

21 June 2016

Reg. no.:
44/70/2016

Auction of the 703–733 MHz and 758–788 MHz bands

Request for comments on the regulation on spectrum auction and related explanatory notes as well as on radio licence conditions

FICORA invites comments on the draft regulation on the auctioning of the 703–733 MHz and 758–788 MHz bands (64 A/2016 M), the explanatory notes to the regulation (MPS 64) as well as the draft technical licence conditions for radio licences granted for these frequencies.

The Information Society Code contains provisions on issuing licences through an auction process. Under section 11(2) of the Information Society Code, such auctions are arranged by FICORA, and under section 12, FICORA may issue further regulations on the process and procedures applied in the auction. The Ministry of Transport and Communications announced on 18 February 2016 that the operating licences for commercial use of the 700 MHz frequency band will be auctioned.

The draft regulation is based on FICORA's regulation 64/2012 M concerning the spectrum auction of 2013. This regulation has been repealed and a new updated regulation 64A/2016 M will be issued for the forthcoming auction. The new draft regulation takes into account the changes in legislation, especially that the value of placed bids will not lower due to switching of bids. The draft regulation also seeks to ensure that the auction process is not unduly lengthened for any other reason, either.

FICORA's draft regulation is circulated for comments at the same time as the Ministry of Transport and Communications invites comments on a government decree regarding spectrum auction, on amendments to the Government Decree on radio frequency usage, on the frequency plan (1246/2014) and on the draft invitation to apply for network licences. The draft decree on spectrum auction lays down provisions, for instance, on the number of frequencies to be auctioned in the 700 MHz band. If the comments give rise to changes in the proposed government decree that have a substantial effect on the content of the draft regulation, FICORA can invite new comments on the amended draft regulation.

The documents related to the auction are available on the Ministry's website at www.lvm.fi/taajuushuutokauppa and

FICORA's website at www.viestintavirasto.fi/taajuudet/radiotaajuuksienkaytto/taajuushuutokauppa.html

Submitting comments, deadline and further information

Please submit all comments **by Monday 15 August 2016** by email to kirjaamo@ficora.fi (Cc: Pasi Toivonen) Please indicate reg. no. 44/70/2016 in the comments.

For further information, please contact Pasi Toivonen, Chief Specialist, tel. +358 295 390 463. FICORA's email addresses are of the format firstname.lastname@ficora.fi

Jarno Ilme
Director

ANNEXES

Draft regulation 64 A/2016 M
Draft explanatory notes to the regulation
Draft technical licence conditions for radio licences