



Telecommunications &  
Radiocommunications  
Regulator

PO Box 3547  
Port Vila  
Vanuatu

t: +678 27621  
e: enquiries@trr.vu

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON Planning for the 700 MHz band in Vanuatu**

The Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) has, today **Wednesday 30 April 2014**, released its Public Consultation Document on **Planning for the 700 MHz band in Vanuatu**, for public input and comments. This Consultation Document has been developed to invite and seek comment on TRR's proposals towards planning the 700 MHz band (694MHz to 803MHz) in Vanuatu, for mobile broadband using the Asia Pacific Telecommunity's (APT) 700 MHz Plan.

Access to reliable, high capacity mobile broadband is a recognized economic enabler. To ensure the people of Vanuatu and visitors have access to the most modern technology, e.g. 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Long Term Evolution (LTE) services, TRR proposes to plan the 700 MHz band (694 MHz to 803 MHz) for LTE using the regional APT 700 MHz plan.

This public consultation is being conducted against the background of an increasingly widespread adoption of the 700 MHz band for mobile broadband around the world and, particularly, across the Asia Pacific region. In Vanuatu, the 700 MHz band has not yet been allocated for radiocommunications services. TRR has, however, received some requests from industry for the use of the 700 MHz band and believes that it is now an appropriate time to consider how best to allocate this band in Vanuatu.

One of the major approaches towards this objective has been that of the APT; which has proposed a comprehensive band plan for the Asia Pacific Region (ITU Region 3). TRR believes that the APT plan has some definite advantages for Vanuatu and, given that Vanuatu is in Region 3, TRR proposes to link its plan to the APT band plan. TRR's preferred approach is to commence domestic planning work in line with the harmonized ITU Region 3 plan and to implement the APT 700 MHz FDD arrangements.

There are substantial advantages to Vanuatu's operators and users in arrangements that are internationally harmonized. These include harmonization and economies of scale that make manufacturing equipment cheaper for both users and providers. Harmonization also facilitates user

features such as global roaming. TRR is therefore looking to international and regional 700 MHz band developments in determining its configuration for the 700 MHz band.

The deadline for public comments is **Friday 13 June 2014, 4:00 pm.**

The Consultation Document can be obtained by:

1. Downloading a copy at TRR's website: <http://www.trr.vu> under "Consultations";
2. Requesting a copy by emailing to [enquiries@trr.vu](mailto:enquiries@trr.vu) , or;
3. Visiting the TRR Office at Level 1, Rossi Ocean Walk (next to Bred Bank), Lini Highway, Port-Vila to obtain a copy of the document.

For any phone enquiries regarding this Consultation Document, please call the following numbers: (+678) 27621 or (+678) 27487.