

# ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES TO THE AMENDED EUTELSAT CONVENTION Summary of meetings since the 2001 restructuring

## AP43-Paris, 10-11 May 2023 (ordinary meeting)

Chaired by Ms Ivana Stanković of Serbia, with as Vice-Chair Ms Viviane Arni of Switzerland, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of Parties of the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization EUTELSAT took place 10 and 11 May 2024 in Paris. The Executive Secretary of EUTELSAT hosted several distinguished guests who addressed the Assembly - Mr Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, Mr Laurent Parenté, Director General of the International Telecommunication, Mr Patrick Masambu, Director General of the International Telecommunication, Mr Patrick Masambu, Director General of the International Telecommunication of Space Communications and Mr David Bertolotti, Company Secretary of Eutelsat Communications S.A. Recognising that the satellite and space communities are at the dawn of major changes, all guests recognised the importance of broadband satellite services in bringing meaningful connectivity and achieving sustainable development for all.

The Assembly reviewed information from the Executive Secretary and from Eutelsat S.A. on the subject of the observance of the four Basic Principles in the EUTELSAT Amended Convention. The Member States received a presentation on this matter by the Chief Executive Officer of Eutelsat Communications S.A., Ms Eva Berneke. The Assembly noted that EUTELSAT IGO will continue to monitor the Company's developments to ensure that obligations to the EUTELSAT Members States are fulfilled. The Assembly further noted that the Organisation will continue to closely monitor the preparatory process of WRC-23 and report on the satellite-related results and conclusions of the Conference at the next Assembly of Parties.

## AP42-virtual meeting, 24-25 March 2021 (ordinary meeting)

Chaired by Ms Ivana Stanković of Serbia, with as Vice-Chair Ms Viviane Arni of Switzerland, the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the EUTELSAT Assembly of Parties was held virtually 24 and 25 March 2021. Several prominent guests addressed the Assembly during an opening ceremony - Mr Houlin Zhao of the International Telecommunication Union, Ms Elodie Viau of the European Space Agency, Captain Moin Ahmed of the International Mobile Satellite Organization, Mr Patrick Masambu of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization, Ms Ksenia Drozdova of the Intersputnik Operations Committee and Mr David Bertolotti of Eutelsat Communications S.A. The speakers stressed the important role that satellite-based solutions can play in bridging digital inequalities and in meeting the need to increase universal connectivity in the face of the global challenge of the COVID epidemic.

The Assembly re-elected Mr Piotr Dmochowski-Lipski of Poland by acclamation to the post of Executive Secretary for a second term of four years to commence on 2 July 2021. It approved reports on the participation of EUTELSAT IGO and the Executive Secretary in the activities of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the International Telecommunication Union and other key satellite intergovernmental organisations. The Assembly further appointed the Advisory Committee to provide advice to the Executive Secretary.

## AP41-Paris, 10-11 April 2019 (ordinary meeting)

The 41<sup>st</sup> Assembly of Parties of the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization EUTELSAT took place 10 and 11 April 2019 in Paris, under the Chairmanship of Mr Frédéric Labarrère of Monaco, with as Vice-Chair Ms Ivana Stanković of Serbia. The Executive Secretary of EUTELSAT had the honour to host several prominent guests who addressed the Assembly during an opening ceremony - Mr Patrick Masambu of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization, Captain Moin Ahmed of the International Mobile Satellite Organization, Mr Alexandre Vallet of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and Mr Jean Francois Bureau of Eutelsat S.A. The speakers all agreed that the satellite-based solutions can play a major role in reducing the global digital divide thus contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Assembly reviewed information from the Executive Secretary regarding the respect of the commitments made by Eutelsat S.A. to the EUTELSAT Member States when the assets and operations of the intergovernmental organisation were transferred to the company in 2001. The CEO of Eutelsat Mr Rodolphe Belmer addressed the Assembly on this matter. The Assembly received reports on the participation of EUTELSAT IGO in the activities of key international organisations and noted that the Organisation will continue to monitor closely the preparatory process of the next World Radiocommunication Conference. The Assembly appointed the Advisory Committee to provide advice to the Executive Secretary.

# AP40-Paris, 15-16 March 2017 (ordinary meeting)

The 40<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Parties of the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization EUTELSAT took place 15 and 16 March 2017 in Paris, under the Chairmanship of Mr Frédéric Labarrère of Monaco, with as Vice-Chair Ms Ivana Stanković of Serbia. The Assembly elected to appoint by acclamation Mr Piotr Dmochowski-Lipski of Poland for a mandate of four years from 2 July 2017. EUTELSAT IGO also celebrated its 40th anniversary this year and this was commemorated at a reception hosted by Mr Rodolphe Belmer, CEO of Eutelsat S.A. The Assembly reviewed matters related to the use of radiofrequencies assigned to EUTELSAT IGO under the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union which are used by the satellite operator Eutelsat S.A. The Assembly approved reports on the participation of EUTELSAT IGO in the activities of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of OuterSpace, the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, the International Telecommunication Union and the relationship with the other satellite intergovernmental organisations.

## AP39-Paris, 22-23 April 2015 (ordinary meeting)

The European Telecommunications Satellite Organisation EUTELSAT held its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting the 22-23 April 2015 in Paris chaired by Mrs Leandro Representative of the Party of Portugal. The Assembly approved a revised mandate and appointment procedure for the Advisory Committee of the Assembly of Parties, which meets twice per year with the Executive Secretary. The Assembly received information about the activities of EUTELSAT IGO in the Broadband Commission, in the ITU Development Sector initiative with the Smart Sustainable Development Model and with the Committee and subcommittees of UNOOSA. The Assembly noted the concerns of the satellite industry about possible changes in the future use of the C-Band and in the ITU Radio Regulations, both of which will be reviewed by the November 2015 World Radiocommunications Conference. It also noted the various measures taken to mitigate the ongoing problems of deliberate jamming and piracy of satellite transmissions. The Assembly further noted the budgets for the period 2015 to 2017.

## AP38-Paris, 15-16 May 2013 (ordinary meeting)

Chaired by Mrs Marta Leandro, of Portugal, the Assembly adopted a Resolution on the use of satellite to bridge the digital divide, encouraging the 49 Member States of the pan-European organisation EUTELSAT IGO to take into account the advantages of satellite-based broadband services for internet access, in particular when responding to their national, public and institutional needs. The Assembly noted that some agreements had been reached about the priority of rights of use of radiofrequencies assigned to EUTELSAT IGO under the Radio Regulations of ITU and that deliberate jamming and piracy of satellite transmissions continued. The Assembly noted that although the French Space Operations Act had imposed an additional administrative burden to Eutelsat S.A., it had not affected the company's ability to perform its operations. Relevant developments in the regulatory environment at the national, European and worldwide level were examined, as well as the future of the C-Band for fixed satellite services.

The Assembly reviewed Eutelsat's observance of the Basic Principles, as stated in Article III a) of the EUTELSAT Amended Convention, approved amendments to the Staff Regulations and noted the budgets for the period 2013 to 2015. Mr Christian Roisse was re-elected as Executive Secretary for a third mandate of four years from 2 July 2013.

# AP37-Paris, 11-12 May 2011 (ordinary meeting)

The Assembly celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the restructuring of EUTELSAT. At the opening ceremony, the Secretary-General of the ITU, the Assistant Director General of UNESCO, the Director of Mobility and Attractiveness Policy of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chairman of the Eutelsat Group of companies and the CEO of Eutelsat S.A. and Eutelsat Communications S.A. addressed the Assembly of Parties.

Under the chairmanship of Mr Franco Malerba of Italy, the Assembly noted developments within the European regulatory environment and the implementation of the French Space Operations Act, which had entered into force in December 2010, requesting the Executive Secretary to monitor the impact of these developments. The problem of repeated deliberate jamming of programmes broadcast via Eutelsat S.A.'s satellites on frequencies assigned to EUTELSAT IGO and the question of priority of rights to satellite filings under the ITU Radio Regulations were also reviewed. The Assembly also noted that the Executive Secretary had actively participated in the work of the Broadband Commission,

a joint ITU/UNESCO initiative, of which the Executive Secretary is a founding Commissioner, as well as participated in the work of the Subcommittees of UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and in particular in the one of the Working group on long term sustainability of Space activities. The Assembly reviewed Eutelsat S.A's observance of the Basic Principles, as stated in Article III a) of the EUTELSAT Amended Convention, and noted the budget for the period 2011 to 2013.

# AP36-Paris, 14 May 2009 (ordinary meeting)

Under the chairmanship of Mr Franco Malerba of Italy, the Assembly of Parties accepted the application by the Republic of Montenegro to accede to the Amended EUTELSAT Convention, without any conditions. The Assembly also noted that EUTELSAT IGO had been granted permanent Observer Status at the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and approved a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding with IMSO (International Mobile Satellite Organization) and ITSO (International Telecommunications Satellite Organization). It was noted that the matter of unpaid invoices corresponding to satellite network filings submitted to the ITU on behalf of EUTELSAT was resolved between ITU and EUTELSAT IGO and that a compromise was found whereby only minor changes were made to the existing arrangement for use of the CBand for Fixed Satellite Services. The Assembly noted the developments within the European and French regulatory environment within the framework of the implementation of the French Space Operations Act of 2008 and requested the Executive Secretary to continue monitoring these subjects. The Assembly reviewed Eutelsat S.A.'s observance of the Basic Principles, as stated in Article III a) of the EUTELSAT Amended Convention, noted the budgets for the period 2009 to 2011 and approved Amendment N°4 tothe Arrangement between EUTELSAT IGO and Eutelsat S.A., relating to funding of the Secretariat. Mr Christian Roisse was reappointed as Executive Secretary for a mandate of four years from 2 July 2009.

# AP35-Paris, 23-24 May 2007 (ordinary meeting)

Under the chairmanship of Mr Patrick Piffaretti of Switzerland, the Assembly of Parties noted that existing agreements ensured that two new major shareholders in the Eutelsat Group of companies would honour obligations to EUTELSAT IGO. It also reviewed Eutelsat S.A.'s observance of the Basic Principles, as stated in Article III a) of the EUTELSAT Amended Convention and encouraged ITU Member States to find an equitable solution to the ongoing matter of unpaid invoices for satellite filings submitted to the ITU on behalf of EUTELSAT. Noting developments within the European regulatory environment, the question of the future of the C-Band for fixed satellite services and the possible impact of the French Space Law, the Assembly requested the Executive Secretary to monitor these subjects. The Assembly also noted the budgets for the period 2007 to 2009.

## AP34-Paris, 11 May 2006 (extraordinary meeting)

Under the chairmanship of Mr Patrick Piffaretti of Switzerland, the Assembly of Parties approved Amendment N°3 to the Arrangement between EUTELSAT IGO and Eutelsat S.A., enabling the Executive Secretary to participate as *Censeur* in meetings of the Board of Directors of Eutelsat Communications S.A., the holding company which had entered the Paris stock exchange in December 2005. The Assembly also reviewed the question of unpaid invoices arising from satellite network notifications filed with the ITU on behalf of EUTELSAT.

## AP33-Paris, 6-8 April 2005 (ordinary meeting)

Under the chairmanship of Mr Patrick Piffaretti of Switzerland, the Assembly of Parties approved Amendment N° 2 to the Arrangement between EUTELSAT IGO and Eutelsat S.A., which enabled the Executive Secretary to participate as *Censeur* at meetings of the Board of Directors of Eutelsat S.A. and adopted two Resolutions, the first of which concerned the operation of the majority shareholders of Eutelsat S.A. to refinance their shareholding in the Company and the second of which addressed the subject of non-European television channels transmitted via the Eutelsat satellite system and received in the territory of the European Union by the general public. The Assembly also noted the budgets for the period 2005 to 2007. The Assembly of Parties appointed Mr Christian Roisse from France to the post of Executive Secretary for a period of four years from 2 July 2005, replacing Mrs Birgitta Näslund from Sweden, whose four-year mandate was due to end on 1 July 2005.

## AP32-Paris, 20 July 2004 (extraordinary meeting)

Chaired by Mrs Cristina Lourenço of Portugal, the Assembly of Parties adopted the Resolution prepared by the Advisory Committee on the proposed evolution of the Articles of Association of Eutelsat S.A. and the adaptation of its warranties and undertakings with respect to the Basic Principles. The Assembly also asked the Executive Secretary to enter into negotiations with Eutelsat S.A. in order to define new ways of supervising the Company and corresponding statutory changes and/or changes to the Arrangement.

## AP31-Paris, 12 May 2004 (ordinary meeting)

Chaired by Mrs Cristina Lourenço of Portugal, the Assembly of Parties noted that the Amended Convention, applied on an accelerated (provisional) basis since 2 July 2001, had entered into force on a definitive basis on 28 November 2002. EUTELSAT IGO's participation in the three Sectors of the ITU as an IOOSS (Intergovernmental Organisation Operating Satellite Systems) was also noted. The Assembly approved the first Amendment to the Arrangement between EUTELSAT IGO and Eutelsat S.A., relating to funding of the Secretariat, and noted the budgets for the period 2003 to 2005. It also assigned to the Advisory Committee the task of closely monitoring budget matters, making sure that costs were contained within the agreed limits.

## AP30-Paris, 15 May 2002 (ordinary meeting)

Under the chairmanship of Mr Jean Pastorelli of Monaco, the Assembly of Parties noted the activities of EUTELSAT IGO since 2001 and in particular the activities related to the transfer operations between EUTELSAT and Eutelsat S.A. and those regarding the radio frequencies. The Assembly of Parties also noted the budgets for the period 2002 to 2004 and approved amendments to its Rules of Procedure and to the Staff Regulations and the procedure for selecting Party Representatives for the Advisory Committee.