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| **40 MEETING OF PERMANENT**  **CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE II:**  **RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS**  **October 31 to November 04, 2022**  **Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago** | | **OEA/Ser.L/XVII.4.2.39**  **CCP.II-RADIO /doc. /22**  **6 October 2022**  **Original: English** |
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|  | **DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE**  **AGENDA ITEM 1.5** | |
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|  | **(Item on the Agenda: 3.1)**  **(Document submitted by the United States of America)** | |

**Impact on the sector:**

This document supports the CITEL PCCII WRC Working Group’s preparations for WRC-23.

**Executive Summary:**

This document contains a preliminary proposal from the United States for WRC-23 agenda item 1.5.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE**

**Agenda Item 1.5:** *to review the spectrum use and spectrum needs of existing services in the frequency band 470-960 MHz in Region 1 and consider possible regulatory actions in the frequency band 470-694 MHz in Region 1 on the basis of the review in accordance with Resolution* ***235 (WRC-15)****;*

**Background**

Mobile broadband access has become a key driver of global economic growth, job creation and competitiveness and the COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the critical importance of wireless connectivity in keeping citizens connected. The spectrum below 1 GHz is exceptionally suited for mobile broadband applications. In particular, the unique propagation characteristics of the bands below 1 GHz allow for in-building penetration and wider area coverage which in turn requires less infrastructure and facilitates service delivery to rural or sparsely populated areas.

World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) agenda item 1.5 addresses the spectrum use and spectrum needs of existing services in the frequency band 470-960 MHz in Region 1 and consideration of possible regulatory actions in the frequency band 470-​694 MHz in Region 1.

Part of this band was studied under agenda item 1.1 of WRC-15 and resulted in new mobile allocations and identifications for IMT in portions of the frequency range for some administrations in Regions 2 and 3.

Since then, 3GPP has specified Band 71 (the range 663 – 698 MHz / 617 – 652 MHz) as an operating band for 5G NR and equipment is already available for that band. The United States made that band available for mobile broadband licensees through a successful incentive auction which concluded in April 2017. Mexico successfully cleared the band in October 2018, thereby releasing the 600 MHz band for mobile broadband use. In April 2019, Canada concluded its 600 MHz auction. The momentum is growing for the 614-698 MHz and 698-790 MHz bands; as of WRC-19, a total of 8 countries in Region 2 and 7 in Region 3 have IMT identifications including these bands, with 28 countries in Region 3 have IMT identifications in the 698-790 MHz band. Internationally harmonized bands benefit consumers, through economies of scale in infrastructure, devices, chipsets, etc., thereby reducing network deployment and consumer costs while simultaneously enabling global roaming.

Countries are encouraged to support further global harmonization of the 470-694 MHz frequency band for mobile services, including an identification for IMT. Such a regulatory solution would:

1. Enable administrations to preserve and protect broadcasting and other services in the UHF range,
2. Consider ways to facilitate the development of future broadcasting systems, and
3. Allow administrations flexibility to address the mobile spectrum shortage consistent with their domestic requirements.

The United States supports advancing the harmonization of the 470-698 MHz frequency band for IMT and is of the view that decision on WRC-23 agenda item 1.5 would not preclude Region 2 administrations from harmonizing this frequency band to enable the introduction of wireless broadband services in their respective countries.

**Proposal**:

**NOC (for Region 2) USA/1.5/1**

**460-890 MHz**

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| **Region 2** |
| **---** |
| **470-512**  BROADCASTING  Fixed  Mobile  5.292 5.293 5.295 |
| **512-608**  BROADCASTING  5.295 5.297 |
|
| **608-614**  RADIO ASTRONOMY  Mobile-satellite except aeronautical mobile-satellite (Earth-to-space) |
|
| **614-698**  BROADCASTING  Fixed  Mobile  5.293 5.308 5.308A 5.309 |
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**Reasons**: WRC-23 Agenda Item 1.5 is limited to technical and regulatory studies for certain terrestrial services only in Region 1 for the frequency band 470-960 MHz. Therefore, no change is proposed for Region 2. Any changes made to the Radio Regulations under WRC-23 agenda item 1.5 must not impact the existing allocations and identifications for Region 2, nor subject Region 2 to any changed procedural or regulatory provisions. This proposal does not address Regions 1 and 3, so those columns of the Table of Frequency Allocations in Article 5 are thus not reproduced above.