

Request for Public Consultation on:

National Radio Spectrum Law

March 2023



1. Introduction

Radio spectrum is used in radio services and systems across different sectors (communications, space, security, defense, media, transportation (land, sea and air), research and humanitarian services, industry and mining, and others). The Communications and Information Technology Law ("CIT Law") and the National Frequency Plan determine the regulatory framework to manage and regulate spectrum on a national level.

In light of increased demand for spectrum across all sectors and wireless applications, and considering international practices in a number of countries that have an independent national law for spectrum, the Communications, Space and Technology Commission ("CST") proposed the adoption of a single law to govern spectrum under the name (National Radio Spectrum Law) to regulate the uses of spectrum in the Kingdom for all military, civil and commercial purposes.

2. Scope and Objective of Document

The purpose of this document is to gather stakeholder feedback on the National Radio Spectrum Law to enable the effective management of radio spectrum and its utilization in a manner that preserves this limited resource for all national sectors (military, security, space, maritime, aviation, media, meteorology, and others). The Law also defines the roles and responsibilities of various national entities in the event there is an increase in its demand for spectrum but the supply is limited, or where its use of spectrum results in harmful interferences on a local or international level. The law aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Meet the current and future demands and needs of the national and business sectors in the Kingdom, enable emerging technologies, and enhance research and innovation.
- Integrate with national privatisation and non-oil revenues policies and making it available for commercial use including use by emerging technologies.
- Promote efficient use of radio spectrum to achieve its economic and social objectives.
- Align with national policies to support critical and smart infrastructure development for road networks, electricity, and oil and gas, as well as national security policies.

The National Radio Spectrum Law will consolidate all laws and regulations relating to radio spectrum management under one legislative instrument, which will result in the following advantages:

- Enhance the necessary national expertise to conduct a comprehensive social and economic impact assessment for the use of radio spectrum to ensure that all changes are for the public interest.
- Increase the scope of radio spectrum sharing between various national sectors.
- Effectively manage the use of radio spectrum to protect users from harmful interferences and implement the best technologies to coordinate the use of spectrum between users.
- Flexibility and speed in taking decisions relating to radio spectrum use on a national level, in line with global trends.

- Promote investment in wireless technologies and enhance innovation in relation to radio spectrum across various sectors by enabling the terrestrial and space industries to apply the latest wireless innovations.
- Provide dynamic spectrum access through flexible licensing and fees.
- Set strategic plans for optimal use of radio spectrum.

3. Participation

Participants wishing to submit their views on the National Radio Spectrum Law must submit them to the Communications, Space and Technology Commission no later than the 4th of May, 2023. Opinions and comments can be sent using one or all of the following methods:

3-1 Through the Unified Platform "Istitlaa" for receiving public consultations via

[\(Istitlaa Platform\)](#).

3-2 Through the Commission's regulatory platform on the Commission's website

[\(CST's Regulations Platform\)](#).

3-3 Through email to: freq.regulations@cst.gov.sa

3-4 Through written delivery (paper and electronic) at the Headquarters of the Communications, Space and Technology Commission or by mail to:

Communications, Space and Technology Commission
 Al Nakheel District
 Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz I Street intersection with Imam Saud bin Abdul Aziz Road
 75606 Riyadh 11588
 Saudi Arabia

The Communications, Space and Technology Commission calls on all relevant parties and interested people inside and outside the Kingdom from all sectors to provide comments, observations and suggestions on this document. The Commission encourages provision of comments supported by the required details, justifications, analytical studies, benchmarks and other information, if any, in accordance with the format shown below, given that what is provided in this regard is not binding on the Commission. The Commission also reserves its absolute right to publish or not publish all comments on the public consultation request if it deems it appropriate.

Article No.	Paragraph No.	Comments