

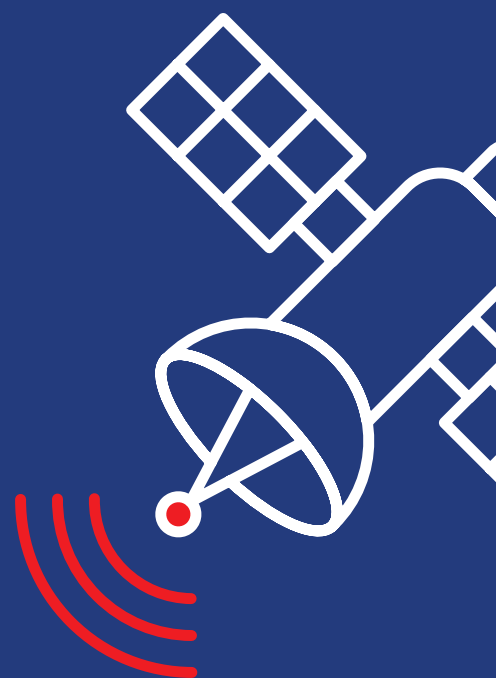


MINISTÈRE
DE L'EUROPE
ET DES AFFAIRES
ÉTRANGÈRES

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

Aide-mémoire

French candidacy to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council



Plenipotentiary Conference,
26 September to 14 October 2022

French candidacy to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council

2023-2026 term, region B (Western Europe)

France was one of the founding members of the IUT in 1865 and is the fourth-biggest contributor to its budget. It has continuously held a seat on the ITU Council.

France participates actively in the life of the organization, within both the political and administrative bodies (Plenipotentiary Conference, Council, Council Working Groups) and the technical structures (conferences, global assemblies and study groups on the three sectors: standardization, radiocommunication and development). It chairs the Council Working Group on Strategic and Financial Plans for 2024-2027, and is Vice-Chair of the Council Working Group on Languages.

France is regularly involved in all actions aimed at improving the management, smooth functioning and appeal of the ITU. This action to improve the internal management is essential to the effectiveness and smooth functioning of the organization and satisfies the concerns of the majority of the Member States.

France is committed to the development of the ITU so that it may adapt to the new context created by new technologies (Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, 5G mobile networks, quantum

communications, cloud computing and big data), whenever they apply to the telecommunications/ICT sector, while complying with the role assigned to the organization.

France also hopes that the ITU can rise to the challenges linked to the digital transformation of the global economy at the international level (such as the ongoing digital divide, and how digital technologies impact and contribute to the fight against climate change especially). In particular, it remains focused on all countries being stakeholders in these developments and the ITU continuing to work with other competent organizations on the development of digital infrastructures and the dissemination of digital technology uses.

In the development sector, France is mobilizing significant resources from its agencies and manufacturers, its National Frequency Agency (ANFR), and its Electronic Communications, Postal and Print Media Distribution Regulatory Authority (ARCEP) to effectively contribute to helping developing countries, in particular by supporting the ITU's efforts on the ground, with special attention given to the development of inclusive telecommunications/ICT that foster digital literacy and gender equality.

In the field of radiocommunication, during ITU's global and regional conferences and in its preparatory work and within regional organizations, France has always helped to develop consensus-based solutions and has played a major role in negotiations for greater radio-frequency spectrum harmonization and access for all to radiocommunication digital technologies.

