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| **Radiocommunication Study Groups** |  |
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| To Administrations of Member States of the ITU, Radiocommunication  Sector Members, ITU-R Associates participating in the work of  Radiocommunication Study Group 6 and ITU-R Academia | |

**Subject**: Questionnaire on spectrum requirements for the future of sound and television broadcasting

**References**: Documents [6/ 93](http://www.itu.int/md/R12-SG06-C-0093/en) and [6/249](http://www.itu.int/md/R12-SG06-C-0249/en)

1 Study Group 6 (SG 6) is the ITU-R Study Group assigned to the Broadcasting service. Its scope covers radiocommunication broadcasting, including vision, sound, multimedia and data services principally intended for delivery to the general public.

2 SG 6 created a Rapporteur Group to look at the future spectrum requirements for the Broadcasting service in light of technical developments, decisions taken by WRC-03 and WRC-07 on the use of digital modulation in the HF Bands, and the changes to frequency allocations at WRC-97, WRC-07 and WRC-12, as part of the work in maintaining its catalogue of Reports and Recommendations.

3 One of the questions that needs to be addressed by SG 6 include how broadcast requirements are changing with the move to digital broadcast systems, and the introduction of new and enhanced broadcast services.

4 The following questionnaire, which is being sent to all Administrations and Sector Members, is designed to gather information on spectrum use by sound and television broadcasting in the bands allocated on a Regional[[1]](#footnote-1) or global basis to terrestrial broadcasting (see Annex 1).

5 Administrations and Sector Members are also invited to make more detailed inputs addressing the matter of current and future spectrum requirements for radio and television broadcasting to the next meeting of WP 6A and SG 6.

6 Administrations and Sector Members are requested to submit responses to [brsgd@itu.int](mailto:brsgd@itu.int) by 17 October 2014.

David Barrett

Chairman SG6 Rapporteur Group on spectrum requirements   
for the future of the broadcasting Service

QUESTIONNAIRE ON SPECTRUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FUTURE OF SOUND AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING

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| **Name of the Administration:** | **Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, New Zealand** |
| **Contact person:** | **Dr Tommy Chee** |
| E-mail address: | [**Radio.spectrum@mbie.govt.nz**](mailto:Radio.spectrum@mbie.govt.nz) |
| Telephone number: | **+64 3 962 2603** |

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| **Name of the Sector Member:** |  |
| **Contact person:** |  |
| E-mail address: |  |
| Telephone number: |  |
| **What best describes your organisation?**  Commercial broadcaster/Public service broadcaster/ Service provider/ Other (please describe) |  |
| **The geographical area over which you operate:** |  |

**SECTION ONE – Television broadcasting**

1) a) Is your country still using analogue television?

b) If yes, has analogue television switch-off commenced?

c) If your country has any plans to switch-off analogue television:

i) When is the analogue switch-off process expected to be completed?

ii) How much extra spectrum will be required during the transition phase to digital terrestrial television broadcasting?

**Reply:**

**a) New Zealand completed its analogue television switch-off in December 2013.**

2) a) Please indicate how many analogue television transmitters are in operation in your country and in which bands.

b) What channel bandwidths are used for analogue television?

c) What is the spectrum requirement for analogue television in your country?

A proposed format for responses to question 2a) and 2b) is provided in Annex 1

**Reply:**

**a) No analogue transmitter is operational in New Zealand.**

3) a) What is the percentage of viewer uptake of terrestrial television in your country?

b) If possible, please also provide details of the number or proportion of users who receive television primarily by terrestrial means by:

i) Fixed roof top antenna, or  
ii) Portable indoor antenna.

**Reply:**

**a) 97% population in New Zealand have access to digital television contents via different delivery platforms including terrestrial, satellite and cable, while 86% population in New Zealand is within digital terrestrial television coverage. The percentage of viewer uptake for terrestrial television is 63% of the population within digital terrestrial television coverage (i.e. equivalent to 54% of total population in New Zealand).**

**b) New Zealand does not have the detailed breakdown on number of households receiving television via indoor / outdoor reception. However, the national terrestrial television planning is based on fixed rooftop reception.**

4) If your country has switched or is considering switching to digital terrestrial television broadcasting

a) What system standard is your country using or considering adopting   
(as specified in Recommendations ITU-R BT.1306 and BT.1877)?

b) When did your country start or when is it proposing to start the introduction of digital terrestrial television services?

c) Please provide further detail on the number of multiplexes in use, their technical specifications, the percentage of geographic area or population they cover or are intended to cover and the total spectrum use.

A proposed format for detailed responses is provided in Annex 2

**Reply:**

**a) There is no mandate in New Zealand on the specific digital terrestrial television broadcasting technology, however broadcasters in New Zealand have jointly adopted DVB-T and DVB-T2 standards with MPEG-4 codecs.**

**b) New Zealand introduced digital terrestrial television in 2008.**

**c) There are 5 digital terrestrial television multiplexes currently in use in New Zealand. See Annex 2.**

5) a) What frequencies/channels are currently used or intended to be used by digital terrestrial television broadcasting in your country? Please distinguish between those in use and those intended to be used?

b) Please indicate how many digital terrestrial television transmitters are currently used or intended to be used and in which bands.

c) What channel bandwidth is used or intended to be used for digital terrestrial television in your country?

A proposed format for responses to question 5b) and 5c) is provided in Annex 1

**Reply:**

**a) The frequency band 510–686 MHz is available for digital terrestrial television broadcasting use in New Zealand.**

**b) There are 158 digital terrestrial television transmitters rolled out in New Zealand. There will be another 30 transmitters to be rolled out in the near future. See Annex 1.**

**c) Digital terrestrial television in New Zealand is based on 8 MHz channel raster, which is the same raster as previously employed for analogue transmissions. See Annex 1.**

6) a) Are the terrestrial television frequency bands also shared with other primary services in your country?

b) If yes, please give details of those systems and their spectrum use.

**Reply:**

**a) No.**

7) a) Are the terrestrial television frequency bands also shared with secondary services used for the support of broadcasting such as SAB/SAP (services ancillary to broadcasting/production), or other types of services such as radio astronomy or wind-profile radar?

b) If yes, please give details of those systems and their spectrum use.

**Reply:**

**a) Yes.**

**b) New Zealand allows radio microphones in the bands 502-606 MHz and 622-698 MHz. New Zealand is also considering a trial for white space devices to operate in frequency range 510-606 MHz within the terrestrial television frequency band on a non-interference non-protection basis.**

8) a) Does your country foresee a requirement for new and enhanced services, including multimedia and data applications, HD, 3D, and UHD television, on the terrestrial television platform?

b) If yes, please give indicative details of the number and nature of services planned, and if known, the expected timeframe for their introduction.

**Reply:**

**a) Yes.**

**b) New Zealand has already deployed data applications, “radio” and HD services on the terrestrial television broadcasting platform since 2008.**

9) a) Are there plans in your country to launch more multiplexes in the future?

b) If yes, how many more and when? Please also indicate the expected timeframe for their introduction.

**Reply:**

**a) New Zealand has the capability to launch four further multiplexes in the future.**

**b) No time frame is available at present as the Government is still considering the allocation policy for the four new multiplexes.**

10) a) What is the amount of spectrum your country foresees will be required for terrestrial television broadcasting, taking into consideration the responses to Questions 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9? Please indicate the modes of transmission that will be used, and timeframes.

**Reply:**

**a) New Zealand is of the view that the frequency band in 510-686 MHz would be retained for digital terrestrial television broadcasting use in New Zealand in the foreseeable future. However, this does not preclude the possibility for sharing the band with other services should this be proven as practicable.**

**SECTION TWO – Sound broadcasting**

11) a) What analogue sound broadcasting standards are used in your country and what bands are they operating in?

b) Please indicate how many analogue radio transmitters are in operation in your country and in which bands.

c) What channel bandwidths do they use?

A proposed format for responses to question 11b) and 11c) is provided in Annex 1

**Reply:**

**a) New Zealand employs Amplitude Modulation for sound broadcasting in MF within 521-1612 kHz and Frequency Modulation for sound broadcasting in VHF within 87.5-108 MHz.**

**b) See Annex 1.**

**c) See Annex 1.**

12) a) Is additional spectrum required for growth in the analogue sound broadcasting platform in your country?

b) If yes, how much additional spectrum is required?

**Reply:**

**a) No.**

13) a) Is your country considering introducing, or has it already introduced digital sound broadcasting?

b) If yes, which system standards are used or are being considered for adoption (as specified in Recommendations ITU-R BS.1114, BS.1514, BS.1615)?

c) When did your country start or when does it propose to start digital sound broadcasting?

d) What channel bandwidths is your country using or considering using?

e) What frequencies are currently used or intended to be used by digital sound broadcasting in your country? Please distinguish between those in use and those intended to be used.

f) What is the percentage of the population that is covered by digital sound broadcasting by direct reception in your country?

g) What additional spectrum was required or is considered to be required for the transition to digital sound broadcasting?

h) Please indicate how many digital radio transmitters are currently used or intended to be used and in which bands.

i) What is the spectrum requirement for digital sound broadcasting in your country?

j) If your country has introduced digital sound broadcasting, how long will it continue to use analogue sound broadcasting?

A proposed format for responses to question 13d) and 13h) is provided in Annex 1

**Reply:**

**a) There are non-commercial test transmissions of Eureka DAB+ trials in two cities within the VHF Band III (174-230 MHz). However, no policy decision has been made in regard to the commencement of digital sound broadcasting in New Zealand.**

14) a) Are the terrestrial sound broadcasting bands also shared with other primary services in your country?

b) If yes, please give details of those systems and their spectrum use.

**Reply:**

**a) No.**

15) a) Are the terrestrial sound broadcasting bands also shared with secondary services e.g., used for the support of broadcasting such as SAB/SAP (services ancillary to broadcasting/production), or other types of services such as radio astronomy or wind-profile radar?

b) If yes, please give details of those systems and their spectrum use.

**Reply:**

**a) No.**

16) a) What is the amount of spectrum your country foresees will be required for terrestrial sound broadcasting, taking into consideration the responses to the previous questions? Please indicate the modes of transmission that will be used, and timeframes.

**Reply:**

**a) New Zealand is of the view that the frequency band in 521-1612 kHz and 87.5-108 MHz currently allocated to broadcasting would be retained for terrestrial sound broadcasting use in New Zealand in the foreseeable future.**

**SECTION THREE – Multimedia broadcasting**

17) a) Is your country considering introducing or has already introduced multimedia broadcasting?

b) If yes which system standards is your country using or considering using (as specified in Recommendations ITU-R BT.1833 and BT.2016)?

c) In which Bands?

d) When did your country start or when does it propose to start digital multimedia broadcasting?

e) What are the current and proposed population coverages for digital multimedia broadcasting in your country?

f) What is the spectrum requirement for multimedia broadcasting in your country?

g) If your country has introduced digital multimedia broadcasting, please provide further information to describe the system, its implementation and any limitations on its operation.

**Reply:**

**a) New Zealand has neither introduced, nor at the present time is considering introducing multimedia broadcasting.**

ANNEX 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Country** | **Band** | | **Number of Transmitting Stations\*** | | | |
| **Analogue Radio**)(Q11b & Q11c) | **Digital Radio** (Q13d & Q13h) | **Analogue TV** (Q2a & Q2)b | **Digital TV** (Q5b & Q5c) |
| **Channel bandwidth (MHz)** | | MF II 200kHz  VHF II 300kHz |  |  | 8 MHz |
| **XX** | **LF** | 148.5-283.5 kHz |  |  |  |  |
| **MF** | 525-526.5 kHz |  |  |  |  |
| **MF** | 526.5-1606.5 kHz | 145 (56) |  |  |  |
| **MF** | 1606.5-1705 kHz |  |  |  |  |
| **HF** | 2.3-26.1 MHz\*\* |  |  |  |  |
| **VHF I** | 47-50 MHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 50-54 MHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 54-68 MHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 68-72 MHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 76-87.5 MHz |  |  |  |  |
| **VHF II** | 87.5-108 MHz | 767 (452) |  |  |  |
| **VHF III** | 174-216 MHz |  |  |  |  |
| **VHF III** | 216-230 MHz |  |  |  |  |
| **UHF IV** | 470-694 MHz |  |  |  | 158 (30) |
| **UHF V** | 694-790 MHz |  |  |  |  |
| **UHF V** | 790-890 MHz |  |  |  |  |
| **UHF V** | 890-960 MHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1452-1492 MHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 11.7-12.5 GHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 12.5-12.7 GHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 40.5-42.5 GHz |  |  |  |  |
|  | 74-76 GHz |  |  |  |  |
| \* Transmitting stations please include “main stations” and “relay stations.” Please use parenthesis to indicate stations that have still to be brought into use  \*\* The bands 3900-3950D, 3950-4000D kHz; the bands for tropical broadcasting: 2300-2498, 3200-3400D, 4750-4995 D, 5005-5060D kHz and the Article 12 Bands 5 900-5 950D, 5 950-6 200, 7 200-7 300, 7 300-7 400D, 7 400-7 450, 9 400-9 500D, 9 500-9 900, 11 600-11 650D, 11 650-12 050, 12 050-12 100D, 13 570-13 600D, 13 600-13 800, 13 800-13 870D, 15 100-15 600, 15 600-15 800D, 17 480-17 550D, 17 550-17 900, 18 900-19 020D, 21 450-21 850, 25 670-26 100.  D Resolution 517 (Rev.WRC-07) applies. In the HF bands subject to Article 12 see also No. 5.134. | | | | | | |

**ANNEX 2**

Suggested form of presentation of reply to Question 4: *If your country has switched or is considering switching to digital terrestrial television broadcasting, what system standards is it using or considering adopting? When did your country start, or when is it proposed to start the introduction of digital terrestrial television services? Please provide further detail on the number of multiplexes in use, their technical specifications, the percentage of geographic area or population they cover or are intended to cover and the total spectrum use.*

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| **Country** | **No of multi-plexes** | **System & modulation** | **FEC** | **GI** | **Reception mode[[2]](#footnote-2)** | **Capacity per multiplex (Mb/s)** | **Current percentage population coverage** | **Intended percentage population coverage** | **Content per multiplex** | **Total capacity (Mb/s)** | **Total spectrum bandwidth used or intended for implementation (MHz)** | **Any additional comments (e.g. duration of licences)** |
| **New Zealand** | 4 | DVB-T, 64-QAM | 3/4 | 1/16 | Fixed | 26.346 | 86% | 86% | 7 SD MPEG4  1 HD MPEG 4  (dependent on multiplex owner) | 105 | 176 MHz (Shared with DVBT2 services) | Multiplex operators in New Zealand may deploy either DVB-T/-T2 as they wish and adjust the content per multiplex as well depending on any commercial arrangements they may have with individual broadcasters. Spectrum licences for terrestrial broadcasting will expire in 2033. |
| 1 | DVB-T2, 256-QAM | 2/3 | 1/4 | Fixed | 36 | 86% | 86% | 11 SD MPEG4  (dependent on multiplex owner) | 36 | 176 MHz (Shared with DVB-T services) |

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1. Regions 1, 2 or 3 as defined in Nos. **5.3** to **5.9** of the Radio Regulations. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. E.g. fixed, portable outdoor/mobile, portable indoor. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)