

Abstract for ITU/BDT Seminar on Broadband Wireless Access Moscow

Title:Spectrum Requirements for HSPA Mobile Broadband AccessDate:Nov. 27, at session 4Speaker:Ricardo Tavares, Senior Vice President for Public Policy, GSM
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Governments' ICT policies within emerging markets are very focused on enabling access to communications for all their populace. They see broadband as being a way of providing not only voice links but exchange of information on their health programmes and educational programmes. Most view the deployment of wireless infrastructure for broadband as being the best option and are ensuring their spectrum allocation is in line with ITU frequency plans. This ensures that economies of scale can protect them from proprietary / expensive systems and opens up competition.

The introduction of HSPA-enabled Mobile Broadband has opened up new mobile business and consumer markets for low cost flat rate broadband access which will place a higher demand for additional spectrum in addition to the UMTS core band (1920-1980MHz/2110-2170MHz). HSPA will become the most widespread form of broadband access in the world in the near future. Broadband access, mobile TV and other bandwidth-hungry applications point to the critical importance of a band design for the 3G extension band at 2.5GHz that secures access in that band for FDD technologies such as HSPA. Countries that have not yet licensed 2.1GHz—the IMT-200 core band—should do so expeditiously to the advance the most cost effective form of providing massive broadband access to business and consumers.

Mobile broadband represent a fundamental tool for government and regulators to develop policies aiming at universalisation of broadband access. Therefore, global spectrum coordination is paramount to provide economies of scale and scope that allow for lower cost infrastructure and devices for mobile broadband access. Massive adoption of mobile broadband will put pressure on bandwidth for wireless Internet access and new multimedia mobile services.