

PR 7/2016

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Contact:** Telecommunications Regulatory Commission  
**Telephone:** 468-4165

### **Commission Announces the Grant of Spectrum in the Spectrum Award 2016**

**23 August, 2016**– The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (*Commission*) is pleased to announce that today it has granted Frequency Authorisations to all three mobile operators CCT, Digicel and Flow for the spectrum they have been awarded in the Spectrum Award 2016.

On 26 May 2016, the Commission gave Notice of Consultation on the Modified Invitation to Apply for 700, 1900 MHz and AWS-1 Spectrum Award (*MITA*). The final MITA was published on 5 July, 2016, together with the Consultation Report. The deadline for registration for the Award was 12 July 2016. The three mobile operators in the Virgin Islands (CCT, Digicel and Flow) successfully registered for the Spectrum Award 2016 and applied for relevant spectrum in accordance with the Spectrum Award Rules.

On 16 August 2016 the Commission notified the successful applicants of the spectrum that they would be awarded. Today, we confirm that all of the operators are in compliance with the Rules and agreed Undertakings. Consequently, Frequency Authorisations were agreed and granted by the Commission to the operators today, 23 August 2016.

Each operator was successful with their first or second spectrum preferences in the Award. The award results are as follows:

CCT: 30 MHz of spectrum – 1865 to 1880 MHz Uplink and 1945 to 1960 Downlink

Digicel: 52 MHz of spectrum - 700 MHz Band: 776 – 787 Uplink and 746 – 757 Downlink

AWS-1 Band: 1725 – 1740 Uplink and 2125 – 2140 Downlink

Flow: 54 MHz of spectrum – 700 MHz Band: 704 – 716 Uplink and 734 – 746 Downlink

AWS-1 Band: 1740 – 1755 Uplink and 2140 – 2155 Downlink

The aim of the Award has been to provide the three mobile operators with spectrum they can use

to deliver high speed mobile broadband services using LTE technology. The implementation of this technology in the Virgin Islands will provide enterprises, consumers and citizens with better quality mobile broadband services and is in line with developments that have already occurred in North America and Europe and being implemented elsewhere across the Caribbean.

Guy Lester Malone, Chief Executive Officer of the Commission said “We are delighted to announce that the Spectrum Award 2016 process is now complete, spectrum usable for 4G technology has been formally granted to all of the operators. We are also pleased to confirm that each of the operators is in compliance with its obligations under relevant legislation and any agreed Undertakings. We would once again like to express the Commission’s appreciation for the care, professionalism and diligence that all of the operators have shown in the run up to the granting of the Spectrum and in the Spectrum Award process overall.”

###

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

1. The Commission is the independent regulator with responsibility for regulating the telecommunications sector of the Virgin Islands, protecting interests of users of telecommunications services, ensuring fair competition among operators of telecommunications networks and providers of telecommunications services, promoting the development of telecommunications throughout the Virgin Islands and advising the Minister of Communications and Works on telecommunications policies.
2. Notice of the grant of the formal Frequency Authorisations will be published shortly in accordance with the Telecommunications Act, 2006 and made available for public inspection at the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission’s office at 27 Fish Lock Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.