

## AMENDING THE GOVERNMENT DECREE ON RADIO FREQUENCY USAGE AND THE FREQUENCY PLAN

### The Frequency Plan and its purpose

Under section 95 of the Information Society Code (917/2014), the general principles on the use of frequencies for television and radio broadcasting are confirmed by Government Decree. On 18 December 2014, the Government adopted the Government Decree on Radio Frequency Usage and the Frequency Plan (1246/2014). The Decree contains provisions on the number of television, radio and mobile communications networks, the frequency spectra to be used for those operations and certain technical specifications. Appended to the Decree is a detailed listing of the restrictions on usage for the frequency spectra reserved for licenced telecommunications operations.

### Content of the amendment to the Decree

In the Government Frequency Decree, the 700 MHz spectrum was allocated to wireless broadband as of the beginning of 2017. The World Radiocommunication Conference held at the end of 2015 (WRC-15) decided on the terms and conditions of use for wireless broadband networks in the 700 MHz spectrum. Before the 700 MHz spectrum auction, the Decree should be amended so as to specify the frequency bands to be auctioned off in more detail.

The Decree should also be updated by making a few amendments as required by implementing decisions of the European Commission and by the World Radiocommunication Conference in late 2015.

In the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/339 of 8 March 2016 on the harmonisation of 2010–2025 MHz frequency band for portable or mobile wireless video links and cordless cameras used for programme making and special events, the 2000 MHz spectrum was allocated to portable or mobile wireless video links and cordless cameras used for programme making and special events. Because this frequency spectrum is no longer allocated to public telecommunications, it is proposed that the relevant section in the Decree be repealed.

In the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/750 of 8 May 2015 on the harmonisation of the 1452–1492 MHz frequency band for terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services in the Union, the 1452–1492 MHz frequency spectrum was allocated to terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communication services. The World Radiocommunication Conference held in November 2015 also allocated the 1427–1452 MHz and 1491–1518 MHz spectra to this purpose. In Finland, the present Decree allocates the aforementioned spectra to terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services.

In order to achieve the above, the following amendments are proposed to the Decree, itemised below by section.

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## **Section 7. Digital broadband 2000 mobile communications network**

Under this section, the frequency spectrum used for the digital broadband 2000 mobile communications network is 2010–2025 MHz. In the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/339 of 8 March 2016 on the harmonisation of 2010–2025 MHz frequency band for portable or mobile wireless video links and cordless cameras used for programme making and special events, this spectrum was allocated to portable or mobile wireless video links and cordless cameras used for programme making and special events. Because this frequency spectrum is no longer allocated to public telecommunications, it is proposed that the relevant section in the Decree be repealed.

## **Section 9. Terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services**

Under subsection 1, the 694–790 MHz spectrum will be allocated to terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services as of the beginning of 2017. The World Radiocommunication Conference held in November 2015 decided on the terms and conditions of use for wireless broadband networks in the 700 MHz spectrum. It is proposed that this subsection be amended so as to allocate the spectrum 703–733 MHz and 758–788 MHz to terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services.

It is further proposed that a subsection 5 be added to the section, allocating the spectra 1427–1452 MHz, 1452–1492 MHz and 1492–1518 MHz to terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services. The spectrum 1427–1452 MHz is also in military use.

In the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/750 of 8 May 2015 on the harmonisation of the 1452–1492 MHz frequency band for terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services in the Union, the 1452–1492 MHz frequency spectrum was allocated to terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communication services. The World Radiocommunication Conference held in November 2015 also allocated the 1427–1452 MHz and 1491–1518 MHz spectra to this purpose.

### **Impact of the Decree amendment**

This amendment will update the Decree through a number of changes required by Commission Decisions and by the World Radiocommunication Conference.

### **Entry into force of the Decree**

This Decree will enter into force on xx month 2016.

### **Preparation**

The proposal to amend the Government Frequency Decree was submitted to various authorities, telecom operators and other parties using the relevant spectra for comment. Statements were returned by (to be filled in later).

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