
Public Consultation

TRA Regulations – Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE)

Commencement Date: 26 June 2018

Response Date: 24 July 2018

Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA)
P O Box 26662, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)
www.tra.gov.ae

Preface and Notes to Potential Respondents

In keeping with its values of transparency and sector engagement, the TRA wishes to review and study the impact of regulatory instruments issued by it to keep abreast of developments to better involve all stakeholders. The TRA strives to meet the needs of the sector and seeks the views and feedback from the sector for the revision of the regulations. The purpose of this document is to invite comments from stakeholders regarding the TRA's intention to revise TRA Regulations- Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE) Version 1.0 in accordance with the Telecom Law.

Stakeholders who wish to respond to this consultation should do so in writing to the TRA on or before the response date stated on the front cover of this document. The comments which are contained in any response to this consultation should be clearly identified with respect to the specific question in this consultation to which such comments refer. Any comments which are of a general nature and not in response to a particular question should be clearly identified as such.

Responses to this consultation should be made in writing and provided electronically in MS Word format and Adobe PDF format, on or before the response date stated on the front cover of this document. Responses must be accompanied by the full contacts details (contact name, e-mail address and phone and fax numbers) of the respondent to:

spectrumconsultation@tra.gov.ae;

Executive Director Spectrum Affairs
Telecommunications Regulatory Authority
P.O. Box 26662
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Respondents are advised that it will be the general intention of the TRA to publish in full the responses received to this consultation. Additionally, the TRA may, at its discretion generate and publish a "Summary of Responses" document at the conclusion of this consultation. Accordingly, the Summary of Responses may include references to and citations (in whole or in part) of comments which have been received. The TRA recognizes that certain responses may include commercially sensitive and confidential information which the respondent may not wish to be published. In the event that a response contains confidential information, it shall be the responsibility of the respondent to clearly mark any information which is considered to be of a confidential nature.

In any event the respondent shall be required to submit two versions of its response to the TRA as follows:

- A full copy of its response in MS Word format with any confidential information clearly marked. The TRA will not publish the Word document and will only use it for internal purposes.
- A publishable copy of its response in Adobe PDF format. The TRA will publish the PDF version in its entirety. Thus, the respondent should take care to redact any commercially sensitive and confidential information in the PDF version of its response.

By participating in this consultation and by providing a PDF version of its response the respondent expressly authorizes the TRA to publish the submitted PDF version of its response in full.

It should be noted that none of the ideas expressed or comments made in this consultation document will necessarily result in formal decisions by the TRA and nothing contained herein shall limit or otherwise restrict the TRA's powers to regulate the telecommunications sector at any time.

If any Person or entity seeks to clarify or discuss any part of these Regulations can request for a meeting in writing again to the above E-mail and then TRA will set the meetings in the period from **26 June to 24 July 2018** so that formal comments can still be received by **3.00pm on 24 July 2018**.

Consultation Schedule

Milestone	Due Date	Notes
Closing Date for Initial Responses	24 July 2018	All responses to this consultation should be properly received by no later than <u>15.00 noon</u> on the closing date. Responses are to be submitted in electronic format as set out in this consultation document.
Latest date for requests for extension to the due date for Initial Responses.	17 July 2018	<p>Stakeholders wishing to secure an extension to the Closing Date for Initial Responses may apply in writing to the TRA for such an extension. The request should set out the rationale for the request.</p> <p>Requests for extension should be submitted by e-mail to the e-mail address shown above.</p> <p>The TRA will not consider any requests for extension which the TRA receives after <u>15.00 noon</u> on the date stated here.</p> <p>The TRA will consider requests to extend the Closing Date for Initial Responses and will take into account such factors as: the number of such requests received; the rationale for such requests; and the effect on the overall time-scale of the particular project in question. In the event that the TRA extends the Closing Date for Initial Responses, the TRA will publish the revised closing date on its website.</p>

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The TRA intend to revise its Regulations on TRA Regulations- Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE) Version 1.0. As such, all readers are informed that this document outlines the draft version of these regulations in order to give this document context and to enable the TRA to ask pertinent questions. All text in this consultation document should be read and interpreted as text and not as recording decisions of the TRA.
- 1.2 The TRA notes that there were recent updates in ITU-R recommendations related to these systems and with the anticipated increase in the use PMSEs across the UAE and there is a need to update relevant parts of these regulations to provide more clarity on the frequencies and associated attributes under which they can operate.
- 1.3 As such, the TRA seeks to consider inputs of all industry stakeholders regarding these changes, which are increasingly relevant and valuable in the TRA's exercise of its duties and legal mandates.
- 1.4 Additionally, the TRA strives to follow the principles of transparency, fairness and openness in dealings with customers, partners and other stakeholders and, therefore considers that it is important to take into account the views of those who have a legitimate interest in the outcomes of the TRA's regulation.
- 1.5 In the ensuing text, significant changes are marked as follows:
- Additions are highlighted in yellow
 - Deletions are ~~struck through and highlighted in grey~~

2 Matters for Discussion and Consultation

Article (1)

Scope of Document

- 1.1 These regulations are issued in accordance with the provisions of the UAE Federal Law by Decree No 3 of 2003 (Telecom Law) as amended and its Executive Order.
- 1.2 These regulations comprises technical conditions for use of wireless equipment for the purposes of Programme Making, Special Events and Services Ancillary to Broadcasting and Production. These regulations shall be read in conjunction with the following regulatory instruments issued by the TRA and available from the TRA website at www.tra.gov.ae:
 - 1.2.1 Spectrum Allocation and Assignment Regulations
 - 1.2.2 Spectrum Fees Regulation
 - 1.2.3 Interference Management Regulations
 - 1.2.4 National Frequency Plan
 - 1.2.5 TRA Earth Station Regulations

Question 1: Do you have any proposed modifications/additions/suppressions to Scope of Regulations.

Article (2)

Definitions

- 2.1 The terms, words and phrases used in these Regulations shall have the same meaning as is ascribed to them in the Telecom Law and its Executive Order as amended (Federal Law by Decree No. 3 of 2003 as amended its Executive Order) unless these Regulations expressly provide otherwise for, or the context in which those terms, words and phrases are used in these Regulations indicates otherwise. The following terms and words shall have the meanings ascribed to them below:
 - 2.1.1 “**Applicant**” means any Person who has applied for a License or an Authorization in accordance with the Telecom Law or other Regulatory Instruments issued by the Authority.
 - 2.1.2 “**Application**” means the request for issuance of a License or an Authorization, received at the Authority on prescribed forms as per the procedure in vogue.

- 2.1.3 “**Application Fees**” means the fees paid for the request for processing a new, renew or modification of a License or an Authorization, received at the TRA as per the procedure.
- 2.1.4 “**Authorization**” means a valid frequency spectrum authorization issued by the TRA and permits the use of radio frequency subject to terms and conditions as stipulated by the TRA. .
- 2.1.5 “**TRA**” or “**Authority (TRA)**” means the General Authority for Regulating the Telecommunication Sector known as Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) established pursuant to the provisions of Article 6 of Federal Law by Decree No. 3 of 2003 (as amended).
- 2.1.6 “**Authorized User**” means a Person that has been granted an Authorization by the TRA.
- 2.1.7 “**Frequency Fees**” means the fees to be paid to the Authority, on the issue, modify or renewal of an Authorization.
- 2.1.8 “**Frequency Spectrum Fees**” means the fees to be paid to the Authority. It has two components: Application Fees and Frequency Fees.
- 2.1.9 “**International Telecom Union (ITU)**” means the International Telecommunication Union, a leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies.
- 2.1.10 “**PMSE**” means the Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events i.e. use of frequency spectrum or wireless equipment to support broadcasting and production of content, news gathering, concerts, theatrical productions, stage performances, educational institutes, exhibitions, conferences and special events such as culture events, sport events etc.
- 2.1.11 “**Radio Regulations (RR)**” means a publication issued by the ITU, adopted by the World Radiocommunication Conference and ratified by the UAE.
- 2.1.12 “**Station**” means one or more transmitters or receivers or a combination of transmitters and receivers, including the accessory equipment, necessary for carrying on a radiocommunication service at the location specified by the TRA.
- 2.1.13 “**Temporary Authorization**” means the “**Authorization**” issued for a period up to 90 days.
- 2.1.14 “**UAE**” means the United Arab Emirates including its territorial waters and the airspace above.

Question 2: Do you have any proposed modifications/additions/suppressions to Definitions.

Article (3)

Spectrum Authorizations for PMSE

- 3.1 The PMSE requirements for major events require extensive frequency resources. Mostly the events are location specific and temporary Authorizations shall be issued to meet the requirements of events.
- 3.2 All PMSE equipment shall be Authorized on secondary basis, sharing and not to cause harmful interference or based on terms and conditions given in the Authorization.
- 3.3 The **Temporary or Annual** Authorizations for PMSE may fall into one of the following categories:
- 3.3.1 **Temporary** Use Location Specific: Temporary use at a single, fixed location. In this category, the TRA will coordinate the use of assigned frequencies with other PMSE users.
- 3.3.2 **Temporary** Use Non-Location Specific: Temporary use at several locations or over a pre-defined area. In this category, the Authorized User will share the assigned frequencies with other PMSE users.
- ~~3.3.3 **Annual Use Location Specific:** Annual use at a single, fixed location. In this category, the TRA will coordinate the use of assigned frequencies with other PMSE users.~~
- ~~3.3.4 **Annual Use Non-Location Specific:** Annual use at several locations or over a pre-defined area. In this category, the Authorized User will share the assigned frequencies with other PMSE users.~~
- 3.4 The Applicant shall submit Application for each category separately for the designated frequency bands as mentioned in these Regulations.
- 3.5 For major events, the TRA will require applicants to submit applications at least 4 weeks in advance of the event commencing.
- 3.6 **Use of frequencies for** some PMSE equipment may be covered under Class Authorization and the TRA Regulations for UWB and Short Range Devices shall apply.
- 3.7 The TRA may also issue Authorization for the use of frequencies ~~identified as~~ **related to** Short Range Device at higher power levels than those specified in the UWB and Short Range Device Regulations for location specific PMSE usage only in cases where the TRA establishes that no harmful interference will occur to other Authorized Users.

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3.8 — The frequency bands to accommodate the use of PMSE has been listed in the following Articles. However, the availability of exact frequencies may vary for each category above. This information will be updated from time to time at the TRA web www.tra.gov.ae

Question 3: Do you have any comments on the possible types of Authorizations an applicant may require?

Article (4)

Types of Wireless Equipment used for PMSE

- 4.1 The wireless equipment used for PMSE is divided into following three types:
- 4.1.1 Wireless Audio Equipment
 - 4.1.2 Wireless Video Equipment
 - 4.1.3 Wireless Data Equipment
- 4.2 The Applications for events may be submitted together having all the above-mentioned types in one application as per the procedure and format defined by the TRA.
- 4.3 For the applications related to Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG), the TRA Earth Station Regulations are applicable.

Question 4: Do you have any further comments concerning the types of PMSE Equipment and any other related applications?

Article (5)

Wireless Audio Equipment

- 5.1 The Wireless Audio Equipment covers the wireless equipment used in PMSE for audio / sound purposes e.g. Wireless / Radio Mic, In Ear Monitors (IEM), portable audio links, Talkback system etc.
- 5.2 The following table gives guidance on frequency ranges for PMSE Wireless Audio Equipment, their use and applicable usage conditions. The wireless equipment which conforms to Short Range Devices (Refer to the TRA UWB and Short Range Device Regulations) will require Class Authorization. All other wireless equipment as per the following table will require an individual Authorization from the TRA. The Frequency Spectrum Fees of Low Power Devices shall be applicable as per Spectrum Fees Regulations.

Frequency Range	Intended Use	Usage conditions	Authorization method	Notes
66.0 – 74.8 MHz	Radio microphones	Maximum 10 mW e.r.p.	Authorization	Above 73 MHz indoor only
138 – 156 MHz	Talkback	Maximum 1 W e.r.p.	Authorization	Based on sharing with PMR
174 – 230 MHz	Radio microphones	Maximum 100 mW e.r.p.	Authorization	Based on tuning range. Exact available channels for each location will be updated on the TRA Web.
406.1 – 450 MHz	Talkback	Maximum 1 W e.r.p.	Authorization	Based on sharing with PMR

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Frequency Range	Intended Use	Usage conditions	Authorization method	Notes
470 – 694 MHz	Radio microphones, Talkback and IEM	Maximum 100 mW e.i.r.p.	Authorization	Based on tuning range. Exact available channels for each location will be updated on the TRA Web.
823 – 826 MHz	Radio microphones and IEM	Maximum 20 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	
826 – 832 MHz	Radio microphones and IEM	Maximum 100 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	
863 – 870 MHz	Radio microphones and IEM	Maximum 50 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	
1675 – 1710 MHz	Radio microphones and IEM	As authorized	Authorization	
1785 – 1804.8 MHz	Radio microphones and IEM	Maximum 20 mW e.i.r.p. (handheld) and 50 mW e.i.r.p. (body worn)	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	
1880 – 1900 MHz	Radio microphones	Maximum 250 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Using DECT technology only
2400 – 2483.5 MHz	Radio microphones	Maximum 10 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD including wireless video
5150 MHz - 5875 MHz	Indoor conference systems	160 mW	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD

Question 5: Do you have any further comments concerning the above frequency ranges and proposed authorization approach?

Article (6)

Wireless Video Equipment

- 6.1 The Video Applications covers the wireless equipment used in PMSE for video purposes e.g. wireless camera, mobile airborne video link, mobile vehicular video link, portable video links etc.
- 6.2 The following table gives guidance on frequency ranges for PMSE Video Applications, their use and applicable usage conditions. The wireless equipment which conforms to Short Range Devices (Refer to the TRA UWB and Short Range Device Regulations) will require Class Authorization. All other wireless equipment as per the following table will require an individual Authorization from the TRA. The Frequency Spectrum Fees of wireless camera links shall be applicable as per Spectrum Fees Regulations.

Frequency Range	Intended Use	Usage conditions	Authorization method	Notes
1675 – 1710 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	Temporary use only
1980 – 2010 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	Temporary use only
2010 – 2110 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
2170 – 2300 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
2300 – 2400 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	Temporary use for major events only.
2400 – 2483.5 MHz	Wireless video	Maximum 10 mW e.i.r.p.	Short range device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD and radio microphones
2483.5 – 2500 MHz	Wireless video	As authorised	Authorisation	
3100 – 3400 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
3800 – 4200 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
4400 – 4900 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
5150 – 5725 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	Shared with SRD
5725 – 5875 MHz	Wireless video	Maximum 50 mW e.i.r.p.	Short range device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD
5875 – 5925 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	Shared with SRD
6700 – 8025 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
8600 – 9200 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
9800 – 10600 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
11700 – 12500 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	

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Frequency Range	Intended Use	Usage conditions	Authorization method	Notes
13400 – 14000 MHz	Wireless video	25 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD
17100 – 17300 MHz	Wireless video	100 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD
21200 – 23600 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
24000 – 24250 MHz	Wireless video	100 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD
24250 – 24500 MHz	Wireless video	As authorised	Authorization	
47200 – 50200 MHz	Wireless video	As authorized	Authorization	
57000 – 64000 MHz	Wireless video	100 mW e.i.r.p.	Short Range Device (Class Authorization)	Shared with SRD

Question 6: Do you have any further comments concerning the above frequency ranges and proposed authorization approach?

Article (7)

Wireless Data Equipment

- 7.1 The Data Applications covers the wireless equipment used in PMSE for data purposes e.g. Radio links for the remote control of cameras, telemetry, and telecommand etc.
- 7.2 The following table gives guidance on frequency ranges for PMSE Data Applications, their use and applicable usage conditions. The wireless equipment which conforms to Short Range Devices (Refer to the TRA UWB and Short Range Device Regulations) will require Class Authorization. All other wireless equipment as per the following table will require an individual Authorization from the TRA. The Frequency Spectrum Fees for fixed (point to point) links shall be applicable as per Spectrum Fees Regulations.

Frequency Range	Intended Use	Usage conditions	Authorization method	Notes
138 – 156 MHz	Telemetry, telecommand	Maximum 1 W e.r.p.	Authorization	Based on sharing with PMR
406.1 – 450 MHz	Telemetry, telecommand	Maximum 1 W e.r.p.	Authorization	Based on sharing with PMR
1675 – 1710 MHz	Data links only	As authorized	Authorization	

Question 7: Do you have any further comments concerning the above frequency ranges and proposed authorization approach?

Article (8)

Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG)

- 8.1 The TRA Earth Station Regulations are applicable.

Article (8)

Spectrum Coordination and Notification

- 8.1 Coordination of frequencies for the Stations at the national, regional and international levels shall be made through the Authority, as it is the sole body responsible for radio frequency coordination.
- 8.2 Notifying and registering of frequencies of the Stations in the ITU shall be made through the Authority according to the procedures outlined in the Radio Regulations.
- 8.3 The Applicant shall support the coordination procedures.

Question 8: Do you have any comments relating to Article 8?

3. General comments

- 3.1 Further to the specific matters discussed, and questions asked above, please identify any additional issues which you feel are relevant for consideration in this consultation. Please provide specific support and/or explanation of your viewpoints as well as recommendations regarding how such issues might be resolved.