MEDIA RELEASE

ICASA publishes the Information Memorandum for International Mobile Telecommunications

14 September 2015

Johannesburg – The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa hereby informs all stakeholders and the media of the publication of an Information Memorandum that provides guidance to prospective applicants regarding the process and criteria to be applied by the Authority in the licensing of the International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) spectrum.

The Information Memorandum is being published for comments providing information to prospective radio frequency spectrum applicants who want to offer mobile broadband, wireless access services for urban and rural areas using the complimentary bands IMT700, IMT800 and IMT2600 for purposes of providing national broadband wireless access services.

The Authority published the final IMT Roadmap which came into effect on 04 November 2014. The Roadmap ensures universal availability of broadband services as well as a vibrant and competitive telecommunications industry and promote investments. The Roadmap formed the basis for the development of the Radio Frequency Spectrum Plans (RFSAP) for IMT Spectrum 2015.

The Authority furthermore published the final RFSAP for IMT 2015 that provides conditions and requirements attached to the use of a frequency band in line with the allocation and further guidelines as mandated in the National Radio Frequency Plan (NRFP) 2013. These conditions include technical characteristics of radio systems, frequency channelling, coordination and details on required migration of existing users of the band and the expected assignment methods.

The publication of this Information Memorandum is important in that the Authority views mobile telecommunication technologies as critical components in achieving the goal of ‘broadband for all citizens’ in South Africa.

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