

## Nokia response to Annexure B of The Radio Frequency Spectrum Amendment Regulations



## About Nokia

At Nokia, we create technology that helps the world act together.

The world is facing fundamental challenges. Pressure on the planet is increasing, productivity is stalling and access to opportunity remains stubbornly unequal. Technology is central to the solution.

Through technology leadership and trusted partnerships, we deliver critical networks to help address global issues. We have the power to bring together the world's people, machines, and devices, sensing and acting in real time at massive scale. Our critical networks go beyond connectivity to enable self-optimizing, intelligent systems both locally and globally.

With our customers we deliver solutions that respond to climate change through more efficient use and re-use of the world's resources, restore productivity growth by bringing digital to the physical industries it has not yet reached and provide more inclusive access globally to work, healthcare and education.

We create meaningful interactions to drive human progress.

For more information: <https://www.nokia.com/networks/5g/>

*Disclaimer:* This response is based on Nokia's current understanding of the market dynamics and various standards bodies; these dynamics are changing and hence our views may update with these changes

## Nokia Position

Nokia welcomes the opportunity to respond to ICASA’s consultation on “Annexure B of The Radio Frequency Spectrum Amendment Regulations” that sets the direction of future developments of the telecommunication sector in South Africa.

Nokia strongly encourages ICASA to further align in its technical decisions with the international trends and with global standards such as 3GPP and IEEE. This allows the service providers to benefit from the associated global economies-of-scale and more diverse product ecosystem, hence supporting overall 5G deployment, while the entire society can take advantage of standardised equipment.

Hereinafter, we provide Nokia’s view on the specific frequency bands under consultation and our recommendations based on our global expertise.

### 6 GHz (5925 –6425 MHz)

Nokia supports the use of the 5925-7125 MHz band with a technology-neutral approach while protecting the incumbent users (especially fixed links).

The 5 925-6 425 MHz band should be considered for WAS/RLAN (low power, unlicensed operation), while providing a level playing field to both 3GPP (5G NR-U) and IEEE (Wi-Fi 6e) technologies to coexist in this spectrum.

We, therefore, recommend the adoption of technology neutral rules for this sub-band. Nokia is supportive of technical rules that are harmonized at a greater extent with other markets for part or the entire band, to ensure the development of a harmonized ecosystem.

3GPP has agreed to discuss in early 2021 the need for a new 3GPP band for NR-U operation in the 5925-6425 GHz band, according to European regulations for unlicensed operation in this 3GPP band n102 has been allocated for unlicensed operation (5G NR-U).

The 6 425-7 125 MHz band: WRC-19 recognized the evolving needs of 5G/IMT and decided to include under Agenda item 1.2 for WRC-23 concerning one of the frequency ranges 6 425-7 125 MHz with the aim of identifying this portion of spectrum for IMT terrestrial component. For the upper 6GHz any decision should wait for the WRC-23 results.

### 122 – 246 GHz

This frequency range is currently not yet under considered by 3GPP for IMT.

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