



## Public Consultation Notice For Use of Telecommunications Spectrum in Vanuatu

A Radio Spectrum is a natural resource and is vital input into widening range of services. It is crucial to communications and the national economy. It is used to support large number of electronic communications services and applications. Therefore, in most countries around the world, natural resources are generally owned by the State and managed by specific authorities assigned/mandated by the State.

In Vanuatu's case, the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulation Act of 2009 ("the Act") has mandated the TRR as the responsible authority pursuant to section 1 (b) and section 7 (2) (e) of the Act to "allocate, assign and manage the radio spectrum". Following that, TRR has released a Regulation (Regulation Order no. 153 of 2012 that is currently available at <http://www.trr.vu/index.php/en/public-register/regulations/final-regulations>) and at the TRR office, establishing the framework for radio apparatus license and spectrum to be licensed. The framework has also catered for collection of radio apparatus license and spectrum fees as provided for by the Regulation. Section 6 of the Regulation clearly states that a person is to apply to the Regulator for a spectrum license and for the assignment of that spectrum, and it also requires the Regulator to charge for the assignment of spectrum assigned.

Following the importance of radio spectrum management and the monitoring of the assigned spectrum, the TRR released a Public Consultation document on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 inviting public comments and input on the methodology, for the setting of spectrum license fees, and proposes a fee formula and a schedule of fees to apply to spectrum fees. This public consultation document also discusses which bands should be subjected to spectrum fees. TRR is now seeking comments on its proposals to introduce Spectrum Fees on specific spectrum ranges listed below:

- Bands used for mobile telecommunications (900 MHz, 1800 MHz)
- Other wireless broadband spectrum (2.3 GHz, 2.5 GHz, 3.5 GHz)
- Broadcasting spectrum used for pay TV (510-550 MHz, 560-608MHz, 610-660 MHz)
- 700 MHz band following allocation.

In considering the efficient management of spectrum and encourage efficient spectrum use in Vanuatu, leading to efficient monitoring of spectrum interferences, TRR has gathered information about prices for spectrum use in other countries as the basis, including those in the region and as such, seen that as relevant, as well as information from countries that have used spectrum auction and applied fee approaches.

TRR now seek your views on what we are proposing through this consultation. The deadline for public comments is **Friday 18 March 2016, 4:30 pm.**

The Consultation Document can be obtained by:

1. Downloading a copy at TRR's website: <http://www.trr.vu/index.php/en/public-register/consultations/2016>;
2. Requesting a copy by email at [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.

For more information about TRR's Consultation Guidelines, please visit the following website <http://www.trr.vu/index.php/en/public-register/guidelines/consultation-guideline>