

**Simon Grey**  
**Vice President of Humanitarian Affairs for Eutelsat**  
17:36 Venue: Harbiye Auditorium

Simon was elected by the other 8 fleets to coordinate the charter with the UN for the satellite industry. I have been elected a Director of the GVF, for over 6 years, which is the largest independent satellite association. Simon has worked in the satellite industry for over 20 years and while at Eutelsat was responsible for the largest training program ever undertaken by a satellite operator. His role in Eutelsat has also encompassed innovation developing the most popular mobile Apps & training tools in the industry as well as developing a new class of satellite terminal. Eutelsat has supported Telecom Sans Frontieres for 9 years financially and with in-kind contributions and we have also worked extensively with Nethope for over 10 years supplying in kind help, equipment and consulting.

**Statement**

**This Charter will give the humanitarian community access to coordinated, end-to-end and fully redundant satellite communication solutions for the large majority of humankind**

In October 2015, as a direct outcome of the WHS Business Consultations, the EMEA Satellite Operator's Association (ESOA) and the Global VSAT Forum launched the 'Crisis Connectivity Charter' in collaboration with the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC). The Charter contains a set of commitments by the satellite operators and integrator community to ensure and enhance connectivity in times of crises, facilitating communications between all those responding to humanitarian emergencies, including affected communities. The principle commitments of the Charter include:-

- Pre-Planned, predictable & scalable satellite-based solutions
- A variety of solutions allowing the humanitarian community to adapt to the unique nature of each disaster
- Reserved bandwidth on interlinking satellite coverages
- Communications scaled for up to 1000 humanitarian workers as well as the affected population
- Solutions that are suitable for local resources and networks to help build local capacity
- Solutions that can be scaled up from disaster through to the development stage
- Solutions to be deployed within 24 hours of a disaster
- One point of contact per Signatory & the ETC to facilitate the coordination of solutions
- Signatories to capacity-build in the humanitarian community, local experts, governments, & response communities
- Prepositioned satellite equipment stored in Dubai at the Humanitarian Response Depot ready for the UN to transport to disaster areas, transport within disaster areas, and importation & licensing

All provided free of charge.

The Charter also formalizes protocols designed to accelerate access to satellite-based communications when local networks are affected after a disaster. It seeks to support the ETC – a global network of humanitarian, private sector and governmental organisations that work together to provide communications services in crisis situations – in implementing its activities. Signatories of the Crisis Connectivity Charter regularly meet to review what they will provide, “if there is an emergency tomorrow”, from equipment to services and training. These commitments will underpin the realisation of the ETC2020 strategy which seeks to ensure that all those responding to and suffering from humanitarian emergencies have access to vital communication services.