Madam Chairman,
Dear friends and colleagues,

Good morning. It is a real pleasure to welcome you all to Geneva for this meeting of Study Group 3. I would like to thank you all and in particular the Chairman of SG3, Mrs. Wilson, along with the Chairmen of the SG3 working parties, Prof. Riva, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Behm and Mr. Feldhake, for the good progress achieved in the last two weeks.

The contributions to the radiocommunication industry of ITU-R Study Group 3 and its Working Parties 3J, 3K, 3L and 3M are internationally recognized and the P-series Recommendations serve as foundational references in the fields of radio wave propagation and radio noise. Each year this is borne out by the statistics on the numbers and types of ITU-R Recommendations downloaded. The P-series remains at the top of the charts, which is most significant when considering the smaller number of Recommendations in the P-series as compared that of the next most popular ITU-R series.

In addition to its continuous efforts to improve on radio wave propagation prediction methods, Study Group 3 provides essential
support to the other ITU-R Study Groups. Again, this is borne out by the significant number of liaison statements to Study Group 3 and its Working Parties regularly requesting advice and guidance. This supporting role of Study Group 3 is most significant when it comes to the preparatory work for WRCs. In this study period leading up to WRC-19, the support from Study Group 3 and its Working Parties has been central and invaluable, particularly with respect to modelling and predicting building entry loss and losses due to clutter, and to extending the limits of validity of its existing radio wave propagation prediction methodologies.

The contributions from Members States and, notably in recent years, those from Sector Members and Academia on the measurement of radio wave propagation phenomena have enabled Study Group 3 to expand its database of measurements and to develop and improve its radio wave propagation prediction methods. The ITU-R membership and other international users of the products of ITU-R Study Group 3 have also expressed their appreciation for the inclusion of digital products in the P-series Recommendations, as well as for the provision of example software implementations of these Recommendations and for the numerical validation examples.

Today, as the BR Director, I would like to reassure all of you that you can count on the full support of the BR to conduct your work. I encourage you to continue your efforts in providing excellent products to the ITU membership and the radiocommunication industry as a whole. You are unsung heroes in the field of radiocommunication because performing compatibility analyses and overall spectrum management are simply impossible absent the ability to model and predict radio wave propagation.

So with this, Madam Chairman, let me conclude by wishing you all a very successful meeting.