

Mr. Davis Kgosimolao Moshweunyane  
Independent Communications Authority  
of South Africa (ICASA)  
Private Bag XI0002  
Sandton 2146

Attention  
Mr Davis Kgosimolao Moshweunyane  
Email: [IMTLicensing@icasa.org.za](mailto:IMTLicensing@icasa.org.za)

Date: 19 October 2021

Dear Mr. Moshweunyane

**RE: NOTICE INVITING COMMENTS ON THE 1<sup>st</sup> DRAFT INFORMATION MEMORANDUM  
ON LICENSING THE IMT700, IMT800, IMT2600 AND IMT3500 BANDS**

This submission is made by the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) in response to the invitation by the Authority for interested stakeholders to submit written representations on the above mentioned matter regarding licensing of high demand spectrum. SARAO is a business unit of the National Research Foundation and it is responsible for overseeing radio astronomy in South Africa as well as coordinating Africa's involvement in the African VLBI Network (AVN).

SARAO congratulates the Authority on taking these steps towards licensing high demand spectrum and we believe that it will contribute towards universal service and access to broadband service, especially to remote and rural areas.

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The South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) is a National Facility managed by the National Research Foundation and incorporates all national radio astronomy telescopes and programmes. SARAO is responsible for implementing the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) in South Africa.

However, there are restrictions and prohibitions on spectrum use in the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Areas in the Northern Cape Province, and we would like to bring that to the attention of aspiring licensees so that they can take that into consideration in their business development plans. On these basis, we would appreciate and we believe it will be in the interest of stakeholders if the following text is added to Annexure A of the IM.

## 1.7 **Limitation and prohibitions of spectrum use in the Northern Cape Province**

- 1.7.1 Licensees, including the WOAN, must be aware and comply with the restrictions and prohibitions of spectrum use in the areas declared as radio astronomy advantage areas, in the Northern Cape Province.

We thank the Authority for granting the opportunity to make written submissions and we wish a successful completion of the licensing process.

Regards,



Mr Selaelo Matlhane

Manager: Spectrum and Telecoms

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