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Challenges to planning and introducing  
the digital terrestrial service.

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Algeria- TDA - CEPT  
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## Introduction

- Algeria and other Arab countries responded favorably to revise ST61, even though not ready for such jump;
- Until now, there are many challenges to plan digital broadcasting;
- The other major issue is the introduction of the new digital broadcasting service;

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◆ To achieve a successful conference with 120 countries having very different usage of frequencies, economical environment and level of preparation is great challenge.

◆ a Plan, flexible and forward looking is an other challenge.

Just to define the existing stations and the existing services will be a challenge for the first session.

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## BAND III ISSUE

- VHF Band III is extensively used for the analog TV as universal coverage
- the authorities made great investments for the development and the renewal of the broadcasting TV stations in VHF.
- UHF bands are much more less used.

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- TV reception is almost 100% terrestrial ( hertzian mode).
- A period of simulcast of analog and digital TV programs will be necessary.
- The transition period will be for a long time;

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- The actual usage of Band III (extensively used ), of Bands IV & V; the industrial actors, the market are very different than Europe.
- Which sharing scenario, as presented in chapter 7 of TG6/8 Report, to choose.
- The ASBU Technical Committee agreed in its last meeting (9- 11 October 03) to plan T-DAB and DVB-T in band III.

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- Each country can decide future use of the bands.
- However, one hopes that the conference will help to harmonize to maximum the usage, at least by group of countries.
- Lot of discussions took place during this meeting about challenges related to planning and to the introduction of terrestrial digital broadcasting.
- How to plan well? What would be the future?

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the discussions especially related to challenges like

- the transition and its harmonization,
- the introduction of the DVB-T;
- Selection of variant of DVB-T, reception mode, % (pixels) of coverage area, configuration, planning approach and methods.

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- the aim is to carry out this transition softly, to minimize its cost and to harmonize the introduction of the new services.
- No industrial actors behind, how to foresee the transition phase for digital new service,

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- Are we going to renew the current analog transmitters in VHF or to migrate already in UHF in order to draw advantage for example from the antennas,
- Or to invest as from now, in an analog network in UHF and then to convert it to digital at the appropriate time.

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- For digital sound broadcasting , should not one invest in DRM instead of T-DAB as a new service, although the frequency bands are not the same ones .
- Propagation conditions such as super-refractivity in Arabic Golf, east Mediterranean and Red sea areas put concerns on the achievement of satisfactory coverages.

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- One challenge for each member:
- Is it to achieve maximum protection to existing and planned stations/services;  
Or
- Is it to achieve maximum number of Mux coverages .
- What is the maximum number of coverages bearing in mind the equity to access spectrum.

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- Actually and in general, there is no private TV programs with national coverages, but no one can ignore that in the future, and may be not very far from now, the media market will be liberalized.
- How to integrate all these future unknown demands in the new Plan.
- To introduce DVB-T while ensuring protection to analog TV and for many years

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- What about protection of other primary services sharing the bands?  
During transition only or for ever ?
- Digital receiver (STB) is not available on the local market,

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- If it is the same program contents, the viewers will show reserves to acquire digital receiver (STB).
- Only the development of new TV programs such as private (commercial), thematic and regional TV to integrate in the multiplex, will incitate viewers to acquire digital receiver (STB).

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- The main challenge is not only to replace analog TV Tx, but also to replace millions of existing receivers;  
Introduction of DVB-T as soon as possible to allow penetration of receivers;  
To limit the future implementation of analog stations only up to a certain channel number, yet to be defined, of the upper part of band V

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- Countries have produced legal frame for frequency usage.
- Some permit private usage of frequencies.
- specific ruling for digital broadcasting, like multiplex manager, the service etc yet to be developed.

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## Conclusion.....

- In order to have a clear view we intend:
- To Perform planning exercises within the joint EBU/ASBU working group;
- But before, collate correct data for the requirements;
- And to solve conflictual frequencies among neighboring countries.

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I hope a full success to the conference.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION.**

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