**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR WRC-19**

**Agenda Item 8**: *to consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account Resolution 26 (Rev.WRC-07).*

**SUMMARY**: WRC-15 adopted modified footnotes to the Table of Allocations for co-primary mobile use and IMT identification in the band 470–698 MHz. This document proposes to remove co-primary mobile allocation and IMT identification from the band 512–608 MHz in the United States.

**BACKGROUND**: The frequency bands 512‒608 and 614‒698 MHz are allocated to the broadcasting service on a primary basis in Region 2.[[1]](#footnote-1) At WRC-15, Footnote No. 5.297 was modified to allocate 512‒608 MHz to the fixed and mobile services on a co-primary basis with broadcasting in Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, the United States, Guatemala, Guyana, and Jamaica, subject to agreement obtained under No. 9.21, and to the mobile service on a primary basis with broadcasting in the Bahamas, Barbados, and Mexico, subject to agreement obtained under No. 9.21.

At WRC-15, Footnote No. 5.295 was modified to identify the frequency band 470‒608 MHz or portions thereof for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) in the Bahamas, Canada, the United States, and Mexico – see Resolution 224 (5.idR2a, WRC-15).

The United States sought co-primary allocation with broadcasting of the spectrum 512‒608 and 614‒698 MHz to the fixed and mobile service and identification for IMT use as a preliminary step in anticipation of a possible outcome of its “Incentive Auction,” which sought to use economic market forces to determine the highest and best use of spectrum within the band 470‒698 MHz.[[2]](#footnote-2) Because the United States did not know in advance how much spectrum would be repurposed from broadcasting to mobile, it allocated to the mobile service on a co-primary basis with broadcasting all possible spectrum that could be repurposed.

The United States has determined that it must clearly identify where broadcast television and mobile wireless services will be permitted and must modify its allocations to reflect the outcome of the Incentive Auction.[[3]](#footnote-3) Specifically, the United States has determined that the spectrum 512‒608 MHz will not be used for the mobile service or identified for IMT, and will remain used for broadcasting exclusively.[[4]](#footnote-4) Accordingly, this proposal will withdraw the United States from Footnotes 5.297 and 5.295.

**CONSIDERING:**

1. That the frequency band 470–694/698 MHz, or portions thereof, is the only band that is harmonized and used on a global scale for over-the-air broadcast television;
2. That the frequency band 512–608 MHz was allocated by some administrations at the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) for fixed and mobile services on a co-primary basis with broadcasting in accordance with No. 5.297;
3. That the frequency band 470–608 MHz or portions thereof was identified by some administrations at the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) in accordance with No. 5.295;
4. That terrestrial television broadcasting is one of the most important and efficient mass communications media for delivering news, information, cultural programs, and entertainment free of charge to the general public;
5. That terrestrial broadcasting networks have a long life cycle, and a stable regulatory environment is necessary to provide protection of investment and to encourage future development of the service;
6. That harmonized use of spectrum for specific services are desirable.

**RECOGNIZING:**

1. That the frequency band 512–608 MHz is allocated to the broadcasting service on a primary basis in Region 2;
2. That the United States has no plans to use the frequency band 512–608 MHz for mobile services;
3. That mobile service stations of the IMT system within the frequency band 512–608 MHz are subject to agreement obtained under RR No. 9.21 and shall not cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, the broadcasting service of neighboring countries

**RECOMMENDS:**

1. That [CITEL Members States] avoid use of the frequency band 512–608 MHz for purposes other than broadcasting;
2. That [CITEL Members States] withdraw from No. 5.297 and 5.295 to the extent that the frequency band 512–608 MHz is allocated for mobile use on a primary basis or identified for IMT.

**Proposal**:

**MOD** USA/8

Radio Regulations Volume 1

ARTICLE 5

**Frequency allocations**

**Section IV – Table of Frequency Allocations**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 460-890 MHz | | | |
| Allocation to services | | |
| Region 1 | Region 2 | Region 3 |
| … | | |
| 470-694  BROADCASTING  5.149 5.291A 5.294 5.296  5.300 5.304 5.306 5.311A  5.312 | 470-512  BROADCASTING  Fixed  Mobile  5.292 5.293 5.295 | 470-585  FIXED  MOBILE 5.296A  BROADCASTING  5.291 5.298 |
| 512-608  BROADCASTING  5.295 5.297 |
| 585-610  FIXED  MOBILE 5.296A  BROADCASTING  RADIONAVIGATION  5.149 5.305 5.306 5.307 |
| 608-614  RADIO ASTRONOMY  Mobile-satellite except aeronautical mobile-satellite (Earth-to-space) |
| 610-890  FIXED  MOBILE 5.296A 5.313A  5.317A  BROADCASTING  5.149 5.305 5.306 5.307 5.311A 5.320 |
| 614-698  BROADCASTING  Fixed  Mobile  5.293 5.308 5.308A 5.309 5.311A |
| … |
| … |

**Proposed changes:**

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**5.297** Additional allocation: in Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador**~~, the United States~~**, Guatemala, Guyana and Jamaica, the frequency band 512-608 MHz is also allocated to the fixed and mobile services on a primary basis, subject to agreement obtained under No. 9.21. In the Bahamas, Barbados and Mexico, the frequency band 512-608 MHz is also allocated to the mobile service on a primary basis, subject to agreement obtained under No. 9.21. (WRC-15)

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**5.295** In the Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, the United States and Mexico, the frequency band 470-608 MHz, or portions thereof, is identified for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) – see Resolution 224 (Rev.WRC-15). This identification does not preclude the use of these frequency bands by any application of the services to which they are allocated and does not establish priority in the Radio Regulations. Mobile service stations of the IMT system within the frequency band are subject to agreement obtained under No. 9.21 and shall not cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, the broadcasting service of neighbouring countries. Nos. 5.43 and 5.43A apply. In Mexico, the use of IMT in this frequency band will not start before 31 December 2018 and may be extended if agreed by the neighbouring countries. (WRC-15). **In the United States, the use of IMT in this frequency band is limited to 470–512 MHz.**

1. RR5-57 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See FCC Report and Order, “In the Matter of Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum through Incentive Auctions,” GN Docket 12-268, adopted May 15, 2014, para. 317ff. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. *Ibid*, para 321. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. See FCC Order, “In the Matter of Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum through Incentive Auctions,” GN Docket 12-268, adopted September 11, 2017, para. 4. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)