

**Media Contact:**

Paloma Perez

Paloma.Perez@fcc.gov

**For Immediate Release**

**COMMISSION VOTES TO ESTABLISH A SPACE BUREAU AND  
OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

***Commission Votes unanimously to Move Forward with the International Bureau's  
Reorganization into a Space Bureau and a standalone Office of International Affairs  
to Better Support the Agency's Statutory Obligations***

WASHINGTON, January 9, 2023—Today, the Federal Communications Commission released an Order adopting Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel's plan to modernize the FCC by establishing a Space Bureau and Office of International Affairs. The planned reorganization will better support the needs of the growing satellite industry, promote long-term technical capacity at the FCC, and help the agency navigate 21<sup>st</sup> century global communications policy. As part of this plan, the agency will be eliminating the current International Bureau and incorporating that team into the new bureau and office.

"The satellite industry is growing at a record pace, but here on the ground our regulatory frameworks for licensing have not kept up. We're working to change that. Today, we are moving forward with our plan to prepare for what comes next," said Chairwoman Rosenworcel. "A new Space Bureau at the FCC will ensure that the agency's resources are appropriately aligned to fulfill its statutory obligations, improve its coordination across the federal government, and support the 21st century satellite industry. I also thank my fellow Commissioners for their support.

Today's action is the latest initiative in the FCC's Space Innovation agenda. As part of this agenda, the FCC has taken action to speed up regulatory review processes, increase the size of the FCC's satellite division by 38 percent, create new opportunities for competition in the delivery of satellite broadband services, and modernize spectrum policy to better meet the needs of the next generation Space Age. As the agency promotes Space Innovation, it also has taken action to advance space safety and responsibility, including by adopting new rules for deorbiting satellites to address orbital debris risks.

The FCC will next seek Congressional and other approvals for the planned reorganization and make formal notice in the Federal Register. To read more about Chairwoman Rosenworcel's previously announced proposal: <https://www.fcc.gov/document/chairwoman-rosenworcel-proposes-space-bureau>

###

**Media Relations: (202) 418-0500 / ASL: (844) 432-2275 / Twitter: @FCC / www.fcc.gov**

*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).*