQZs in regard to resolve 3 to 6 of Resolution **681 (WRC-23).**

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1.17

Science issues

Agenda Item : 1.17

Consider regulatory provisions for receive-only space weather sensors and their protection in the Radio Regulations, taking into account the results of ITU Radiocommunication Sector studies

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support following up the ongoing studies in accordance with Resolution 682 (WRC-23) in the frequency bands 27.5 – 28.0 MHz, 29.7 – 30.2 MHz, 32.2 – 32.6 MHz, 37.5 – 38.325 MHz, 73.0 – 74.6 MHz, 608 - 614 MHz while ensuring the following conditions:

Any potential allocation for the MetAids (space weather) in these frequency bands will not claim protection nor impose constraints on incumbent services.

Evaluate whether there is suitability of the 600 MHz band for space weather sensors, considering whether it can support their operational requirements

1.18

Science issues

Agenda Item : 1.18

Consider, based on the results of ITU Radiocommunication Sector studies, possible regulatory measures regarding the protection of the Earth exploration-satellite service (passive) and the radio astronomy service in certain frequency bands above 76 GHz from unwanted emissions of active services

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support the continuation of ITU-R studies under Agenda Item 1.18 to ensure evidence-based regulatory decisions.

Advocate for sufficient protection of EESS (passive) and RAS, which are critical for climate monitoring, scientific research, and sustainable development.

Promote equitable access to high-frequency spectrum by balancing protection of passive services with enabling innovation in active service applications (e.g., broadband, satellite).

operational requirements and take into consideration its intensive use by incumbent services in Africa.

1.19

Science issues

Agenda Item : 1.19

Consider possible primary allocations in all Regions to the Earth exploration-satellite service (passive) in the frequency bands 4 200-4 400 MHz and 8 400-8 500 MHz

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support studies on the potential allocation of the 4 200–4 400 MHz and 8 400–8 500 MHz bands to the EESS (passive) without imposing any constraints on incumbent services in these frequency bands and in adjacent bands, in line with Resolution 674 (WRC-23). Any potential future allocation to the EESS (passive) in the concerned bands should be made on the basis that it shall not claim protection from existing services, nor cause harmful interference to them.

8

General issues

Agenda Item : 8

Consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support as matter of principle, actions that promote Global or Regional harmonization of the use of radio spectrum including and in this particular case, removing country names from footnotes or adding names to footnotes where such actions foster harmonization, taking into consideration Resolution 26

10

General issues

Agenda Item : 10

Recommend to the ITU Council items for inclusion in the agenda for the next world radiocommunication conference, and items for the preliminary agenda of future conferences, in accordance with Article 7 of the ITU Convention

APM27-2 AFRICAN PRELIMINARY COMMON POSITION

Support, as a matter of principle**,** the topics/subjects which will allow for rational and efficient use of the radio frequency spectrum and consistent with ATU's long-term objectives for spectrum management to be included in WRC-31 agenda. In addition, ATU should support the consideration of items that are of interest for African Administrations and as much as possible those which can be effectively addressed through WRC-31, and which are likely to be resolved within the available time and resources in accordance with Resolution 804 (Rev

CONCLUSION

ATU MEETINGS FOR WRC 27 PREPARATION

1. APM 27-1: 18-22 July 2024, Kenya
2. APM 27-2: 12-15 August 2025, Kenya
3. APM 27-3: 17-21 September 2026,
4. APM 27-4: TBC

Thank You

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