



## **FREQUENCY SPECTRUM ALLOCATION AND ASSIGNMENT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Radiofrequency spectrum is a national resource that should be managed and utilized effectively and efficiently. In the exercise of its mandate, the Authority plans, allocates and assigns frequency resources to support a host of wireless services. Also, the Authority monitors and undertakes surveillance and coordination of the usage of the radio frequency spectrum resource to ensure optimal and efficient utilization.

The Authority has committed to increasing the number of licensees in the sector. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, the Authority received 33 applications, processed and issued a total of 29 licenses, representing 87% of total applications. Four (4) pending licence applications are undergoing due process, which represents 13% of the total applications.

### **2. RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Highlights of spectrum management activities concerning various radiocommunication services that were undertaken during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter are provided below.

#### **2.1. FIXED LINKS**

To facilitate backhaul for mobile network traffic, the Authority assigned frequencies in the 5, 7/8, 15, 18, 71 GHz bands to various operators for deployment of 104 microwave links and processed the decommissioning of 11 fixed links.

#### **2.2. FM SOUND BROADCASTING**

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, the Authority assigned 14 additional FM sound broadcasting frequencies to broadcasters to serve Embu, Garissa, Kiambu, Mandera, Marsabit, Meru, Nakuru, Nyeri, Siaya and Wajir.

#### **2.3. DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TV (DTT) BROADCASTING**

No assignments of frequencies for Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting services were issued.

#### **2.4. MOBILE CELLULAR SERVICES**

During the quarter, the Authority issued frequency authorisations in the 3.5 GHz band to four (4) licensees in the 1800 and 2100 MHz band to one licensee.

## **2.5. PRIVATE MOBILE RADIO SERVICE**

The Authority received 23 applications for Private Mobile Radio License applications. Nineteen (19) applicants were granted licences while four (4) are undergoing the due process. Notably, 53 % of applications were made by security firms.

## **2.6. RADIO ALARM SERVICE**

Seventy one (71) licences for VHF alarm systems were issued.

## **2.7. AERONAUTICAL RADIO STATION SERVICE**

Aeronautical radio stations are radio installations aboard aircraft that provide ground – to - ground and air - to -ground communication services to aviation operators. The Authority manages access to the HF and VHF aeronautical bands by licensing Aircraft stations and other aeronautical radio installations. As per the ICAO rules, all aircraft must have a radio licence before they are permitted to fly.

During the quarter under review, 38 licences for Aeronautical radio stations were issued.

## **2.8. AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE**

Amateur radio refers is a service that uses radio frequency spectrum for purposes of non-commercial exchange of messages, wireless experimentation, self-training, private recreation, contesting, and emergency communication.

The Authority licenses radio amateurs under the categories of Novice, Temporary and Permanent. A novice licence is given to beginners and students who take up this service. Temporary licences are issued to visiting Hams who have amateur radio operator certificates from countries that reciprocate with Kenya. The full/permanent licence is issued to those who have attained qualifications as administered by The Amateur Radio Society of Kenya (ARSK). The Authority collaborates with the radio society in the issuance of certificates, in accordance with global best practice.

No authorisations for Amateur radio service were issued during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.

## **2.9. CITIZEN BAND SERVICE**

Citizens band radio is a land mobile radio system that allows short-distance person-to-person bidirectional voice communication between individuals. Citizens band is distinct from the Amateur Radio Service.

Two (2) authorisations for Citizen Band radio service were issued during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.

## **2.10. MARITIME SERVICE**

Five (5) vessels were issued with Maritime Mobile Service Identity numbers, which is a series of nine digits that are sent in digital form over a radio frequency channel to uniquely identify ship stations, ship earth stations, coast stations, coast earth stations, and group calls. No assignments of frequencies for Maritime service applications services were issued during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter.

**2.11. FIXED WIRELESS ACCESS SERVICES**

No assignments of frequencies for Fixed Wireless Access systems were issued during the review period.

**2.12. SATELLITE SERVICE**

No assignments of frequencies for Satellite Earth Stations were issued.