



TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

GUIDELINES FOR SATELLITE LANDING RIGHTS AUTHORIZATION IN TANZANIA TERRITORY

ISSUED BY TCRA – JULY 2025



**GUIDELINES FOR SATELLITE LANDING RIGHTS AUTHORIZATION IN
TANZANIA TERRITORY**

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List of abbreviations

API	Advance Publication Information
BIU	Bringing into Use
BR IFIC	BR International Frequency Information Circular
EIRP	Effective Isotropic Radiated Power
PFD	Power Flux Density
GSO	Geostationary Orbit
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
TCRA	Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
IARU	International Amateur Radio Union

Definition of terms

Satellite	An object in outer space that revolves around another celestial body.
Landing rights	Authorization granted by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) to the foreign satellite operators for their satellite network or system signals to provide satellite capacity over the territory of the United Republic of Tanzania.
Orbit	The path that the satellite follows while revolving around another celestial body.
Earth Station	A station located either on the Earth's surface or within the major portion of the Earth's atmosphere and intended for communication with one or more space stations or with one or more stations of the same kind by means of one or more reflecting satellites or other objects in space.
Satellite footprint	The area of the Earth covered by the signal from a satellite.
Advance Publication Information	ITU Satellite fillings procedure, which involves bands in the Table of Frequency Allocations that are not subject to coordination.
Landing Rights Holder	A foreign satellite operator whose satellite network or system is authorized to provide satellite capacity over the territory of the United Republic of Tanzania.
Satellite Capacity	The range of data traffic provided by the Satellite Network or System communicating with the Earth Station in the territory of the United Republic of Tanzania.
Service Provider	An entity having obtained a relevant license from TCRA to provide satellite based services to end users.
Satellite Operator	A legal person or entity that operates a space station or satellite system to provide satellite transmission capacity or satellite facilities.

1. Introduction

A satellite is an object in outer space that revolves around another celestial body. A satellite can be natural or artificial. Example of natural satellites includes the Earth and the Moon. The moon is considered a satellite because it revolves around Earth, the Earth is a satellite because it revolves around the sun. Artificial satellites are manmade and are intentionally launched into space. There are thousands of artificial satellites orbiting the Earth. These artificial satellites act as relay stations in space for the transmission of voice, video, and data communications. The path that the satellite follows while revolving around another celestial body is called an orbit.

The area of the Earth covered by signal from a satellite is called the satellite footprint. The size of the footprint depends on the location of the satellite in its orbit, the shape and size of the beam produced by its transponder, and the distance from the Earth. Some satellites have global coverage, while others provide regional coverage. The use of frequency assignments and associated orbital resources by a satellite system is subject to compliance with the ITU Radio Regulations.

Apart from having signal coverage in a certain territory, a satellite operator may require authorization for its satellite to provide capacity in that territory. The authorization may be in the form of a licence or landing right, depending on the regulations of different administrations. In the United Republic of Tanzania, it is called Satellite Landing Rights Authorization

2. Objectives

The objective of these guidelines is to provide guidance to satellite operators seeking Landing Rights Authorization in the United Republic of Tanzania.

3. Scope

These guidelines cover only communications satellite networks or systems

4. Landing rights to satellite operators

In these guidelines, Satellite Landing Rights refer to the authorization granted per filled and notified satellite network or system by TCRA to the foreign satellite operators for

their satellite network or system signals to provide satellite capacity over the territory of the United Republic of Tanzania.

4.1 Requirement for obtaining Landing Rights

- (i) A Foreign Satellite Operator intending to access the satellite communications market in the United Republic of Tanzania specifically for the purpose of selling satellite capacity to licensed operators through the use of its satellite network or system with signal coverage over Tanzanian territory, is required to apply for and obtain a Satellite Landing Rights Authorization from the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA). This authorization does not permit the direct provision of services to end-users within Tanzania.
- (ii) The application for Satellite Landing Rights Authorization may be submitted either by the Foreign Satellite Operator directly or through the notifying administration acting on behalf of the satellite operator.

4.2 Exemption from Obtaining Landing Rights

Safety, amateur satellite, meteorological satellites, earth exploration satellites, radio astronomy, radio navigation, and space research services (as defined in Article 1 of the ITU Radio Regulations) shall be exempted from the requirement of obtaining Landing Rights.

4.3 Application requirements

The following information must be submitted;

- (i) A certified copy (may be notarized by the competent/issuing authority in the home country) of the license from the home country in which the satellite is registered for launching and/or a copy of the satellite operator's space segment license (as applicable).
- (ii) Evidence of having successfully undergone and completed the satellite coordination process under the ITU framework;
- (iii) If coordination with ITU as per section IIA of article 9 of ITU Radio Regulations is not required, the proof of Advance Publication Information (API) filing as well

as other supporting documents indicating clearance from the ITU and/or the IARU should be provided as part of the application.

- (iv) A duly filled application form Annexed to these guidelines.

5. Obligations of the Landing Rights Holder

A holder of Satellite Landing Rights Authorization shall, without prejudice to other obligations stipulated under the applicable laws and regulations, comply with the following requirements:

- (a) Provide and maintain accurate and up-to-date technical and operational information regarding the satellite network, space station, or system, including but not limited to its intended applications, orbital parameters, frequency bands, and any other pertinent data. Such information shall be submitted to the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) upon request.
- (b) Maintain a comprehensive database of all entities (licensed operators) within the territory of the United Republic of Tanzania to whom satellite capacity has been provided. This database shall be made available to the Authority upon request. For the avoidance of doubt, this requirement does not extend to end-users.

6. Landing Rights Fee

Landing Rights Authorization is subject to payment of the License fee as outlined in the First Schedule of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations, 2025. The fee is charged per satellite network or system.

7. Landing rights duration

For Non-GSO systems, the Landing Rights will last for five (5) years or the lifespan of the satellite whichever comes first, and is renewable and for GSO networks, the Landing Rights will last for fifteen years (15) or the lifespan of the satellite whichever comes first and is renewable.

Annex: Landing Rights Application Information

1. General Information

1.1	Company Name	
1.2	Company Address (Physical, Telephone, Email)	
1.3	Contact Person (Names, Position Held, Telephone, Email)	

2. Technical Parameters

2.1 Space Segment Parameters

Satellite name		
ITU Notification ID		
Orbital type (GSO, Non-GSO)		
Orbital Position Degree (E/W) (for GSO)	E:	W:
Satellite Notification or Launch Date		
Satellite constellation? (Yes/No).	How many Satellites have been launched at time of application for Landing Rights:	
	How many Satellites to be launched in total:	
Fixed Satellite Service/Mobile Satellite Service/Other Specify		
Frequency Band (tick appropriate)	C-Band	
	Ka-Band	
	Ku-Band	
	S-Band	
	L-Band	
	Q/V Band	
	Other (Specify)	
Transmit start and stop frequency		
Receive start and stop frequency		

3. Coordination Requirements

Satellite Notified with ITU? Yes/No	
If Yes provide the ITU BR IFIC Number published	
Notifying Administration Name	
Provide the date of Notification and the ITU Space service URL showing details.	

Contact Us

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