

Regulatory Alert – Qatar

CRA to integrate ITU WRC-15 Recommendations into Qatar’s national regulations & future spectrum planning

On the 17th of May 2016, Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) in Qatar announced its plans to integrate the International Telecommunication Union’s (ITU’s) World Radio-Communication Conference (WRC 2015) recommendations into Qatar’s national regulatory framework.

The WRC-15 recommendations planned for implementation by CRA are summarized below:

1. An allocation of 91 MHz in the frequency range 1427-1518 MHz for globally harmonized International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT).
2. Additional IMT identification in the band 694-790 MHz
3. Agreement to a new agenda item for WRC–19 to explore options for additional IMT identifications above 6 GHz in support of new 5G technologies.
4. A single globally harmonized frequency range 694-894 MHz for Public Protection and Disaster Relief (public safety communications).
5. Agreement on an allocation in the frequency range 1087.7-1092.3 MHz to support global flight tracking by satellite receivers of civilian aircraft using existing transmissions from aircraft. (The agreement is part of the ITU’s response to the disappearance of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 in March 2014.)
6. A global allocation for short-range high-resolution automotive radar in the 79 GHz frequency band.

7. A new resolution that opens the way for the development by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) of worldwide standards for unmanned aircraft systems' satellite communications in certain frequency bands, and international regulatory conditions that may be applied to these systems.
8. Global spectrum allocation for wireless avionics intra-communications (WAIC) to facilitate the transition to wireless within aeroplanes.
9. An allocation of 250 MHz in the frequency range 13.5-13.75 GHz (DL) and 14.5-14.75 GHz (UL) for downlink / uplink of the fixed satellite service.

Implementation of these recommendations is expected to be finalized in 2017.

PCS will monitor closely and issue further Regulatory Updates accordingly.

For additional information regarding this alert, please contact:

Mrs. Samah Othman

Product Compliance Specialists

Email: samah@productcompliancespecialists.com

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