

# Evidence based spectrum policy development process in Canada (in the context of WRC preparations)

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# Disclaimer

The information presented herein is based on my personal views and insights and does not necessarily represent the views of the Government of Canada

# Context

## 1- Evidence based **spectrum** policy development:

- Addresses the management of a limited resource (increasingly so)
- Inherently has a technical foundation (technical and regulatory experts)
- Multiple stakeholders (public and private sectors)
- Inter-governmental component (CITEL and ITU)
- Binding international outcome (International Treaty)

Technical, regulatory and policy expertise is key

# Context

## 2- Evidence based spectrum policy development:

- Best available data, information and knowledge
- Information from all relevant/available sources
  - Stakeholders (public and private sectors)
  - Academia and research organisations
  - Regulator's technical and regulatory expertise
  - Other regulators
  - CITELE and ITU
- Peer review of information

**Information must be verified using different sources**

# Context

## 3- Evidence based spectrum **policy development**:

- Best practices (open, transparent, efficient, coherent, accountable)
- Inclusive of public and private sector stakeholders
- Balances government objectives with stakeholders needs

**Trust between government and stakeholders is crucial**

# Canadian Preparatory Process

- Process led by the government
- All stakeholders are encouraged to participate
- Dual process:
  - ITU-R/CITEL Non-WRC (International standards and harmonisation)
    - Stakeholders can lead Canadian delegations
  - ITU WRC/CITEL (Treaty binding outcomes)
    - Stakeholders can be spokespersons
- Specific rules to clarify expectations from delegates (Enables trust)
- Delegation participation is a privilege not a right (Ensures accountability)
- National contributions are developed by those interested
- Government provides challenge function

**Stakeholders provide unique and valuable expertise**

# Canadian Preparatory Process

Challenge function provided in terms of overarching policy goal:

- Maximize the social and economic benefits that Canadians derive from the use of spectrum

In the context of WRCs:

- Enable the development of innovative and timely services for Canadians
- Protect existing investments (public and private)
- Quality radio regulations and associated processes
- Promote economies of scales through harmonisation
- Maximise the use of spectrum resource

**Seek to balance the various objectives**

# Importance of Research

## Communication Research Centre (CRC)

- Canadian government organisation
- Provides factual information and advice relating to wireless technologies
- Current research includes:
  - Spectrum Environmental Awareness
  - Making Better Use of Spectrum
  - Breaking the Frequency Barrier
  - Dynamic Spectrum Access

**Research is key to understand what comes next and when**



# Canadian Preparatory Process

In the context of ITU and CITELE discussions:

- Work positively with other regulators
- Foster the use of evidence (verify sources and accuracy of information)
- Share information and experience
- Try to understand other perspectives
- Support other administrations where possible
- **Seek win-win solutions where possible**
- Support ITU/CITELE and their representatives

**Negotiation is not a zero-sum game**

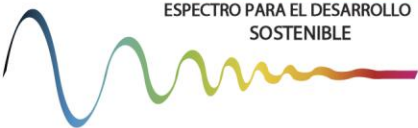
# Conclusion

Evidence based spectrum policy development has many benefits in the context of the ITU WRC process:

- Establishes common understanding between all stakeholders (and regulators internationally)
- Helps ensure all relevant information is taken into account
- Provides for information that is verified
- Builds trust
- Informs the development/update of government policy objectives
- Minimises cost for regulators through stakeholder participation

9º CONGRESO  
INTERNACIONAL  
DE ESPECTRO

ESPECTRO PARA EL DESARROLLO  
SOSTENIBLE



**Thank you / Gracias!**