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| **Public Consultation** |
| **TDRA Regulations – Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE)** |
|  |
| **Commencement Date: 22 May 2023****Response Date: 07 July 2023** |

Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA)
P O Box 26662, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)
[www.tdra.gov.ae](http://www.tdra.gov.ae)

**Preface and Notes to Potential Respondents**

In keeping with its values of Transparency and sector engagement, the TDRA wishes to review and study the impact of regulatory instruments issued by it to keep abreast of developments to better involve all stakeholders. The TDRA 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 TDRA’s intention to revise TDRA Regulation- Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE) Version 2.0 in accordance with the Telecom Law.

Stakeholders who wish to respond to this consultation should do so in writing to the TDRA 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@TDRA.gov.ae**;

Executive Director Spectrum Affairs

Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority

P.O. Box 26662

Abu Dhabi, UAE

Respondents are advised that it will be the general intention of the TDRA to publish in full the responses received to this consultation. Additionally, the TDRA 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 TDRA 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 TDRA as follows:

* A full copy of its response in MS Word format with any confidential information clearly marked. The TDRA 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 TDRA 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 TDRA 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 TDRA and nothing contained herein shall limit or otherwise restrict the TDRA’s powers to regulate the telecommunications sector at any time.

If any Person or entity seeks to clarify or discuss any part of this Regulatory Policy can request for a meeting in writing again to the above E-mail and then TDRA will set the meetings in the period from **29 May to 08 June 2023** so that formal comments can still be received by **12.00pm on 07 July 2023.**

**Consultation Schedule**

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| **Milestone** | **Due Date** | **Notes** |
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| Closing Date for Initial Responses  |

 | 07 July 2023 |

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| All responses to this consultation should be properly received by no later than 12.00 noon on the closing date. Responses are to be submitted in electronic format as set out in this consultation document.  |

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| Latest date for requests for extension to the due date for Initial Responses.  |

 | 21 June 2023 |

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| Stakeholders wishing to secure an extension to the Closing Date for Initial Responses may apply in writing to the TDRA for such an extension. The request should set out the rationale for the request. Requests for extension should be submitted by e-mail to the e-mail address shown above. The TDRA will not consider any requests for extension which the TDRA receives after 12.00 noon on the date stated here. The TDRA 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 TDRA extends the Closing Date for Initial Responses, the TDRA will publish the revised closing date on its website.  |

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1. **Introduction**

1.1 The TDRA intend to revise its Regulations Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE) 2.0. As such, all readers are informed that this document outlines the draft version of this Regulatory Policy in order to give this document context and to enable the TDRA to ask pertinent questions. All text in this consultation document should be read and interpreted as text and not as recording decisions of the TDRA.

1.2 The TDRA notes that there were recent updates in ITU-R recommendations related to these devices and with the anticipated increase in the use of Services Ancillary to Broadcast Production, Program Making & Special Events (PMSE) Networks across the UAE and there is a need to update relevant parts of these Regulatory Policy to provide more clarity on the frequencies and associated attributes under which they can operate.

1.3 As such, the TDRA seeks to consider inputs of all industry stakeholders regarding these changes, which are increasingly relevant and valuable in the TDRA’s exercise of its duties and legal mandates.

1.4 Additionally, the TDRA 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 TDRA’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~~

**Matters for Discussion and Consultation**

Article (1)

~~Scope of Document~~ Legal Reference

* 1. These regulations are issued in accordance with the provisions of the UAE Federal Law by Decree No 3 of 2003 ~~(Telecom Law)~~ on Regulation of the Telecommunications Sector, as amended and its Executive Order.
	2. These regulations ~~comprises~~ describe the technical conditions for use of wireless equipment for the purposes of Programme Making, Special Events and Services Ancillary to Broadcasting and Production.
	3. These regulations shall be read in conjunction with the following ~~regulatory instruments issued by the TDRA and~~ documents available from the TDRA website at [www.tdra.gov.ae](http://www.tra.gov.ae):

1.2.1 Spectrum Allocation and Assignment Regulations

1.2.2 Spectrum Fees Regulation

1.2.3 ~~Interference Management~~ Spectrum Monitoring, Interference Management and Enforcement Regulations

1.2.4 National Frequency Plan including National Table of Frequency Allocation.

1.2.5 Earth Stations Regulations

1.2.6 Ultra-Wide Band and Short Range Devices Regulations

Question 1: Do you agree with the proposed changes in the article above?

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 UAE Federal Law by Decree No 3 of 2003 ~~(Telecom Law)~~ on Regulation of the Telecommunications Sector, as amended and 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 be interpreted, as follows:

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 TDRA as per the procedure.

2.1.4 **“Authority”** or **“TDRA”** means the General Authority for Regulating the Telecommunication Sector and Digital Government of the UAE known as Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA) established pursuant to the provisions of ~~Article 6 of~~ the Federal Law by Decree No. 3 of 2003 on Regulation of the Telecommunications Sector, as amended. **“Authorization”** or

2.1.5 **“Frequency Spectrum Authorization”** means a valid frequency spectrum authorization issued by the ~~TRA~~ Authority and permits the use of radio frequency subject to terms and conditions as stipulated by the ~~TRA~~ Authority.

2.1.x **“Authorized Wireless Equipment”** means Wireless Equipment approved for use in the UAE by the Authority on specified terms and conditions.

2.1.6 **“Authorized User”** means a Person that has been granted an Frequency Spectrum Authorization by the ~~TRA~~ Authority, or is using Authorized Wireless Equipment.

2.1.7 **“Class Authorization”** means the Authorization which permits the operation of wireless equipment by any Person within designated frequency bands subject to the terms and conditions stipulated by the TDRA.

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 **“Frequency Fees”** means the fees to be paid to the Authority, on the issue, modify or renewal of an Authorization.

2.1.10  **“ITU”** means the International Telecommunication Union, a leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs).

2.1.11 **“Person”** will include ‘juridical entities’ as well as ‘natural persons’.

2.1.12 **“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.

2.1.13 **“Radio Regulations”** or **“RR”** means the ~~Radio Regulations which is a~~ publication issued by the ITU, adopted by the World Radiocommunication Conference and ratified by the UAE.

2.1.14 **“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 TDRA for carrying on a radiocommunication service.

2.1.x **“Telecom Law”** means the Federal Law by Decree No 3 of 2003 on Regulation of the Telecommunications Sector, as amended.

2.1.15 **“Temporary Authorization”** means an Authorizationissued for a period up to 90 days.

2.1.16 **“UAE”** or **“State”** means the United Arab Emirates including its territorial waters and the airspace above.

2.1.x **“Wireless Equipment”** means a category of Telecommunication Apparatus used for Radiocommunication Service (including a Station).

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 and not to claim protection 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 Use Location Specific: Temporary or Annual use at a single, fixed location. In this category, the TDRA will coordinate the use of assigned frequencies with other PMSE users.

3.3.2 Use Non-Location Specific: Temporary or 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 planned major events, the TDRA 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 TDRA Regulations for UWB and Short Range Devices shall apply.

3.7 The TDRA may also issue Authorization for the use of frequencies 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 TDRA establishes that no harmful interference will occur to other Authorized Users.

Question 3: Do you have any comments on the types of PMSE applications available on spectrum management portal?

Question 4: Do you have any proposal on the methodology of issuing authorization for the PMSE equipment based on global practices?

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 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 TDRA.

4.3 For Applications related to Digital Satellite News Gathering (DSNG), the TDRA Regulations for Earth Stations are applicable.

Question 5: Do you have any comments/proposals on the types of PMSE indicated above?

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 TDRA 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 TDRA. The Frequency Spectrum Fees of Low Power Devices shall be applicable as per Spectrum Fees Regulations.

| **Frequency Range** | **Intended Use** | **Usage conditions** | **References** | **Authorization method** | **~~Notes~~** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 66.0 – 74.8 MHz | Radio microphonesAbove 73 MHz indoor only | Maximum 25~~10~~ mW e.r.p. | EN 300 086 | Authorization | ~~Above 73 MHz indoor only~~ |
| 138 – 156 MHz | Talkback Based on sharing with PMR | Maximum 1 W e.r.p. |  | Authorization | ~~Based on sharing with PMR~~ |
| 174 – 230 MHz | Radio microphonesBased on tuning range. Exact available channels for each location will be updated on the TDRA Web. | Maximum 50~~100~~ mW e.r.p. | EN 300 422ERC Recommendation 25-10 70-03 | Authorization | ~~Based on tuning range. Exact available channels for each location will be updated on the TDRA Web.~~ |
| 406.1 – 450 MHz | Talkback Based on sharing with PMR | Maximum 1 W e.r.p. |  | Authorization | ~~Based on sharing with PMR~~ |
| 470 – 694 MHz | Radio microphones, Talkback and IEM Based on tuning range. Exact available channels for each location will be updated on the TDRA Web. | Maximum ~~100~~50mW e.r.p. | EN 300 422EN 300 454ERC Recommendation 70-03 | Authorization | ~~Based on tuning range. Exact available channels for each location will be updated on the TDRA Web.~~ |
| 823 – 826 MHz | Radio microphones and IEM | Maximum 20 mW e.i.r.p. / 100 mW e.i.r.p. | ERC Recommendation 70-03 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) |  |
| 826 – 832 MHz | Radio microphones and IEM | Maximum 100 mW e.i.r.p. | ERC Recommendation 70-03 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) |  |
| 863 – 870 MHz | Radio microphones and IEM | 10 mW ~~Maximum 50 mW~~ e.i.r.p. | ERC Recommendation 70-03EN 301 357 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) |  |
| 1350 – 1400 MHz | Radio microphones and IEM | 20 mW e.i.r.p. / 50 mW e.i.r.p As authorized | ERC Recommendation 25-10ERC Recommendation 70-03EN 300 422 | Authorization |  |
| 1675 – 1710 MHz | Radio microphones and IEM | As authorized | EN 300 422 covers PMSE Equipment up to 3 GHz | 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) | EN 300 422ERC Recommendation 25-10ERC Recommendation 70-03 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) |  |
| 1880 – 1900 MHz | Radio microphones Using DECT technology only | Maximum 250 mW e.i.r.p. | ERC Recommendation 70-03 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Using DECT technology only~~ |
| 2400 – 2483.5 MHz | Radio microphones Shared with SRD including wireless video | Maximum 10 mW e.i.r.p. | ERC Recommendation 70-03ETSI EN 300 440 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD including wireless video~~ |
| 5150 MHz - 5875 MHz | Indoor conference systems Shared with SRD | 160 mW |  | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |

Question 6: Do you have any proposed modifications/additions/suppressions to the above table? Including the EN references used.

Question 7: Since the standards are now proposing modified power levels for some frequency band in the table above, kindly provide your views on the proposed changes and timeframe.

Article (6)

Wireless Video Equipment

6.1 The Wireless Video Equipment ~~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 Wireless Video Equipment~~Applications~~, their use and applicable usage conditions. The wireless equipment which conforms to Short Range Devices (Refer to the TDRA 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 TDRA. The Frequency Spectrum Fees of wireless camera links shall be applicable as per Spectrum Fees Regulations.

| **Frequency Range** | **Intended Use** | **Usage condition** | **References** | **Authorization method** | **~~Notes~~** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1675 – 1710 MHz | temporary use only | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization | ~~Temporary use only~~ |
| 1980 – 2010 MHz | Temporary use only | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization | ~~Temporary use only~~ |
| 2010 – 2110 MHz | As authorized | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 2170-2200 | Temporary use only | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization | ~~Temporary use only~~ |
| 2200 – 2300 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 2300 – 2400 MHz | Temporary use for major events only. | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization | ~~Temporary use for major events only.~~ |
| 2400 – 2483.5 MHz | Shared with SRD and radio microphones | Maximum 10 mW e.i.r.p. | EN 302 064 | Short range device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD and radio microphones~~ |
| 2483.5 – 2500 MHz |  | As authorised | EN 302 064 | Authorisation |  |
| 3100 – 3300 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization |  |
| 3800 – 4200 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization |  |
| 4400 – 4900 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization |  |
| 5150 – 5725 MHz | Shared with SRD | As authorized | EN 302 064  | Authorization | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |
| 5725 – 5875 MHz | Shared with SRD | 40 dBW ERP~~Maximum 50 mW e.i.r.p.~~ | EN 302 064 | Short range device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |
| 5875 – 5925 MHz | Shared with SRD | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |
| 6700 – 8025 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 8600 – 9200 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 9800 – 10600 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 11700 – 12500 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 13400 – 14000 MHz | Shared with SRD. | 25 mW e.i.r.p | EN 300 440 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |
| 17100 – 17300 MHz | Shared with SRD | 100 mW e.i.r.p.  | EN 300 440 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |
| 21200 – 23600MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 24000 – 24250 MHz | .Shared with SRD | 100 mW e.i.r.p | EN 302 064EN 300 440 | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |
| 24250 – 24500 MHz |  | As authorised | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 47200 – 50200 MHz |  | As authorized | EN 302 064 | Authorization |  |
| 57000 – 64000 MHz | Shared with SRD | 100 mW e.i.r.p. |  | Short Range Device (Class Authorization) | ~~Shared with SRD~~ |

Question 8: Do you have any proposed modifications/additions/suppressions to the above table? Including the EN references used.

Question 9: Since the standards are now proposing modified power levels for some frequency band in the table above, kindly provide your views on the proposed changes and timeframe.

Article (7)

Wireless Data Equipment

7.1 The Wireless Data Equipment ~~Applications~~ covers the ~~wireless equipment used in~~ PMSE for data purposes e.g. Radio links for the remote control of cameras, IP links, telemetry, and tele-command etc.

7.2 The following table gives guidance on frequency ranges for PMSE Wireless Data Equipment ~~Applications,~~ their use and applicable usage conditions. The wireless equipment which conforms to Short Range Devices (Refer to the TDRA 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 TDRA. The Frequency Spectrum Fees for fixed (point to point) links shall be applicable as per Spectrum Fees Regulations.

| **Frequency Range** | **Intended Use** | **Usage conditions** | **References** | **Authorization method** | **~~Notes~~** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 138 – 156 MHz | IP links, Telemetry, telecommand Based on sharing with PMR | Maximum1W e.r.p. | EN?? | Authorization | ~~Based on sharing with PMR~~ |
| 406.1 – 450 MHz | IP links, Telemetry, Based on sharing with PMR telecommand | Maximum 1 W e.r.p. | EN?? | Authorization | ~~Based on sharing with PMR~~ |
| 1675 – 1710 MHz | Data links only | As authorized | EN?? | Authorization |  |

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Question 10: Do you have any proposed modifications/additions/suppressions to the above table? Including the EN references used.

Article (8)

Spectrum Coordination and Notification

9.1 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.

9.2 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.

9.3 The Applicant shall support the coordination procedures.

Question 11: Do you have any comments on the coordination and notification indicated above?

Question 12: Do you have any comments on the coordination requirements for PMSE authorizations at national or event level?

Article (9)

Validation and Publication

9.1 These regulations should be published in the official gazette and shall be effective as of the date of their publication.

**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.