

CALL FOR COMMENTS

PROPOSED RADIO SPECTRUM LICENCE FEES

September 30, 2019

The Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority is mandated under Section 57 of the Information and Communication Technologies Act No. 15 of 2009 (ICT Act) to determine the fees payable for the use or access to/of radio frequency spectrum.

Radio spectrum is a valuable natural resource and is at the core of Information and Communication Technologies that will drive the realisation the Smart Zambia vision. To ensure that fair spectrum prices are set that reflect the true value of the resource, the Authority engaged a consultant, Advanced Digital Topographic Imaging (ATDI), in 2017 to assess the value of mobile, broadband wireless access, microwave and broadcasting spectrum in Zambia. Following the recommendations made by the consultant and considering the Authority's own views, a schedule of proposed spectrum fees has been developed pertaining to the following categories of licences:

- (i) Mobile and Broadband Wireless Access (BWA);
- (ii) Fixed service;
- (iii) Broadcasting services;
- (iv) Satellite services;
- (v) Land mobile service;

- (vi) Aeronautical service;
- (vii) Maritime service.

The Authority hereby invites stakeholders, interested parties and the general public to give comments on the proposed spectrum licence fees. Details of the proposed fees are available below.

Respondents are invited to comment on any other issues not covered in this document which they consider to be relevant to this review. ZICTA will carefully consider all submitted comments and may take them into consideration before implementation of the proposed fees. Respondents are required to include their personal/company particulars as well as correspondence address in their submission.

ZICTA reserves the right to make public all written submission made in response to this consultation paper and to disclose the identity of respondents.

Comments may be submitted electronically via email to: spectrumfeesreviews@zicta.zm or delivered to the Authority Head Office using the address below.

The deadline for submission of comments is Friday, November 1, 2019.

For further information contact:

The Director General
Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority
Head Office, Plot 4909, Corner of Independence & United Nation Avenues
P.O Box 36871, Lusaka
General Lines: +260 211 244 426 (7) /241236/246702
Fax: +260 21 124 6701
Website: www.zicta.zm.

Patrick M. Mutimushi (Mr.)

Director General



Proposed Annual Radio Spectrum License Fees

Technology & Engineering Department

OCTOBER 4, 2019

Proposed Annual Radio Spectrum License Fees

| Spectrum band | Band limits | Current | | Proposed | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | Fee mode | Unit fee | Fee mode | Unit fee |
| Mobile and Broadband Fixed Wireless Access | | | | | |
| 450 MHz Band | 452.5 – 457.5 MHz / 462.5 – 467.5 MHz | Per 1MHz per province | K4,166.70 (K41,667.00 - Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz Countrywide</i> - | <i>K80,000.00</i> |
| 700 MHz Band | 703 – 733 MHz / 758 – 788 MHz | N/A | N/A | <i>Per 1MHz Countrywide</i> - | <i>K388,000.00</i> |
| 800 MHz Band | 832 – 862 MHz / 791 – 821 MHz | N/A | N/A | <i>Per 1MHz Countrywide</i> - | <i>K396,000.00</i> |
| 900 MHz GSM-R | 876 – 880 MHz / 921 – 925 MHz | Per 200KHz - Countrywide | K46,666.80 (K233,334.00 per 1MHz Countrywide) | <i>Per 200KHz - Countrywide</i> - | <i>K46,666.80</i> <i>(K233,334.00 per 1MHz Countrywide)</i> |
| 900 MHz Band | 880 – 915 MHz / 925 – 960 MHz | Per 200KHz - Countrywide | K46,666.80 (K233,334.00 per 1MHz Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz Countrywide</i> - | <i>K400,000.00</i> |
| 1800 MHz Band | 1 710 – 1 785 MHz / 1805 – 1880 MHz | Per 200KHz - Countrywide | K46,666.80 (K233,334.00 per 1MHz Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz Countrywide</i> - | <i>K376,000.00</i> |
| 2100 MHz Band | 1 920 – 1 980 MHz / 2110 – 2170 MHz | Per 200KHz - Countrywide | K46,666.80 (K233,334.00 per | <i>Per 1MHz Countrywide</i> - | <i>K364,000.00</i> |

| Spectrum band | Band limits | Current | | Proposed | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| | | Fee mode | Unit fee | Fee mode | Unit fee |
| | 2010 – 2025 MHz | | 1MHz (Countrywide) | | |
| 2100 MHz (3G) initial spectrum access fee | - | Per licence | K3,600,000.00 | <i>Per licence</i> | <i>K3,600,000.00</i> |
| 2300 MHz band | 2300 – 2400MHz | Per 1MHz per province | K4,166.70 (K41,667.00 - Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz_z - Countrywide</i> | <i>K150,000.00</i> |
| 2600 MHz band | 2500 – 2690MHz | Per 1MHz per province | K4,166.70 (K41,667.00 - Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz_z - Countrywide</i> | <i>K120,000.00</i> |
| 3500 MHz band | 3400 – 3600MHz | Per 1MHz per province | K4,166.70 (K41,667.00 - Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz_z - Countrywide</i> | <i>K52,800.00</i> |
| 5400 MHz band | 5470 – 5720MHz | Per 1MHz per province | K4,166.70 (K41,667.00 - Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz_z per province</i> | <i>K5000.00</i> |
| 10.5GHz band | 10.15-10.3 GHz / 10.5-10.65 GHz | Per 1MHz per province | K4,166.70 (K41,667.00 - Countrywide) | <i>Per 1MHz_z per province</i> | <i>K2,500.00</i> |
| Fixed Links | | | | | |
| Fixed Point to Point Links | 5 GHz | Per transmitter | K833.40 | <i>Per 1 MHz_z Country Wide</i> | <i>K7,000.00</i> |
| | 6/7/8 GHz | | | | <i>K6,020.00</i> |
| | 11 GHz | | | | <i>K3,500.00</i> |
| | 13 GHz | | | | <i>K3,500.00</i> |
| | 15 GHz | | | | <i>K3,500.00</i> |
| | 18 GHz | | | | <i>K2,310.00</i> |

| Spectrum band | Band limits | Current | | Proposed | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------------------|--|
| | | Fee mode | Unit fee | Fee mode | Unit fee |
| | | | | | |
| | 23 GHz | | | | K2,310.00 |
| Broadcasting | | | | | |
| FM Sound Broadcasting | 87.5 – 108MHz | Per transmitter (station) | Lusaka, Copperbelt and Livingstone broadcasting areas: K5,000.10 Others: K1,666.80 | <i>Per transmitter (station)</i> | <i>Transmitters in Urban Licensing Areas with frequency less than 90 MHz: K7,500.00</i> |
| | | | | | <i>Transmitters in Urban Licensing Areas with frequency greater than 90 MHz: K5,000.10</i> |
| | | | | | <i>Transmitters in Rural Licensing Areas: K1,666.80</i> |
| SW/MW Sound Broadcasting | 535.5 – 1606.5 kHz 4750 – 5060 kHz 5900 – 26100 kHz | Per transmitter (station) | K5,000.00 | <i>Per transmitter (station)</i> | K5,000.00 |
| TV Broadcasting - Terrestrial | 470 – 694 MHz | Per transmitter (station) | Lusaka, Copperbelt and Livingstone broadcasting areas: K10,000.00 Others: K4,166.70 | <i>Per transmitter (station)</i> | <i>Transmitters in Urban Licensing Areas: K20,000.00</i> |
| | | | | | <i>Transmitters in Rural Licensing Areas: K10,000.00</i> |
| Satellite Services | | | | | |
| All Satellite bands | - | Per transmitter (dependant on the station type) | Cross Border: K39,000.00 | <i>Per Earth Station</i> | <i>Cross Border VSAT: K39,000.00</i> |
| | | | Domestic Urban: K4,166.70 | | <i>Urban VSAT: K4,166.70</i> |
| | | | Domestic Rural: K1,666.80 | | <i>Rural VSAT: K1,666.80</i> |

| Spectrum band | Band limits | Current | | Proposed | |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | Fee mode | Unit fee | Fee mode | Unit fee |
| | | | N/A | | <i>Permanent Earth Station: K39,000.00</i> |
| | | | Radio Determination: Free | | <i>Receive only Earth Station: Free</i> |
| | | | Satellite Based Devices: K416.70 | | <i>Mobile Satellite Terminals: Free</i> |
| | | | Satellite News Gathering: K416.70 | | <i>Satellite News Gathering: K416.70</i> |
| Land Mobile | | | | | |
| Land Mobile - HF | 0.009 -30MHz | Per channel per broadcasting area | Standard HF shared channel: K833.40 per channel. | <i>Per channel per broadcasting area</i> | <i>Standard HF shared channel: K833.40 per channel.</i> |
| | | | Standard HF exclusive channel: K1,666.80 per channel. | | <i>Standard HF exclusive channel: K1,666.80 per channel.</i> |
| | | | Special channels (Emergency channel, common use channels): Free | | <i>Special channels (Emergency channel, common use channels): Free.</i> |

| Spectrum band | Band limits | Current | | Proposed | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | Fee mode | Unit fee | Fee mode | Unit fee |
| Land Mobile VHF/UHF | 138 – 174MHz 230 – 235MHz 335.4 – 399MHz 406 – 415MHz 425 – 430 MHz 440 – 450MHz | Per channel per broadcasting area | Standard (simplex) channel: K833.40 per channel per broadcasting area. | <i>Per channel per broadcasting area</i> | <i>Standard (simplex) channel: K1,000.00 per channel per broadcasting area.</i> |
| | | | Special channels (Emergency channel, common use farmers channels): Free. | | <i>Special channels (Emergency channel, common use farmers channels): Free.</i> |
| Maritime bands | All maritime bands | Per channel per broadcasting area | Standard (simplex) channel: K833.40 per channel per broadcasting area. | <i>Per channel per broadcasting area</i> | <i>Standard (simplex) channel: K833.40 per channel per broadcasting area.</i> |
| | | | Special channels (Emergency channel, common use maritime channel): Free. | | <i>Special channels (Emergency channel, common use maritime channel): Free.</i> |
| SADC HF Cross Border | Cross-border channels | Per licence | K1,666.80 | <i>Per licence</i> | <i>K1,666.80</i> |
| Commercial (Community) Repeater | - | Per licence | K4,166.70 | <i>Per licence</i> | <i>K4,166.70</i> |
| Paging Commercial Licence | - | Per licence | K16,666.80 - Country wide | <i>Per licence</i> | <i>K12,000.00 - Country wide</i> |
| Aeronautical Services | | | | | |

| Spectrum band | Band limits | Current | | Proposed | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|------------------|
| | | Fee mode | Unit fee | Fee mode | Unit fee |
| Aeronautical Commercial Licence | All Aeronautical bands | Per channel per broadcasting area | K1,666.80 | <i>Per channel per broadcasting area</i> | <i>K2,500.00</i> |
| Aeronautical Non-commercial Licence | All Aeronautical bands | Per channel per broadcasting area | K833.40 | <i>Per channel per broadcasting area</i> | <i>K1000.00</i> |
| Aircraft Certification | All Aeronautical bands | Per Aircraft | K416.70 | <i>Per Aircraft</i> | <i>K500.00</i> |
| Licence-Exempt Fixed Wireless Access/Fixed Links | | | | | |
| ISM Bands | 2400 – 2 483.5 MHz 5.725 – 5.875GHz 24 - 24.25 GHz 61 - 61.5 GHz | Per transmitter | Free | <i>Per transmitter</i> | <i>Free</i> |
| Other Radio Licences | | | | | |
| Radio location | - | Per transmitter (station) | K83.40 | <i>Per transmitter (station)</i> | <i>K83.40</i> |
| Citizen Band | 27MHz | Per transmitter (station) | K49.80 | <i>Per transmitter (station)</i> | <i>K49.80</i> |
| Radio Model licence | - | Per transmitter (station) | K66.60 | <i>Per transmitter (station)</i> | <i>K66.60</i> |
| Amateur licence | All Amateur bands | Per certificate | K104.10 | <i>Per certificate</i> | <i>K104.10</i> |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | |
| Application Processing Fee | - | Per Application | K66.60 | <i>Per Application</i> | <i>K66.60</i> |
| Duplicate licence | - | Per issue | K66.60 | <i>Per issue</i> | <i>K66.60</i> |

Licensing Areas

(1) Urban

Urban Licensing Areas are towns and cities with a population of more than approximately 50,000 people. Currently, the qualifying 18 urban centres are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 Urban Licence Areas

| No. | Urban Centre Name | Licensing Area Reference Centre Coordinates | |
|-----|-------------------|---|-------------|
| 1 | Lusaka | 28°22'00" E | 15°26'00" S |
| 2 | Kitwe | 28°13'00" E | 12°47'00" S |
| 3 | Ndola | 28°38'00"E | 12°59'00"S |
| 4 | Kabwe | 28°15'00" E | 14°10'00" S |
| 5 | Chingola | 27°51'00"E | 12°32'00"S |
| 6 | Mufulira | 28°14'00"E | 12°33'00"S |
| 7 | Livingstone | 25°59'00" E | 17°30'00" S |
| 8 | Luanshya | 28°24'00"E | 13° 8'00" S |
| 9 | Chipata | 32°36'00" E | 13°35'00" S |
| 10 | Kasama | 31°10'00" E | 10°12'00" S |
| 11 | Solwezi | 26°25'00" E | 12°10'00" S |
| 12 | Mansa | 28°53'00" E | 11°10'00" S |
| 13 | Chililabombwe | 27°50'00"E | 12°22'00"S |
| 14 | Mazabuka | 27°44'00"E | 15°51'00"S |
| 15 | Kafue | 28°10'00"E | 15°45'00"S |
| 16 | Choma | 26°58'00"E | 16°50'00"S |
| 17 | Kalulushi | 28° 5'00"E | 12°50'00"S |
| 18 | Mongu | 23°08'00"E | 15°15'00"S |

(2) Rural

Rural licensing areas in the context are all areas in Zambia NOT listed as Urban Licensing areas in Table 1.