UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DRAFT PRELIMINARY VIEWS FOR WRC-15

Agenda Item 1.1: to consider additional spectrum allocations to the mobile service on a primary basis and identification of additional frequency bands for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) and related regulatory provisions, to facilitate the development of terrestrial mobile broadband applications, in accordance with Resolution **233 (WRC-12)**

BACKGROUND: Mobile broadband systems, data and applications have become key drivers of global economic growth, job creation and competitiveness. A recently released industry report indicates that global mobile data traffic grew 133 percent in 2011 alone, with mobile video comprising 52% of the traffic.[1] This dramatic increase in demand for mobile broadband applications has led to a need for additional radio spectrum to support the increasing mobile data traffic. The World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12) recognized this need and adopted WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.1, in an effort to address a looming spectrum shortage for mobile broadband services.

It is particularly advantageous to consider the 470-698 MHz frequency range to help ameliorate the potential mobile broadband spectrum shortfall in Region 2. There are a number of factors that make the 470-698 MHz band particularly attractive for mobile broadband applications:

- The lower and upper edges of the 470-698 MHz frequency range are adjacent to bands that are already identified for IMT (e.g., 450-470 MHz (No. **5.286AA**) and 698-902 MHz (No. **5.317A**)) in Region 2. This will aid in providing for commonality of equipment while reducing its cost and complexity.
- The 470-698 MHz frequency range has better propagation characteristics compared to higher frequency bands and can provide significant coverage in rural areas. This is particularly important for the developing countries and countries with large areas of low population density.
- Most importantly, a new, international allocation to the Mobile service that is co-primary with existing services would afford administrations the flexibility to maximize spectrum efficiency consistent with their national priorities.

Currently, in Region 2, the 470-698 MHz range is allocated predominantly to the Broadcasting service with the 608-614 MHz band allocated to Radio Astronomy. It is important to note, however, that:

- the 470-512 MHz frequency band is allocated to the mobile service on a primary basis in Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, the United States, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Peru (No. **5.293**)**;**

[1] Cisco Visual Networking Index: Global Mobile Data Traffic Forecast Update, 2011-2016.

- the 512-608 MHz frequency band is allocated to the mobile service on a primary basis in Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, the United States, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica and Mexico (No. **5.297**);
- the 614-698 MHz frequency band is allocated to the mobile service is on a primary basis in Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, the United States, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Peru the (No. **5.293**).

It is also worth noting that in Region 2, the primary allocation to the mobile service extends from 698 MHz to 902 MHz as well as from 928 MHz to 960 MHz, while in Region 3 there is a primary mobile allocation from 450-960 MHz.

U.S. VIEW: The United States considers that a new co-primary allocation to the mobile service in the 470-698 MHz frequency range would help to alleviate the mobile broadband spectrum shortfall. This new co-primary allocation would provide administrations with the necessary flexibility to implement future transitions to digital television and manage any frequency rearrangements resulting from the digital dividend consistent with their national priorities. Recognizing that international regulations pertain only to cross-border sharing while each administration has a sovereign right to regulate the use of frequencies within its territory, the United States supports no change to the existing broadcasting and radio astronomy allocations in the 470-698 MHz frequency range.

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