

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FREQUENCY WORKING PARTY****I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The Frequency Working Party (FWP), established at the Thirty-Third Assembly of Parties (AP-33) and extended at the Fortieth Assembly (AP-41), continues to advise the Director General on matters relating to frequency management and the implementation of Article XII(e)(iv) of the ITSO Agreement, including issues concerning the Parties' Common Heritage.
2. Since AP-41, the FWP has conducted its work through electronic means, holding three meetings: FWP-15 on June 10, 2025, FWP-16 on November 25, 2025 and FWP-17 on May 28, 2026.
3. During this period, the FWP worked on developing initial views on key agenda items for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 (WRC-27) that could have an impact on the Parties Common Heritage, supported the implementation of ITU Radiocommunication Assembly Resolution ITU-R 69, and provided advice on matters related to the protection and evolution of the Common Heritage, including for the work of the ITSO Working Group.
4. The work of the FWP contributed to the decision of maintaining and strengthening Resolution ITU-R 69, including an expanded mandate for ITU-R and ITU-D activities related to satellite broadband connectivity. A contribution was submitted to the World Telecommunications Development Conference of the ITU (WTDC-25) to emphasize the relevance of Resolution ITU-R 69-2 to the work of ITU-D, particularly in promoting satellite connectivity as a key enabler of universal access in remote and underserved regions and these objectives were reflected in the outcomes of WTDC-25.
5. The FWP considers that its Terms of Reference have enabled it to provide timely and relevant advice to the Director General and that its role remains necessary in light of ongoing technical and regulatory developments.

**II. RECOMMENDATION**

6. The FWP recommends that the Assembly of Parties **DECIDE** to:
  - (a) **NOTE** the work carried out by the Frequency Working Party since AP-41 to date;
  - (b) **PROVIDE GUIDANCE** on the specific actions which the DG should undertake to address the suspensions of some frequency assignments, in particular, the notified suspensions at orbital positions 33°E, 60°E, 66°E, 157°E, 310°E, 330.5°E, 332.5°E, 340°E;

- (c) **ENCOURAGE** the Director General, with FWP and SES support, to continue assessing WRC-27 agenda items that may affect the Common Heritage and to take appropriate action, including submitting an informative contribution outlining relevant views and supporting potential multi-country contributions on WRC-27 agenda items with potential impact on the Common Heritage.
- (d) **EXTEND** the term of the Frequency Working Party to the next ordinary Assembly of Parties meeting, as per the Terms of Reference laid out in Attachment No. 2.

### III. BACKGROUND

7. The Frequency Working Party was established at AP-33 to support the implementation of procedures related to Article XII(e)(iv) of the ITSO Agreement and to advise the Director General on frequency coordination matters requiring specialized expertise, particularly those associated with the Parties' Common Heritage.

8. The FWP is composed of frequency experts representing the five ITU regions, with additional participation from other experts nominated by Parties, thereby ensuring a broad range of technical and regional perspectives<sup>1</sup>.

9. The Terms of Reference of the FWP have subsequently been expanded by successive Assemblies of Parties to reflect the evolving scope and complexity of frequency management issues, including the provision of advice and inputs related to ITSO's participation in ITU-R activities and studies conducted under Resolution ITU-R 69.

### IV. FWP ACTIVITIES

10. Since AP-41, the FWP has focused on monitoring developments within the ITU that are relevant to ITSO's mandate, particularly in relation to WRC-27 agenda items affecting satellite services and the regulatory environment governing spectrum and orbital resources. These agenda items are followed by FWP members and are discussed during FWP meetings, as the Working Parties preparatory work for WRC-27 is ongoing.

11. As part of this work, the Director General hosted the first ITSO webinar "*WRC-27, SES Views and the Parties' Common Heritage*" on April 20, 2026. The Chairman of the FWP moderated the webinar, SES presented their views and the ITSO Technical Advisor presented on the WRC issue with potential impact to the Parties' Common Heritage.<sup>2</sup> The webinar was attended by 65 attendees from 31 Member States.

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<sup>1</sup> The current composition of the FWP can be found in Attachment 1.

<sup>2</sup> Further information about the webinar, including the recording and presentations, is available at [Webinar: WRC-27, SES Views and Parties' Common Heritage](#)

12. The FWP has been giving advice on the work of the ITSO Working Group, which was established by AP-41 to develop measures to ensure the resilience of ITSO and safeguarding the Common Heritage.<sup>3</sup>

13. As indicated above, the FWP has followed closely the implementation of Resolution ITU-R 69 within ITU-R Study Group 4, including work undertaken in Working Parties 4A and 4B concerning satellite broadband systems and the integration of satellite networks into next-generation access technologies.

14. Through its contributions, the FWP has supported ITSO Member States in advancing discussions within the ITU framework and has contributed to the continuation and strengthening of Resolution ITU-R 69. ITSO submitted a contribution, prepared with the support of the FWP and several ITSO Parties, to the World Telecommunications Development Conference of the ITU (WTDC-25). This contribution emphasized the relevance of ITU-R Resolution 69-2 to the work of ITU-D, particularly in promoting satellite connectivity as a key enabler of universal access in remote and underserved regions. These objectives were reflected into the WTDC-25 Resolutions, including references to Resolution 69-2 in Resolution 37 (Rev. Baku, 2025) on “Bridging the Digital Divide,” the updated Study Group 1 work program addressing satellite-based broadband access and capacity-building, and Resolution ITU-D 77 on broadband technologies.

15. The FWP has also continued to review issues related to the management and protection of the Parties’ Common Heritage, including developments in frequency assignments and their use in support of global connectivity objectives.

## **V. FWP FUTURE WORK**

16. Subject to the renewal of its mandate, the FWP will continue to advise the Director General on matters related to the Common Heritage, based on information provided by Notifying Administrations, the Company SES and other relevant stakeholders.

17. The FWP will also continue to support ITSO’s engagement in ITU-R and ITU-D activities, including preparations for the Radio Communications Assembly 2027, World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 (WRC-27), and to contribute to studies aimed at promoting the use of satellite systems for broadband connectivity, particularly in developing countries.

18. The FWP has reviewed proposals from the Director General to streamline the annual report on the evolution of the Common Heritage by focusing on key indicators, risks, and usage trends, and by presenting future updates as annual appendices to a consolidated report.

19. The FWP has further considered recent notifications concerning the suspension of frequency assignments at orbital positions 33°E, 60°E, 66°E, 157°E, 310°E, 330.5°E, 332.5°E, 340°E. While

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<sup>3</sup> A document will be presented to AP-42 with the AP-41 WG Report

additional clarification is pending, it is noted that timely and appropriate actions may be required to mitigate the risk of permanent loss of these assignments and to preserve the integrity of the Common Heritage.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

20. The FWP has continued to provide relevant and timely advice to the Director General in accordance with its mandate, thereby supporting the effective implementation of the ITSO Agreement.

21. In view of the ongoing importance of frequency management issues and the need for specialized technical input, the continuation of the FWP's work remains justified, and the extension of its mandate is therefore recommended.

**COMPOSITION OF THE FREQUENCY WORKING PARTY**

**Frequency Working Party - Permanent Members**

Region	Party	Title	First Name	Last Name
A	Argentina	Mr.	Leonel Enrique	Hochman
B	France	Mr.	Thomas	Welter
C	Romania	Mr.	Georgian	Grigore
D	Côte d'Ivoire	Mr.	Kouamé	Bini <sup>4</sup>
E	India	Ms.	M.	Revathi

**Other Experts participating in the FWP**

Region	Party	Title	First Name	Last Name
A	Argentina	Mr.	Hugo	Miguel
A	Dominican Republic	Mr.	Rafael	Núñez
A	USA	Mr.	Douglas	May
A	Brazil	Ms.	Luiza Maria	Giacomin
B	Hungary	Mr.	Andras	Csudai
B	Türkiye	Mr.	Veli	Yanikgönül
C	Armenia	Mr.	Makar	Melikayan
C	Azerbaijan	Mr.	Shahin	Isamayilov
C	Azerbaijan	Ms.	Sahiba	Hasanova
D	Algeria	Mr.	Belaid	Hamza
D	Madagascar	Ms.	Claudine	Rasoarivao
D	Somalia	Eng.	Ali Afey	Dhildug
D	South Africa	Ms.	Nonkquebela Thathakahle	Jordan
E	China	Mr.	Woshi	Yang Le
E	Iran	Mr.	Fatemeh	Aghdasi

<sup>4</sup> Please note that Mr. Bini Kouamé has retired and that a new Permanent Member for Region D needs to be appointed.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE FREQUENCY WORKING PARTY**

**I. COMPOSITION**

1. The Frequency Working Party (FWP) shall be comprised of one frequency expert from each of the five (5) regions to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). In addition, the FWP is open to all ITSO Member States.

**II. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

2. The FWP shall undertake the following duties:

- a) advise the Director General on matters relating to the procedure to supplement the implementation of Article XII(e)(iv) of the ITSO Agreement as approved at AP-33;
- b) advise the Director General on all issues arising from frequency management, in particular about the Parties' Common Heritage in accordance with his duties under Article X (j) of the Agreement;
- c) Recommend to the Director General any actions to be undertaken in relation to the Parties' Common Heritage;
- d) Advise and provide inputs, as necessary, with respect to ITSO's contribution to the studies to be carried out by ITU-R in response to ITU Radiocommunication Assembly Resolution ITU-R 69.

**III. WORKING METHODS**

3. In furtherance of the FWP's Terms of Reference:

- a) The FWP shall select a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among its members;
- b) The FWP shall adopt its own working procedures compatible with those adopted by the Assembly of Parties;

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- c) The ITSO Executive Organ shall provide assistance to the FWP as may be necessary;
- d) The outcome of the FWP shall be communicated to the Director General;
- e) The Chairman of the FWP shall submit a report to each ordinary Assembly of Parties;  
and,
- f) Wherever possible the FWP will use electronic methods of conferencing to conduct its work, in order to minimize costs.

**IV. COSTS**

- 4. Costs associated with all travel, accommodation and subsistence of the members of the FWP at their meetings shall be borne by ITSO.
- 5. The Regional Vice-Chairman for each region shall designate one frequency expert from that region that shall be eligible for the cost reimbursement provided in Section IV.4.