RADIO SPECTRUM AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Twenty-second Meeting held at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, 14 January 2020 in Conference Room 2020, Wu Chung House, Wan Chai

Present

Mr C K Cheng Chairman (OFCA staff)

Mr Desmond Chan Representative of Hong Kong Broadband Network

Limited / HKBN Enterprise Solutions Limited

Mr Vincent Chen Representative of services-based operators (MVNO and

ETS operators only) as a group

Mr Alex Cheng Representative of China Mobile Hong Kong Company

Limited

Mr Sutton Cheung Representative of the local industry associations as a

group

Mr Carlson Chu Representative of PCCW Media Limited / HK Television

Entertainment Limited

Mr H M Ho Ad Personam

Mr Joseph Ho Representative of Civil Aviation Department
Mr H C Hung Representative of carrier licensees not providing

domestic retail fixed services as a group and external fixed carrier / unified carrier (external fixed services)

licensees as a group

Mr Dickson Ip Representative of ComNet Telecom (HK) Limited

Mr S M Ko
Representative of Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited
Mr Allan Kwan
Representative of PCCW Media Limited / HK Television

Entertainment Limited

Dr Keith Kwok Representative of Consumer Council

Ms Patsy Kwok Representative of the Hong Kong Police Force

Ir Wilson Kwok
Ir Ricky Kwong
Mr Paul Lam
Representative of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Representative of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Representative of Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting

Company Limited

Mr S H Lam Representative of carrier licensees not providing

domestic retail fixed services as a group and external fixed carrier / unified carrier (external fixed services)

licensees as a group

Mr Dennis Lau Representative of SmarTone Communications Limited /

SmarTone Mobile Communications Limited

Mr S Y Ngan Representative of Radio Television Hong Kong

Mr W K Shiu Representative of the Hong Kong Police Force Representative of amateur radio societies as a group Mr Johnny Siu Mr Jing Su Representative of APT Satellite Company Limited Ir Angel Wong Representative of Hong Kong Productivity Council Dr Simon Wong Representative of Independent Commission Against

Corruption

Representative of Asia Satellite Telecommunications Ms Vicky Wong

Company Limited

Mr Man Yuen Representative of Television Broadcasts Limited Representative of Asia Satellite Telecommunications Dr Rui Zhang

Company Limited

Secretary (OFCA staff) Mr Alex Tang

Absent with Apologies

Mr Raymond Chan Representative of Hong Kong Cable Television Limited /

Fantastic Television Limited

Mr T M Lau Representative of Hutchison Telephone Company Limited Dr K C Lee Representative of Local Certification Bodies as a group Representative of EU ICT Council in Hong Kong and Mr Michael Lee

Macau

Mr Ralph Riley Representative of Pubic Radiocommunications Service

(PRS) and Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT) licensees

as a group

Representative of HGC Global Communications Limited Mr Michael Shiu

Dr K F Tsang Representative of the Institution of Engineering and

Technology Hong Kong

In Attendance

Mr L H Ting **OFCA** staff Mr P H Ma **OFCA** staff Mr Ken Sit **OFCA** staff Mr Joe Ching OFCA staff Mr Eric Wong **OFCA** staff Mr Ivan Chan **OFCA** staff Mr C H Chan **OFCA** staff Mr K L Yeung OFCA staff Mr Gary Lam **OFCA** staff Mr Jack Yip **OFCA** staff Mr Charles Chow **OFCA** staff Ms Stacy Lam **OFCA** staff Mr Gap Cheuk **OFCA** staff

Observer

Mr Eric Chau Representative of Traxcomm Limited

Mr Adrian Lee Representative of Hong Kong Telecommunications

(HKT) Limited / PCCW-HKT Telephone Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited / PCCW Global (HK) Limited / Genius Brand Limited

Mr K H Yip Representative of Airport Authority

Agenda Item 1: Matters Arising

<u>Item 5 of the 21st SSAC Meeting (Brief on Local Standards for 5G Radio Equipment Certification)</u>

1. <u>The Secretary</u> reported that, after completion of spectrum auctions of the 3.3 GHz, 3.5 GHz and 4.9 GHz bands in October/November 2019, the Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA") issued the type acceptance criteria for the fifth generation mobile ("5G") radio equipment operating below 6 GHz in Hong Kong. Equipment suppliers could approach local certification bodies to apply for type acceptance of their 5G radio equipment.

Agenda Item 2: Update on the Use of Sub-6 GHz Spectrum for Public Mobile Services in Hong Kong (II) (SSAC Paper 1/2020)

- 2. <u>Mr Ivan Chan</u> presented SSAC Paper 1/2020, which summarised the preliminary views of incumbent mobile network operators ("MNOs") as collected in their respective interviews with OFCA in November 2019 in relation to the planning of the 2.6 GHz band upon expiry of the current assignment term in 2024.
- 3. The Chairman said that OFCA would develop a proposal on the arrangement for re-assignment of the relevant spectrum of the 2.6 GHz band due for expiry in 2024 taking into account the expressed views of all MNOs for consideration of the Communications Authority ("CA") and seek the CA's approval for conducting a public consultation in this regard in the second quarter of 2020. Members and industry players would be welcome to give any further views in response to the aforesaid public consultation.

Agenda Item 3: World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 Decisions (SSAC Paper 2/2020)

- 4. <u>Mr Ken Sit</u> presented SSAC Paper 2/2020, which reported the outcomes of the World Radiocommunication Conference as convened in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 28 October to 22 November 2019 ("WRC-19") and proposed new frequency allocations of Hong Kong to align with the WRC-19 decisions.
- 5. In reply to the enquiry of <u>Ir Angel Wong</u>, <u>the Chairman</u> said that most WRC-19 decisions would come into force from 1 January 2021, except a few which would take effect immediately upon the close of WRC-19. OFCA would report WRC-19's decisions to the CA and timely seek the CA's approval on the new frequency allocations highlighted in the SSAC paper 2/2020.
- 6. <u>The Chairman</u> invited Members to give their views and comments on the concerned frequency allocations, if any, by 3 February 2020.

<u>Agenda Item 4</u>: Proposed Allocation of the 137 – 138 MHz and 148 – 150.05 MHz Bands to the Mobile-Satellite Service (SSAC Paper 3/2020)

- 7. Mr C H Chan introduced SSAC Paper 3/2020, which proposed the allocation of the 137 138 MHz and 148 150.05 MHz bands to mobile-satellite services ("MSS") on top of the existing allocations.
- Mr Joseph Ho asked whether there was any guard band between the 8. 137 – 138 MHz band for the proposed MSS in question and the lower adjacent band designated for aeronautical mobile service. Mr C H Chan replied to the negative. He further explained that, notwithstanding the 137 – 138 MHz band had been used for MSS downlinks for decades and signals from such satellite downlinks were receivable almost everywhere on Earth's surface, there was no reported interference in this regard. The Chairman added that the concerned satellite system (i.e. Orbcomm) was an existing low earth orbit satellite system registered with the International Telecommunication Union and it had already been in operation for some 20 years. Mr Johnny Siu commented that there was illegal radio equipment operating in the said bands for sale in the market and enquired how OFCA would rectify the situation. The Chairman said that OFCA assisted the CA for the enforcement of the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106). In this regard, in addition to regular market surveillances, OFCA would act upon complaints, and clamp down any use or sale of illegal radio equipment including those operating in the 138 MHz band once identified.

9. <u>The Chairman</u> invited Members to provide comments on the proposed allocations, if any, by 3 February 2020.

<u>Agenda Item 5</u>: Proposed Allocation of the 5250 – 5275 kHz Band to the Radiolocation Service (SSAC Paper 4/2020)

- 10. Mr Alex Tang introduced SSAC Paper 4/2020, which proposed the allocation of the 5250-5275 kHz band to radiolocation service on top of the existing allocation.
- 11. <u>The Chairman</u> invited Members to provide comments on the proposed allocation, if any, by 3 February 2020.

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business

- 12. The Chairman said that the CA had published the Spectrum Release Plan for 2020 2022 on the websites of CA and OFCA on 10 January 2020, and the Secretary had informed Members accordingly by email on the same day.
- 13. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Office of the Communications Authority February 2020