

RESPONSE FORMAT

COVER SHEET FOR RESPONSE TO NCA PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVERS OF FREE TO AIR DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TELEVISION IN GHANA

BASIC DETAILS

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DECLARATION

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response. It can be published in full on NCA's website, and I authorise NCA to make use of the information in this response to meet its legal requirements. If I have sent my response by email, NCA can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Name :

Michael Appiah

Signed (if hard copy)

Format for commenting on the document

Chapter ##	Section ##	Heading	Comment	Suggestion / Proposed Amendment
4	4.1.1	Spectrum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Good spectrum choice b. Plans must be put in place to accommodate other services in Bands IV/V c. Interferences sources need to be identified and mitigated. 	<p>The terrestrial television platform should use frequencies in Bands III (174-230 MHz) and IV/V (470-862 MHz) for the provision of broadcast television services. The frequency spectrum in Bands III and IV/V are particularly advantageous for certain types of services since they provide a good balance between coverage area for a certain transmitter power, including some lower power applications, and separation distance between transmitters. These frequencies have traditionally been reserved exclusively for broadcasters.</p> <p><u>Accommodate Other Future Services in Bands IV/V</u></p> <p>In some few years time, we believe that in Ghana just as many countries, the demand for access to these frequency bands will be strong from other service providers including telecom operators and technology firms. The propagation characteristics of the frequencies in Bands IV/V will prove to be particularly appealing to telecom operators for the provision of mobile broadband services which may include 84% of all Internet subscribers in the near future. Because it will be expensive to provide broadband service through a fixed telephone line in rural areas, telecom operators may call for the launch of mobile broadband services in these areas as a way to reduce the digital divide in Ghana. Currently, several national administrations in Europe have decided to allocate 72 MHz in Band V, in the frequency range from 790–862 MHz, for the provision of mobile telecom (IMT) services.</p> <p>Other applications should be accommodated to make use of the frequencies in Bands IV/V. Leading information technology firms such as Microsoft and Intel have called for the use of wireless broadband services and other such applications in the so-called “white spaces” where frequencies at a given location and at a given time are available for use.</p> <p>Other applications, such as WiMAX which provides wireless broadband access based in a local area, could also benefit from the frequencies in Bands IV/V. However, NCA must make a decision on the frequency allocation as well as</p>

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				<p>changes to the ITU's Radio Regulations.</p> <p><u>Interference Sources Identified & Mitigated</u> The frequencies in Bands IV/V have been (and is being) used for the provision of services ancillary to broadcasting (SAB/SAP), which includes such equipment as wireless microphones, and used extensively in the production of audiovisual content as well as in theatre, music and sporting events. Many of these products using these frequencies are currently found in Ghana. These frequencies are also, in some cases, reserved for emergency communication services, also known as public protection and disaster relief (PPDR). In short STB and DVB-T receivers should be able to mitigate interferences sources operating in Bands IV/V.</p>