

The Spectrum Management Master Plan, B.E. 2555 (2012)

The NBTC has prescribed the Spectrum Management Master Plan to be as the guideline for spectrum management, spectrum licensing as well as broadcasting and telecommunications businesses licensing and regulation. The Plan can be summarized as follows:

Vision

To manage the spectrum to achieve public interests at the national, regional and local levels with due regard to free and fair competition as well as the extensive and appropriate distribution of the spectrum utilization in various segments including education, culture, state security and other public interests.

Mission

To efficiently allocate, assign and regulate the spectrum utilization with due regard to public interests, business necessity, spectrum usage and technological advancement through certain, clear and reasonable criteria as well as transparent and fair process.

Goal

1) To build the international cooperation mechanism in spectrum management among related parties including, international organizations, international frequency coordination committee, regulators and related operators;

2) To develop criteria and timeframe for spectrum reframing for reassignment or utilization improvement;

3) To develop spectrum management regulations and mechanism for national security agencies;

4) To assign spectrum and prescribe spectrum usage regulations in Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR), case of emergency and other public services;

5) To set the transition plan for digital radio and television transmission;

6) To assign spectrum for public service and non-profit community users at least twenty percent of the spectrum to be licensed for broadcasting business in each area.

Strategy

The Spectrum Management Master Plan has defined the strategy and guideline regarding spectrum refarming as follows;

Refarming Strategy

The refarming guideline is described as follows:

1 In case of government, state enterprises, and other government agencies who allowing other operators to use their spectrum by granting permission, concession or contract which its legality was already examined by NBTC , after the end of their permission, concession or contract such spectrum shall be returned to the NBTC;

2 Those who have been legally licensed for the spectrum usage with the expiry dates shall return the spectrum after the end of their license;

3 For those who have been legally licensed for the spectrum usage with the expiry dates, the NBTC will set the expiry dates by considering public interest, business necessity and spectrum utilization:

3.1 In case of radio broadcasting service, the maximum period shall not exceed 5 years as from the date of the Spectrum Management Master Plan coming into force;

3.2 In case of television broadcasting service, the maximum period shall not exceed 10 years as from the date of the Spectrum Management Master Plan coming into force;

3.3 In case of telecommunication service and other services, the maximum period shall not exceed 15 years as from the date of the date of the Spectrum Management Master Plan

coming into force. However the permitted period shall not exceed expiry date of their telecommunication business license.

4 Spectrum refarming in any other cases will be as specified by the NBTC.

Table .1 Criteria and timeline for the spectrum refarming according to the Master Plan

Detail	Spectrum return time line
1) In case of the legal permission, concession or contract has definite expiry period	Spectrum shall be returned after the end of the permission, concession or contract
2) In case of legally obtaining spectrum license with on expiry period for spectrum usage	the maximum period shall not exceed 15 years as form the date of the Spectrum Management Master Plan coming into force. However the permitted period shall not exceed the expiry date of its telecommunications business license.