

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### DRAFT PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON WRC-11

**AGENDA ITEM 1.17:** to consider the results of sharing studies between the mobile service and other services in the band 790-862 MHz in Regions 1 and 3, in accordance with **Resolution 749 (WRC-07)**, to ensure the adequate protection of services to which the frequency band is allocated, and to take regulatory actions as appropriate

**ISSUE:** While the Agenda Item is ostensibly limited to Regions 1 and 3, there could be an impact on services within the United States or its territories in terms of 1) border issues with Regions 1 and 3 and/or 2) precedents established by either the methodology or characteristics used in the studies.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In the United States, legislation was signed into law requiring all TV broadcasters to switch from analog to digital transmissions by a certain date in 2009. All television stations operating on TV channels 52-69 are required to vacate this spectrum as part of the transition from analog to digital television. This legislation became the catalyst that opened up this spectrum for other uses, including spectrum for commercial mobile systems and for public safety agencies to implement 700 MHz voice and data communications systems.

At WRC-07, the band 790-862 MHz in Region 1 was allocated to the Mobile Service and identified for IMT effective in 2015. In addition, more than 70 countries in Region 1 identified the band for IMT effective immediately. In Region 3, where the band was already allocated to the Mobile Service, a number of countries also identified it for IMT. While unrelated to WRC-11 agenda item 1.17, it is worth noting that WRC-07 also allocated the band 698-806 MHz to the mobile service in Region 2 and identified it for IMT.

Footnote 5.317A was adopted into the Radio Regulations as follows:

**5.317A** Those parts of the band 698-960 MHz in Region 2 and the band 790-960 MHz in Regions 1 and 3 which are allocated to the mobile service on a primary basis are identified for use by administrations wishing to implement International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) See Resolution **224 (Rev.WRC-07)** and Resolution **749 [COM4/13] (WRC-07)**. This identification does not preclude the use of these bands by any application of the services to which they are allocated and does not establish priority in the Radio Regulations. (WRC-07)

Since the sharing studies between the broadcast and mobile service that were completed prior to the WRC were not approved in Study Group 5, studies were called for under Agenda Item 1.17 and are being conducted in Joint Task Group (JTG) 5-6.

As an initial matter, JTG 5-6 has addressed its scope and will conduct sharing studies for performing interference analysis to ensure the protection of services to which the band 790-862 MHz is currently allocated. Adjacent channel interference will be treated within these studies. The results of the studies conducted by the JTG 5-6 will be made available to ITU-R Working Parties with the view that these Working Parties may wish to develop ITU-R Recommendations and/or Reports, noting that according to its Terms of Reference JTG 5-6 will not develop ITU-R Recommendations by itself. In response to interventions during JTG 5-6 from the United States on the methodology and characteristics being employed, it has been stated that Region 2 is outside the Regions under study and thus the interventions were not taken into account.

**U.S. VIEW:** The United States is of the view that, as the scope of JTG 5-6 studies is limited to only Regions 1 and 3, there can be no basis for any changes to the Radio Regulations that impact on the operation of services in Region 2. The United States opposes any changes to the Radio Regulations that would affect Region 2 services based on the results of JTG 5-6 studies, particularly because the US had no input to the methodology or characteristics used in the studies. The US also seeks to avoid undue constraints on Region 3 services, including those in US territories in that Region.

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