

The Honourable Minister,  
Directors  
All other protocols observed.

It is my pleasure and honour to present this morning the product of the work of the sub-committee on Frequency Spectrum Management Policy for Nigeria .

It is recognized worldwide that Frequency Spectrum is a national resource that must be diligently and efficiently managed. The frequency spectrum has in recent time assumed greater economic value as a result of its direct application in telecommunications, broadcasting, health care delivery and research. It is therefore important to develop comprehensive and clear guidelines to ensure the optimal utilization of this resource for the overall benefit of Nigerians.

In recognition of the foregoing, the Frequency Spectrum Management Sub-Committee was set up by the Minister of Communications in January 2002.

The Terms of reference for the committee were ;

- To study the report of the Telecom Sector Review Implementation Committee (TSRIC) sub-committee on frequency management and to adapt and expand it in order to develop a Frequency Management Policy for Nigeria
- To go through the telecom bill and ensure that Regulations required for effective frequency management are developed. The committee is to draft the necessary Regulations for publication as a separate byelaw.

In recognition of the fact that various organs and institutions utilize frequency spectrum in Nigeria, membership of the sub-committee comprised representatives of:

- Ministry of Communications
- Nigerian Communications Commission
- National Broadcasting Commission
- Bureau of Public Enterprises
- Private Telecom Operators

- Chairman of the frequency spectrum management sub-committee to the TSRIC

The Committee started meeting regularly from inception. The focus from inception was the Policy document because it was the general consensus that the Regulations will be guided by the Policy document. In view of the enormous task before the Committee, the Committee was divided into two sub committees namely;

- Sub-committee on Policy
- Sub-committee on Regulations.

At the end of its meetings in 2004, the Sub-Committee produced two documents viz;

- National Frequency Spectrum Management Policy
- Frequency Spectrum Management Regulations

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE POLICY**

The Policy which is divided into five chapters and a definition section, covered the following areas;

- Introduction
- Objectives
- Functions relating to Frequency Spectrum Management
- Structural Framework
- Policy Guidelines

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REGULATIONS**

The Regulations is made up of 24 paragraphs and one schedule. The major topics covered are

- Eligibility for Spectrum License
- Assignment of Frequencies
- Frequency Sharing
- Interference
- Fees etc,

I want to acknowledge Sir the support I received from all the members of the committee and thank them for their hard work and dedication during the course of this assignment. The members of the Committee are;

- Engr. Ernest Ndukwe - NCC (Chairman)
- Engr. (Mrs.) E. G. Gonda - MOC
- Mrs. Laetitia Akinlami - MOC
- Engr. Moses Damkor - MOC
- Mrs. Christie Ekweonu - FMOJ
- Engr. S. A. Bello - NCC
- Ms Josephine Amuwa - NCC
- Engr. Adamu Abdu - NBC
- Ms Rabi Saidu - NBC
- Ms Bimbo Soremekun - Myloid Telecoms
- Chief E. O. Fatoye - Multilinks Nig. Ltd
- Mrs. Alero Nwana - Mobitel Nig. Ltd
- HRH Igwe A. Otiji -
- Mr. Wale Ajesibutu - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technologies
- Mr. A. O. Ibeh - BPE
- Engr. K.N.Binga - MOC/Secretary

I also thank the consulting firm of Crimson Partners for their help in drafting the Regulations

In conclusion, it is my hope that these documents will be very useful for each of the organs responsible for management of frequency spectrum in managing this scarce resource effectively and efficiently and to achieve the objectives of the Government.

Thank you Sir for the opportunity you gave us to serve in this committee and may I on behalf of the members of the committee pledge our continue loyalty and support.

I also on behalf of the Committee hereby present the reports to you Sir.

Engr. Ernest C.A. Ndukwe  
CEO, NCC  
Chairman, Sub-Committee on Frequency Management Policy for Nigeria

13<sup>th</sup> May, 2005.