

PCC.II/REC. 69 (XLIII-24)¹

USE OF THE BAND 17.3–17.7 GHz (s-E) FOR FIXED-SATELLITE SERVICE IN REGION 2

The 43 Meeting of Permanent Consultative Committee II: Radiocommunications (PCC.II),

CONSIDERING:

- a) that the development and implementation of new technologies using geostationary and non-geostationary satellites for broadband applications have driven new spectrum needs for the fixed-satellite service;
- b) that, in order to satisfy new spectrum needs, WRC-23 allocated the frequency band 17.3–17.7 GHz, which is also allocated to BSS on a primary basis in Region 2 for feeder links of BSS, to FSS on a primary basis in the space-to-Earth direction in Region 2, with the corresponding modifications to notes in the Table of Frequency Allocations, 5.484A and 5.517, and the inclusion of new notes 5.515A and 5.515B;
- c) that some CITEL member states have already modified their Tables of Frequency Allocations and have authorized the use of the frequency band 17.3–17.7 GHz to FSS in the space-to-Earth direction for geostationary and non-geostationary systems;
- d) that there are satellites with the capacity to use this frequency band, which require the corresponding authorizations in each country before using the spectrum and starting operations;
- e) that the early adoption of this new allocation would make possible for geostationary and non-geostationary satellite systems to provide more services to cover extensive areas in Region 2, including areas that only have access to this type of service; and
- f) that the provisions of the Radio Regulations modified by WRC-23 shall enter into force on January 1, 2025, except for those revised provisions for which another date of entry into force is stipulated;

RECOGNIZING:

- a) that an FSS broadcast in the space-to-Earth direction is similar to a BSS broadcast in the space-to-Earth direction, because both consist of transmitting a signal from a space station to Earth so that it can be received by an Earth station;
- b) that the frequency band 17.3–17.7 GHz had been allocated on a primary basis only to BSS and FSS (Earth-to-space) in accordance with Appendix 30A of the RR, and that operations in line with the new allocation of FSS in the space-to-Earth direction shall protect the BSS and FSS in the frequency band 17.3–17.7 GHz of Appendix 30A of the RR, as WRC-23 concluded;
- c) that the allocation of this frequency band in the space-to-Earth direction to FSS in addition to BSS in Region 2, shall contribute to meeting growing demand for connectivity in Ka-band for broadband applications and shall provide greater flexibility in designing new satellite systems thus ensuring more efficient spectrum use; and

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d) the importance of connectivity provided by satellites in the FSS to unconnected regions and populations,

RECOMMENDS:

to CITEL member states to consider, depending on their conditions and needs, the development of regulatory actions to facilitate the regional adoption of the use of the frequency band 17.3–17.7 GHz in the space-to-Earth direction for the operations of geostationary and non-geostationary satellite systems in the FSS, taking into consideration the technical parameters adopted by WRC-23.