



Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

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SOM, SRL, SSD, SWZ, SYR, TUR, TZA, UGA,
YEM, ZMB, ZWE,
African Telecommunication Union

Subject: **Third and final Frequency Coordination Meeting on the GE84 Plan Optimization for Africa, 24 – 28 January 2022 - Virtual meeting**

Refs.: a) **BR Circular Letter CR/448, dated 28 August 2019**
b) **Invitation letter 31E(BCD)O-2021-001293, dated 19 March 2021, relating to the 2nd Series of GE84 Plan Optimization for Africa Workshop, 19-21 April 2021**

Dear Madam, Sir,

I am pleased to invite your Administration to participate in the **Third and final Frequency Coordination Meeting relating to the GE84 Plan Optimization project for Africa**. This event, organized by the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) of ITU in collaboration with the African Telecommunication Union (ATU), will be held from 24 to 28 January 2022.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and the current travel and gathering restrictions, this event will be held virtually, using the same interactive format as the first and the second meetings held from 15 to 19 February and from 28 June to 2 July 2021, respectively.

As you may recall, the main purpose of the GE84 Plan Optimization project for Africa is to achieve a more efficient use of the 87.5-108 MHz (FM) band for analogue sound broadcasting by identifying new frequency channels for FM broadcasting to meet the increasing need for additional frequency channels in African countries.

This optimization project requires the heavy involvement of the concerned administrations, to provide the necessary data and actively participate in frequency coordination meetings to successfully identify additional mutually compatible assignments. To this end, BR staff will assist the administrations that could not attend the first and the second meetings with the software and the coordination process to enable them to actively participate in this project.

The said third and final meeting is intended to continue and finalize the frequency coordination process between the African administrations. In addition, and in compliance with the decisions of the first and the second meetings (https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/broadcast/africa/Documents/1stMeteeng/Criteria-approved_E-Final.pdf), relevant neighbouring countries, which are not directly involved but might be potentially impacted by this planning process, are kindly invited to participate in this activity to coordinate the frequency requirements.

The meeting is very important to finalize the project towards building a consensus and establishing formal coordination agreements among the administrations involved. At the end of this optimization project, on the basis of these agreements, administrations will be entitled to formally submit to the BR the coordinated frequency assignments, to update the GE84 Plan.

It is worthwhile to stress that, after the end of the project, administrations can resume the GE84 Plan modification activities in accordance with Article 4 of the GE84 Agreement.

To provide support to the meeting, the BR has made available to the participants a compatibility analysis software tool (GE84 Optimization in [eTools](#)) dedicated to this process and the relevant presentations and demonstrations made during the [workshops](#) as well as during the first and second meetings.

Please note that this meeting is primarily intended for experts and regulators in FM broadcasting frequency planning in a position to take decisions on frequency assignments and coordination. Therefore, the presence of relevant persons in charge from your Administration is **highly recommended**.

It is also strongly recommended that prior to this meeting, participants review the workshop presentations and documentation, and continue to work effectively in order to resolve the remaining incompatibilities between their respective broadcasting requirements.

The information relating to this meeting is available on our dedicated web pages, that will be continuously updated, at: https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/broadcast/africa/Pages/3rd_coord_meeting.aspx

Languages

The meeting will be held in French and English, with simultaneous interpretation during the first day and half of the last one. For the breakout sessions, BR staff attending the meeting will speak both languages.

Format

The meeting will follow an online format, with a daily session from **9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Geneva time** (including breaks). A draft programme is available in Annex to this letter.

An e-mail containing instructions on how to access the platform will be sent before the event.

Laptops/computers should meet the minimal requirements described on the project website.

Registration

Registration to this event is mandatory and will be carried out exclusively on-line via Designated Focal Points (DFPs) for ITU-R event registration. An ITU user account is required from participants to submit a registration request and obtain registration approval from the corresponding focal point.

The list of ITU-R DFPS (TIES protected) as well as detailed information on this new event registration system can be found at: www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/information/events.

I look forward to the participation of your Administration in this important event since the presence of all administrations concerned is key to reach the most effective results.

The BR remains at your disposal for any further assistance or clarification that you may require.

Yours faithfully,

Mario Maniewicz
Director

Annex - Preliminary Program

Annex

Third and final Frequency Coordination Meeting on GE84 Plan Optimization for Africa
 24 - 28 January 2022, virtual meeting
Preliminary Program

Time	24 January Plenary sessions	25 January Breakout sessions	26 January Breakout sessions	27 January Breakout sessions	28 January
09:00-10:20	09:00 – 09:20 Opening – ITU and ATU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on the status of implementation of ATU-R programmes (ATU) Presentation on GE84 optimization project (ITU) 	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 30 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 31 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 32 results	Presentation of results of the final iteration (33)/Assignable channels Future steps (GE84 Plan modification)
10:20-10:40	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
10:40-12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAB/DAB+ DRM 	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 30 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 31 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 32 results	Plenary session: Wrap-up and Future work End of meeting
12:00-14:00	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
14:00-15:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GE84 Opt calculations and definition of assignable frequencies GE84 Opt new features Propagation tools P1546/P1812 	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 30 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 31 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 32 results	
15:20-15:40	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
15:40-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compatibility analysis for new frequency requirements GE84-Articles 4&7 	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 30 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 31 results	Frequency coordination/ Analysis of iteration 32 results	
18:00		Deadline for submission of requirements for the next iteration	Deadline for submission of requirements for the next iteration	Deadline for submission of requirements for the last iteration (33)	