



## **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO RELEASE SPECTRUM IN IMT BANDS THROUGH AN AUCTION PROCESS**

Pursuant to the provision of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act Chapter 172 and the Electronic and Postal Communications Act, (EPOCA) Chapter 306 of the laws of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is vested with powers to allocate, assign, issue, distribute, retrieve, suspend, cancel or otherwise modify distribution among users or licensees of any radio communication frequencies or frequencies channels.

In exercising its powers, TCRA is also guided by the National Information Communications and Technology Policy, 2016 (National ICT Policy) whose key policy objectives relevant to the use of frequency spectrum are:

- i) promotion of an efficient use of spectrum (where efficiency implies assigning spectrum to those that will generate the greatest socio-economic benefit from its use);
- ii) promotion of competition, i.e. an outcome which supports or does not undermine effective competition;
- iii) promotion of benefits for consumers, though the sustainable provision of widespread, high quality services; and
- iv) promotion of investment and innovation.

In furtherance to the National ICT Policy, it is the intention of TCRA that the planned spectrum auction of the International Mobile Telecommunication (IMT) bands will, among other things, bring the following benefits to the nation:-

- a) Advancement of the country's mobile and fixed broadband infrastructure and capability which will serve as a catalyst for the nation's economic development;
- b) Facilitation of social economic benefits as mobile and fixed broadband will be key for promoting efficient provision of services such as education, health, agriculture, commerce, financial services through ICTs;
- c) Lowering mobile communications costs due to cost savings as a result deploying fewer base stations for wider coverage and therefore potential lower consumer prices;
- d) Enhancing quality of services and quality of experience through coverage and capacity improvement;
- e) Extending the provision of mobile broadband services to a wider Tanzanian population especially those in rural areas;
- f) Promotion, enhancement and facilitation of innovation for new ICT services and technologies to be deployed in the band; and

- g) Source of national revenue by obtaining optimal return for the spectrum band as a scarce resource.

TCRA hereby notifies the general public and stakeholders that it intends to assign the following available spectrum blocks allocated for IMT services through an auction, subject to a reserve price.

- (i) 700 MHz band: One (1) block of 2 x 10 MHz
- (ii) 2300 MHz band: Two (2) blocks of 1 x 35 MHz
- (iii) 2600 MHz band: Three (3) blocks of 2 x 15 MHz and one block of 1 x 20 MHz
- (iv) 3500 MHz band: Four (4) blocks of 1 x 40 MHz

To ensure that consumers benefit fully from access to mobile broadband services with meaningful connectivity TCRA intends to include coverage obligations as part of the assignment process. Prior to the formal commencement of the assignment process, TCRA will be conducting consultation exercises to which all stakeholders will be invited to participate.

To allow stakeholders begin their initial planning for the intended spectrum auction, an indicative timetable has been provided in this notice for the spectrum auction process. In case of any material change to the timetable the general public will be further informed.

#### **Indicative Timetable**

	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>TIME</b>
1	Publication of Consultation Document (Draft Information Memorandum)	Mid-August, 2022
2	Submission of Stakeholder Comments on Draft Information Memorandum	End of August, 2022
3	Publication of Information Memorandum	Early September, 2022
4	Actual Spectrum Auction	Early October 2022
5	Payment deadline	Mid-October, 2022
6	Grant of licences and /Assignment of Spectrum	End of October, 2022

Interested persons and stakeholders are urged to prepare for the said spectrum auction and observe the above time schedule.

#### **ISSUED BY**

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