**Public Consultation**

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

**Commencement Date: 26 June 2018**

**Response Date: 24 July 2018**

**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**](mailto: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 15.00 noon 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 | |  | | --- | | 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.  Requests for extension should be submitted by e-mail to the e-mail address shown above.  The TRA will not consider any requests for extension which the TRA receives after 15.00 noon on the date stated here.  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. | |

**Table of Contents**

**1 Introduction ...................................................................................................... 6**

**2 Matters for Discussion and Consultation ...................................................... 7-13**

**Article 1 ................................................................................................... 7**

**Article 2 .................................................................................................. 7**

**Article 3 .................................................................................................. 10**

**Article 4 .................................................................................................. 11**

**Article X .................................................................................................. 13**

**3 General comments ......................................................................................... 13**

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~~

1. **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.

~~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~~](http://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 |
| 470 – 694 MHz | Radio microphones, Talkback and IEM | Maximum 100 mW e.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 |  |
| 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 tele-command 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.