
PLENARY MEETING

**Addendum 5 to
Document 6166(Add.13)-
E
29 August 2019
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Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL)

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Agenda item 1.13

1.13 to consider identification of frequency bands for the future development of International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), including possible additional allocations to the mobile service on a primary basis, in accordance with Resolution **238 (WRC-15)**;

Part 5 – Frequency band 66-71 GHz

BACKGROUND

The frequency band 66-71 GHz is allocated on the primary basis to inter-satellite, mobile-satellite radionavigation-satellite, mobile and radionavigation services. To date, very few, studies have been carried out to confirm IMT compatibility with some of the existing or planned networks operating under these allocations as part of the preparations for World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19) agenda item 1.13.

License-exempt access to spectrum plays a critical role in providing connectivity for users worldwide. In recognition of this fact, many countries have designated this frequency band for licence-exempt (e.g. WiGig) technologies. In the United States, the FCC decided to maintain the unlicensed use of the 64-71 GHz band¹.

In many administrations, the use of the 66-71 GHz band by applications in the Mobile service is regulated on a license-exempt, technology neutral basis, similar to the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands. Under this approach regulators adopted rules for unlicensed devices that are designed to prevent harmful interference to authorized radio services through limits on transmitter power and spurious emissions, while industry has developed standards within the framework of these rules, generally with the intention of ensuring cooperative sharing of the spectrum by unlicensed devices. Such approach resulted in numerous benefits and innovative products for consumers. There is significant risk that identification of the 66-71 GHz band for IMT at WRC-19 would disrupt this dynamic by implying a different regulatory regime for one Mobile service application (i.e., IMT) over all others.

¹ See https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-347449A1.pdf

It is also important to recognize the nascent state of license-exempt ecosystem in the 60/70 GHz frequency range. Multi-gigabit devices are just beginning to be introduced into the market. Growing demand has been driving technological developments towards much higher throughputs (20 Gbps and higher), which can be attained only with corresponding spectrum capacity. In ITU-R, significant efforts are underway to advance implementation of Multiple Gigabit Wireless Systems (MGWS) systems in 66-71 GHz frequency band.²

It is difficult to predict how technologies, spectrum needs, market demands and other factors will evolve in this frequency range. In the absence of this understanding, an international treaty-level regulatory action on the 66-71 GHz band at WRC-19 under agenda item 1.13 would be premature and counterproductive. Identifying 66-71 GHz for IMT would do little to achieve international harmonization. Instead, such action would be highly disruptive to existing operations and discourage ongoing research and development of other types of multi-gigabit technologies.

² See ITU-R Doc. 5-1/32, Recommendation ITU-R [M.2003-2](#) and Report ITU-R [M.2227](#)

ARTICLE 5

Frequency allocations

Section IV – Table of Frequency Allocations (See No. 2.1)

NOC **IAP/6166A13A5/1**

66-81 GHz

Allocation to services		
Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
66-71	INTER-SATELLITE MOBILE 5.553 5.558 MOBILE-SATELLITE RADIONAVIGATION RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE 5.554	

Reasons: Studies have not been carried out in preparation for WRC-19 to show IMT compatibility with existing and planned space services networks and radionavigation systems in the 66-71 GHz band. IMT identification in the 66-71 GHz band would be counterproductive to achieving international harmonization as many administrations confirmed plans for implementation of licence-exempt technologies such as Multiple Gigabit Wireless Systems (MGWS) systems.