

Spectrum Release Plan for 2017 – 2019

Introduction

As part of the implementation of the Radio Spectrum Policy Framework announced by the Government in April 2007, the Communications Authority (“CA”) will publish a spectrum release plan (“SRP”) to inform the industry of the potential supply of radio spectrum through an open bidding or tendering process for the following three years. The SRP is updated every year on a rolling basis, or as required, taking into account the latest developments.

Spectrum Release Plan for 2017 – 2019

Frequency Band (MHz)	Allocation	Earliest Release Date¹	Target Consultation Date	Remarks
No spectrum available for release				

¹ Earliest release date refers to the earliest date when the spectrum concerned is expected to be available for release to the market for auction or tendering, subject to the outcome of consultation and passing of the relevant subsidiary legislation. It does not however necessarily refer to the actual date when the auction or tendering will take place.

Spectrum included in previous versions of Spectrum Release Plan

Frequency Band (MHz)	Allocation	Remarks
216 – 223	Broadcasting Fixed Mobile	Channel 11A (216.160 – 217.696 MHz), Channel 11B (217.872 – 219.408 MHz) and Channel 11D (221.296 – 222.832 MHz) may be used for new digital broadcasting and telecommunications services, including broadcast-type mobile TV and digital audio broadcasting (“DAB”) services. Channel 11C (219.584 – 221.120 MHz) has been assigned for DAB services. ²
678 – 686 (UHF TV Channel No. 47)	Broadcasting Mobile	This band was assigned through the auction of radio spectrum in the UHF band held in June 2010 for the provision of broadcast-type mobile TV services.
832.5 – 837.5 877.5 – 882.5	Mobile	These bands were assigned through the auction of radio spectrum in the 850 MHz, 900 MHz and 2 GHz Bands held in February/March 2011 for the provision of public mobile telecommunications services.
885 – 890 930 – 935	Mobile	These bands were assigned through the auction of radio spectrum in the 850 MHz, 900 MHz and 2 GHz Bands held in February/March 2011 for the provision of public mobile telecommunications services.
1466 – 1480	Broadcasting Mobile	This band may be used for new digital broadcasting and telecommunications services, including broadcast-type mobile TV and DAB services. As a result of the second consultation on the development of mobile TV services which took place in January 2008, this band has been reserved subject to further development of the worldwide market.
1780.1 – 1785 1875.1 – 1880	Mobile	These bands were assigned through the auction held in June 2009.

² As at January 2017, there are a total of five DAB programme channels in service. The Government is reviewing the future of DAB in Hong Kong.

Frequency Band (MHz)	Allocation	Remarks
1904.9 – 1919.9 2019.7 – 2024.7	Fixed Mobile	These bands were previously assigned to mobile network operators for the provision of 3G mobile services. The assignments expired on 21 October 2016. In accordance with the decision of the CA announced on 15 November 2013, ³ these bands were put back to reserve following the expiry of the relevant assignments in October 2016.
1930.2 – 1940.0 1960.0 – 1969.8 2120.2 – 2130.0 2150.0 – 2159.8	Fixed Mobile	In accordance with the decision of the CA announced on 15 November 2013, ³ these bands were planned to be released for auction towards end 2014 and were therefore included in previous SRP. Following the decision of the CA announced on 2 May 2014, ⁴ the bands released for auction were revised to 1920.3 – 1935.1 MHz, 1960.0 – 1969.8 MHz, 2110.3 – 2125.1 MHz and 2150.0 – 2159.8 MHz instead. These revised bands were assigned through the auction held in December 2014 for the provision of public mobile telecommunications services.
2010 – 2019.7	Fixed Mobile	This band was listed for the auction of radio spectrum in the 850 MHz, 900 MHz and 2 GHz Bands held in February/March 2011 for the provision of public mobile telecommunications services but was not acquired by any bidder in the auction. The CA will review the demand for this band.
2300 – 2390	Fixed Mobile	This band was assigned through the auction of spectrum for broadband wireless access service held in February 2012.
2500 – 2515 2620 – 2635	Fixed Mobile	These bands were assigned through the auction of spectrum for broadband wireless access service held in January 2009.

³ See http://www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/statement/en/upload/237/ca_statements20131115_en.pdf.

⁴ See http://www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/statement/en/upload/270/decision_20140502_e.pdf.

Frequency Band (MHz)	Allocation	Remarks
2515 – 2540 2635 – 2660	Fixed Mobile	These bands were assigned through the auction of spectrum for broadband wireless access service held in March 2013.
2540 – 2570 2660 – 2690	Fixed Mobile	These bands were assigned through the auction of spectrum for broadband wireless access service held in January 2009.

This SRP is for information by the industry and public. Publication of the SRP does not constitute any allocation or assignment of the spectrum. The SRP does not bind the CA in exercise of its discretion in the actual spectrum allocation and assignment. The CA will conduct separate consultation exercises before exercising its powers under sections 32H(2)(a) and (b) and 32I(1) of the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap 106) as is reasonable in all the circumstances of the case. In making a decision on spectrum allocation and/or assignment, the CA will also take into account all relevant matters of the case. The CA is entitled to depart or deviate from the SRP where the circumstances so warrant. The SRP is subject to annual review and may from time to time be amended, as and when it is considered necessary in the light of latest developments.

Office of the Communications Authority
21 February 2017