

GUIDELINES FOR GE06 SUBMISSIONS RELATED TO TERRESTRIAL BROADCASTING SERVICES

(Updated in July 2020)

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide general guidelines for the submission of frequency assignments to terrestrial broadcasting stations in the area and bands governed by the Regional Agreement Geneva, 2006 (GE06 Agreement). **These guidelines replace the notification instructions contained in BR Circular Letter CR/262 dated 11 August 2006.**

Administrations are strongly encouraged to update the Master Register¹ (MIFR) and/or the GE06 Regional Plans with administration's frequency assignment data in order to preserve administrations' rights. To do so, administrations must submit the required information to the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR).

Notification

Administrations shall update the GE06 Regional Plan by applying those provisions described in Article 4 of the GE06 Agreement before notifying the bringing into use of the frequency assignment to update the MIFR in accordance with Article 5 of the GE06 Regional Agreement.

Administrations shall submit, in electronic format, the data indicated in Appendix 4 to the Radio Regulations (RR) for the Article 11 procedure and in Annex 3, Tables 1 and 2, of the GE06 Regional Agreement for the Plan Modification procedure. In addition, provision 5.1.3 of the GE06 Agreement envisages the possibility of notifying a digital broadcasting plan entry with characteristics different from those appearing in the Plan, for transmissions in the broadcasting service or in other primary terrestrial services.

Therefore, the BR has established a specific file format to contain the relevant data for frequency assignment\allotment, known as electronic notice file. An electronic notice file may contain more than one notice and each notice contains the data of a frequency assignment/allotment and the intention of the notification (i.e. "ADD" to add a new frequency, "MODIFY" to modify an existing frequency assignment, etc.).

There are two categories of notice, complete notices (see Table 1) and simplified notices (Table 2). Complete notices contain administrative and technical data and shall be used to add or to modify a frequency assignment/allotment. In addition, the acceptable combination of Plan entry and Assignment codes (Table 1 - 1 and 1 - 2) shall be respected. Simplified notices only apply to specific actions on previously submitted assignments/notices².

¹ Master Register contains frequency assignments that are in use (in operation) whereas a Plan contains frequency assignments that are planned for current and/or future use.

² Frequency assignments that are already recorded either in the Master Register or in a Plan are referred to as "Assignments" and those that are still under processing are referred to as "Notices".

Table 1 Complete notices

Notice type	Applicable to	Description	Electronic file structure and Item keys
G02	MIFR	Analogue television broadcasting assignment	G02 notice file
GS1	GE06D/MIFR	Digital sound (T-DAB) broadcasting assignment	GS1 notice file
GS2	GE06D	Digital sound (T-DAB) broadcasting allotment	GS2 notice file
GT1	GE06D/MIFR	Digital television (DVB-T) broadcasting assignment	GT1 notice file
GT2	GE06D	Digital television (DVB-T) broadcasting allotment	GT2 notice file
GB1	MIFR	Digital assignment with characteristics different from those appearing in the GE06 Plan	GB1 notice file
GA1	GE06D	Allotment sub-area for digital broadcasting (DVB-T or T-DAB)	GA1 notice file

Table 2 - 1 Valid Plan entry and Assignment codes for digital frequency assignments (GT1, GS1 and GB1, applicable to GE06D and MIFR)

Plan entry code	Network topology	SFN identifier	Associated Allotment identifier (t_associated_adm_allot_id)	Assignment code (t_assgn_code)
1	One standalone assignment	Not applicable	Not applicable	S
2	Two or more linked assignments	Mandatory	Not applicable	L**
3	One or more converted assignments associated with an allotment	Mandatory	Mandatory	C
4	One or more linked or converted assignment associated with an allotment	Mandatory	Mandatory	L** or C
5	Only one linked assignment associated with an allotment	Not applicable	Mandatory	L**

* Under Article 4, it must be submitted together with the associated allotment using GS2 or GT2.

** Under Article 5, the assignment may operate either in conformity with the Plan entry or under provisions 5.1.6 to 5.1.8 of the GE06 Agreement.

Table 3 -2 Valid Plan entry for digital frequency allotments (GT2 and GS2, applicable to GE06D only)

Plan entry code	SFN identifier	Associated Assignments
3	Mandatory	May have converted assignments
4	Mandatory	Must have at least one or more linked assignments. The notice of the allotment must be submitted together with the linked assignments
5	Not applicable	Must have only one linked assignment. The notice of the allotment must be submitted together with its linked assignment

Table 2 Simplified notices

Notice Type	Applicable to	Description	Electronic file structure and Item keys
TB2	GE06D	Notification under Art. 11 of an assignment with all technical characteristics as in the Plan	TB2 notice file
TB3	GE06D	Requesting publication of a plan modification in Part B of the GE06 Special Section	TB3 notice file
TB5	MIFR/ GE06D	Suppress an assignment or withdraw a notice under treatment	TB5 notice file

With respect to TB2 notice type, there are 2 cases for which it cannot be used. These are as follows, if the:

- digital TV (DVB-T) frequency assignment is recorded in the Plan with the indication of “*Reference Planning Configuration*” (RPC1, RPC2 or RPC3). In this case, when notifying for its recording in the MIFR, administrations

must supply the specific system variant (A1 – A7 ... F1 – F7) and the concerned reception mode (FX, PO, PI or MO);

- digital TV (DVB-T) and/or Sound (T-DAB) assignment is bearing remarks with respect to assignments in the analogue Plan, to existing assignments to other primary terrestrial services or to entries in the digital Plan. In this case, when notifying for its recording in the MIFR, administrations must supply the necessary coordination information, as envisaged in provision No. 5.1.2b (second indent) of the GE06 Agreement.

Under the above-mentioned conditions, administrations shall either use notice type GS1 (for T-DAB) or notice type GT1 (for a DVB-T).

To assist administrations in the preparation of these electronic notice files, the BR provides a software tool, “TerRaNotices”, available in the BR IFIC DVD and in the BR IFIC in ISO format that can be downloaded from the ITU website at: <https://www.itu.int/pub/R-SP-LN/en>. Please contact sales@itu.int for the login credentials.

Electronic notice files that do not contain any errors or warnings must be submitted officially to the BR via the secured web interface, WISFAT (**W**eb **I**nterface for **S**ubmission of **F**requency **A**ssignments/**A**llotments for **T**errestrial **S**ervices). WISFAT is only accessible to those users appointed by administrations as being notifiers. WISFAT is accessible from the ITU website at: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/tpr/Pages/Submission.aspx>.

To become a notifier, administrations must inform the BR by sending an official e-mail to brmail@itu.int and provide the following information:

- Name, position, service e-mail, ITU Username with TIES services

Please bear in mind that it is also the administration’s responsibility to inform the BR, by e-mail, of any changes concerning their selected notifiers.

Additional information regarding notification is also available at: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/tpr/Pages/Notification.aspx>.

Administrations are also invited to participate in the BR's regional or world seminars where the BR provides up-to-date and complementary information regarding the application of radio regulatory and other procedures, including notification of frequency assignments. Information regarding future and previous seminars is available at: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/seminars/Pages/default.aspx>.

Overview of the processing of electronic notice file

The processing of notices requires that each frequency assignment be uniquely identifiable, in order to apply the required action of the notification. In the case of VHF/UHF broadcasting frequency assignments within the GE06 Agreement, there are two types of unique identifiers and they are both mandatory:

- assigned frequency (t_freq_assgn) and geographical coordinates (t_long/t_lat); and
- unique identification code given by the administration to an assignment (t_adm_ref_id).

These items cannot be repeated within an administration. Above all, it is the responsibility of the administration to manage the uniqueness of the “Unique identification code” given by the administration to an assignment and it cannot be changed once notified.

It is important to understand that once a notice is submitted and until it is recorded either in the Master Register or in the GE06 Regional Plan, it can be replaced at any time just by submitting an identical notice with the relevant changes but the action of the notice must remain identical. For instance, to replace an “ADD” notice, the new notice must be also an “ADD”, to replace a “MODIFY” notice, the new notice must be also a “MODIFY” notice.

However, if the notice is recorded then it becomes an assignment and to modify, a notice must be sent with t_action = “MODIFY” and the identifying element of the assignment to be replaced must be notified (t_trg_adm_ref_id).

Publication

Once the notices are validated and if they are complete, they will be published in the BR IFIC in the relevant part. It is distributed every two weeks to administrations, free of charge. A summary of the published notices is available at: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/brific/Pages/default.aspx>.

Contact Details

- Queries concerning the notification of frequency assignments under the GE06 Agreement:
Mr B. Ba, phone +41 22 730 5044, brtpr@itu.int
- Specific queries concerning the application of the GE06 procedures to terrestrial broadcasting services:
Ms I. Ghazi, Tél : + 41 22 63 29, brbcd@itu.int
- Request for assistance for TerRaSys validation software:
Mr B. Abou-Chanab, phone: +41 22 730 5275, terrasofthelp@itu.int.