

USE OF THE 410-430 MHz AND 450-470 MHz BANDS FOR FIXED AND MOBILE SERVICES FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATION PARTICULARLY IN LOW POPULATION DENSITY AREAS

The V Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Committee II: Radiocommunications including Broadcasting,

CONSIDERING:

- a) That there is an urgency in the Americas towards fulfilling fundamental Universal Service objectives, especially in rural and low population density areas;
- b) That many communities, including some urban areas are particularly under-served or targeted for fulfilling Universal Service objectives;
- c) That wireless technologies represent an opportunity for a major improvement in communications given that cost figures are relatively independent of distance and subscriber density;
- d) That there are significant propagation advantages in using the 410-430 MHz and 450-470 MHz frequency bands;
- e) That these frequency bands may be particularly useful in serving rural/low population density areas;
- f) That the 410-430 MHz and 450-470 MHz bands are currently allocated, in Region 2, to many services including, in particular, space research, fixed, mobile, mobile-satellite and radiolocation;
- g) That Administrations may need to conduct sharing studies in these bands due to the different number of services and that it would be useful to have exchange of information between Administrations, and
- h) That some Administrations may use these bands also for the provision of services in urban areas,

RECOGNIZING:

- a) That the specific use of the 410-430 MHz and 450-470 MHz bands may vary within the Americas, and therefore, in some countries it may be easier to implement new applications while in some countries it may be more difficult or not desirable;
- b) That the 410-430 MHz band is used in some countries for many critical applications including safety of life and property uses such as homeland security, extra vehicular activity communications by both Shuttle Transport Systems and International Space Station astronauts, transmitting hydrological and meteorological data, and radiolocation;

¹ CCP.II-RADIO/doc. 733/05 rev.2

- c) That the 450-470 MHz band, in some countries, is heavily used by point-to-point, point-to-multi-point, trunked and conventional dispatch systems that include critical applications such as public safety and security;
- d) That the bands 410-430 MHz and 450-470 MHz present important propagation characteristics, that could enhance access to remote locations or rural areas with sparse population, which could benefit from services similar to those available in urban areas;
- e) That although the 410-430 MHz and 450-470 MHz bands are congested in some urban areas, there are other areas in great need of communications coverage where some spectrum in these bands may be underutilized, and in particular, rural and remote areas;
- f) That because of the importance of the current use of these bands, appropriate actions must be taken to ensure the protection of existing users, both for present use and future growth, according to the regulatory framework of each administration;
- g) That guard bands, technical standards and regulatory procedures may be required so that the existing and new systems can coexist;
- h) That there is the need to consider cross border implications when introducing new services or applications;
- i) That in certain countries the 410-430 MHz and/or 450-470 MHz bands may be allocated or utilized in total or in part(s) to other services (as shown in *considering* f)) that may make coexistence not feasible;
- j) That there is an opportunity to benefit from technological and fixed mobile convergence in deploying new systems in these bands when offering services;
- k) That some Administrations may limit the use of these bands to trunking applications, when using them for mobile services, and
- l) That some Administrations may not use these bands for the mobile service or some applications in the mobile service,

RECOMMENDS:

That in countries in the Americas, where there is a need for the provision of services in areas described above, consider the use of the 410-430 MHz and/or 450-470 MHz bands taking into account each Administrations regulatory process and the following:

1. Where needed spectrum is available or can be made available through technical and/or regulatory means;
2. Where new and existing systems can coexist without harmful interference;
3. Where growth or development of existing systems is not constrained;
4. Where, in the case of border areas, coordination agreements between Administrations can be achieved;

5. Taking into account also the sharing studies referred to in *considering* g.