



This electronic version (PDF) was scanned by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Library & Archives Service from an original paper document in the ITU Library & Archives collections.

La présente version électronique (PDF) a été numérisée par le Service de la bibliothèque et des archives de l'Union internationale des télécommunications (UIT) à partir d'un document papier original des collections de ce service.

Esta versión electrónica (PDF) ha sido escaneada por el Servicio de Biblioteca y Archivos de la Unión Internacional de Telecomunicaciones (UIT) a partir de un documento impreso original de las colecciones del Servicio de Biblioteca y Archivos de la UIT.

(ITU) للاتصالات الدولي الاتحاد في والمحفوظات المكتبة قسم أجراه الضوئي بالمسح تصوير نتاج (PDF) الإلكترونية النسخة هذه والمحفوظات المكتبة قسم في المتوفرة الوثائق ضمن أصلية ورقية وثيقة من نقلًا.

此电子版（PDF版本）由国际电信联盟（ITU）图书馆和档案室利用存于该处的纸质文件扫描提供。

Настоящий электронный вариант (PDF) был подготовлен в библиотечно-архивной службе Международного союза электросвязи путем сканирования исходного документа в бумажной форме из библиотечно-архивной службы МСЭ.



# MESSAGE

## OF THE ITU SECRETARY-GENERAL

### FOR THE 1992 WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DAY

17 May 1992

#### "Telecommunications and Space: New Horizons"

On 4 October, it will be 35 years since the first artificial satellite of the Earth was placed in orbit: Sputnik I, launched by the USSR.

Since that day in 1957, man has made unceasing progress in his conquest of space.

Let us recall just some of the major events:

Vostok 1	Launched on 12 April 1961 to circle the Earth with Gagarin on board
Early-bird	Launched on 6 April 1965 by the United States, the first commercial telecommunications satellite
Apollo II	Carried man to the Moon on 20 July 1969.

And then the geostationary satellites, so useful for telecommunications, and the various devices put up by the increasing number of countries becoming masters of space...

Today the launching of a satellite no longer attracts public attention as it did 35 or even 15 years ago. But that is not because it is any less useful. Quite the contrary. The use of space in our everyday life has become commonplace and conferences on the matter are now just conferences like any others... We have come a long way from the ITU's first space conference, which was held in Geneva from 7 October to 8 November 1963 in the old Bâtiment électoral.

Now there is a vast team of engineers, scientists and research workers working constantly, either on their own, or at conferences and meetings convened by the ITU among others in order to either advance studies on the introduction of systems of telecommunication, radionavigation, meteorology, etc, or to launch this or that research satellite.

Space has become an integral part of modern telecommunications. It is no longer just one area of research, but a system, among others, for radiocommunication research and application.

Thus Africa is proceeding, in the framework of the RASCOM programme, with the installation of systems to develop national and international telecommunications. Thus the countries of America, Asia and Europe are moving towards the widespread use of telecommunication satellites.

At a global level, 1992 is dedicated to space radiocommunications, seen as an integral part of development as a whole.

Thus the time is past when space radiocommunications were self-sufficient. Nowadays space radiocommunications participate fully in the development of different telecommunication services - the time of new horizons has come!

Pekka TARJANNE