

**Eastern Caribbean
Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL)**

**UPDATE ON PROCESS FOR RELEASE OF 700 MHz
SPECTRUM IN ECTEL MEMBER STATES**

(May 2013)

A written public consultation on a proposal for the assignment of spectrum in the 700 MHz band was conducted by ECTEL. It began on 20th July 2012 with a first period for initial comments followed by a second period for comments on comments that ended on 20th September 2012. Following its consideration of the submissions received from respondents to the consultation, ECTEL is pleased to now publish the following three documents:-

- 1. Determination**: - www.ectel.int/Current_Consultations/700_Final_Determination : This document presents ECTEL's final determination on the issues that were raised in the consultation. It addresses all the proposals in the consultation document that were either challenged or rejected (in whole or in part) by respondents, and all other matters that were raised or suggested for consideration by respondents.

- 2. Process for Assignment of Spectrum in the 700 MHz Band** - [www.ectel.int/Current_Consultations/700 MHz Assignment Process](http://www.ectel.int/Current_Consultations/700_MHz_Assignment_Process) : This document outlines ECTEL's final proposal for the process to be used in the selection of applicants for assignment of 700 MHz spectrum in the ECTEL jurisdiction. Justification for the process proposed is also presented. The final proposal is essentially a modification of the initial proposal to reflect ECTEL's final determination on the consultation. The Process for Assignment of Spectrum in the 700 MHz Band will be recommended by ECTEL to the National Telecommunications Regulatory Commissions of ECTEL Member States for adoption.

- 3. Policy on the Allocation and Assignment of Frequencies in the 700 MHz Band** – [www.ectel.int/Current_Consultations/700 MHz Policy](http://www.ectel.int/Current_Consultations/700_MHz_Policy) :This document is an amendment of the existing policy. The existing policy was approved by the ECTEL Board of Directors in April 2009. The amendment was recently approved by the Board in April 2013. The amendment essentially revises the 700 MHz band-plan by more closely aligning it to that of the FCC and the 3GPP band 17 plan that was released for LTE 700 MHz Spectrum.

In February 2012, ECTEL completed a public consultation on an amendment to the current Telecommunication Fees Regulations. The resulting recommendations for the amended Fees Regulations (which will, among other things, legally prescribe the fees for spectrum in the 700 MHz band) have already been dispatched by ECTEL to Member States for promulgation. For each Member State, the availability of 700 MHz spectrum for assignment will commence at the time of promulgation of the amended Fees Regulations. Subsequently, the process outlined in the document entitled “Process for Assignment of Spectrum in the 700 MHz Band” would guide the assignment of 700 MHz spectrum.

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