



**Director of Radiocommunication
Bureau (BR)**

Geneva, 29 May 2018

Our Ref.: 31DIR(BCD)O-2018-001946

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ATG, B, BAH, BLZ, BRB, DMA, G, GRD,
GUY, HOL, JMC, KNA, LCA, SUR, TRD,
USA, VCT

Subject: Outcome of the 3rd ITU Regional Frequency Coordination Meeting for Central America and the Caribbean region on the use of the VHF (174-216 MHz) and the UHF (470-806 MHz) bands, Panama City, Panama, 7 - 11 May 2018

Dear Madam, Sir,

Following the first two meetings (Managua, Nicaragua, 8-10 March 2017 and Guatemala City, Guatemala, 28 August -1 September 2017), the third ITU Regional Frequency Coordination Meeting on the use of the VHF band (174-216 MHz) and the UHF band (470-806 MHz) took place in Panama City, Panama from 7 to 11 May 2018 and was attended by participants from 20 administrations.

In view of the fourth and final meeting, the Panama meeting was instrumental in strengthening administration's involvement in the coordination process, aimed to facilitate the transition from Analog to Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and the allocation of the Digital Dividend, by ensuring compatible operation for all services.

I wish to inform your Administration that Panama meeting adopted the following recommendations:

1. Administrations are invited to delete from the ITU Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) the assignments that are not operational and won't be in the following 3 months.
2. To ensure equitable access, administrations are invited to submit and coordinate reasonable requirements, especially on borders and difficult areas (VHF: 1 layer and UHF: 4 layers for 6 MHz raster and 3 layers for 8 MHz raster).
3. To ensure the stability of the reference situation taken into account for the compatibility analysis (iterations), administrations agree not to notify any new or modified assignments to the MIFR that might impact the planning process within the coordination area, until after the last iteration at the 4th meeting (around 6 months).
4. The meeting agreed to freeze the last iteration's assignable or agreed channels and keep the list as a reference list. Administrations can notify when they start deploying the digital TV (3 months prior to bringing frequency assignments into use). This reference list must be taken into account when an administration wishes to assign frequency channels that are not within the list (compatibility analysis).
5. For the 4th and last meeting, the participants should be able to take decisions on assignments and coordination.

In the case where points 3 and/or 4 are not followed, the Radiocommunication Bureau is requested to delay the processing of the notification and to remind the notifying administration about the meeting recommendations and inform CITEL, COMTELCA and CTU about the situation.

Your Administration is invited to note that the 4th and last regional frequency coordination meeting is currently being planned for September – October 2018.

The Radiocommunication Bureau remains at the disposal of your Administration for any clarification you may require with respect to the subject covered in this letter.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'François Randy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

François Randy

Copy: ABW, AIA, BER, BES, CUW, CYM, MSR, SXM, TCA, VRG