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For Immediate Release

**COMMISSIONER STARKS APPLAUDS DOREEN BOGDAN-MARTIN'S
ELECTION AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, September 29, 2022—Commissioner Starks released the following statement after the International Telecommunication Union today elected Doreen Bogdan-Martin Secretary General at the 2022 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference:

“I applaud the ITU for electing Doreen Bogdan-Martin as the next Secretary General. Her election, confirmed with the overwhelming support of the international community, shows her vision for our collective digital future is the right one. Additionally, I want to celebrate the fact that Doreen is the first woman elected to lead the ITU since its establishment in 1865. She made history today.

I am especially thankful for the tireless dedication, beginning well before Plenipot, shown by our staff here at the International Bureau and across the federal government. The entire U.S. delegation has worked hard to make this day a reality. I am deeply proud to serve.”

Commissioner Starks served on the U.S. delegation to the ITU in Bucharest, Romania through today's election to stump for Bogdan-Martin on the conference floor and advance U.S. priorities in bilateral meetings with international regulators. He participated in the Commission's September Open Meeting remotely, from Bucharest, as a reminder of the importance of ITU leadership and the value of worldwide connectivity to our collective digital future.

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