



RESULTS OF THE MULTI-BAND RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM AWARD PROCESS FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND SERVICES IN UGANDA – JUNE 2023

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Uganda Communications Commission (the Commission) published an invite, on the 25th of May 2023, to interested persons to apply for radio spectrum under a competitive multi-band award process for the deployment of broadband services in Uganda.
- 1.2. Five (5) applications were received by the Commission by the deadline stipulated in the invite. Feedback was also received from two (2) other interested persons.
- 1.3. The Commission thus wishes to present the results of the competitive spectrum award process.

RESULTS OF THE SPECTRUM AWARD PROCESS

- 2.1. The applications received are highlighted in the Table 1 below.

Table 1: List of applicants and their bands of interest

#	Applicant	Frequency band of interest
1	Airtel Uganda Limited	700MHz or 800MHz (with preference for the latter), 3500MHz and the E-Band (71-76/81-86GHz)
2	Ala Technology (T/A Intracom)	700MHz, 800MHz, 1800MHz, 2600MHz and 3500MHz
3	MTN Uganda Limited	700MHz, 2300MHz, 2600MHz and E-Band (71-76/81-86GHz)
4	Tangerine Limited (T/A Lyca Mobile)	800MHz and 2600MHz
5	Uganda Telecommunications Corporation Limited (UTCL)	700MHz and 3500MHz

- 2.2. Following the evaluation of the received submissions against the criteria set out in the invite, Airtel and MTN emerged successful to be assigned spectrum as highlighted in the Table 2 below.

Table 2: Spectrum awarded to Airtel and MTN.

Band	Amount of Spectrum awarded	
	MTN Uganda Limited	Airtel Uganda Limited
700 MHz (FDD)	2(2x5)	
800 MHz (FDD)	-	2(2x5)
2300 MHz (TDD)	1x100	-
2600 MHz (FDD)	2x10	-
3500MHz (TDD)	-	1x100
71-76/81-86 GHz	2(2x250)	2(2x250)

- 2.3. The right to use the above spectrum is conditional on the respective

operators using the respective spectrum, in combination with their other current spectrum holding(s), to provide broadband services with the following requirements:

- 2.3.1. **specifically,**
 - i). for the award of spectrum in 700MHz or 800MHz, provide
 - a) indoor broadband coverage with signal levels of -95dBm within Kampala district (*Central, Kawempe, Nakawa, Makindye, and Rubaga Divisions*) within 12 months effective the date of spectrum assignment.
 - b) 90% geographical broadband coverage in the Karamoja region (*Kaabong, Abim, Nopak, Moroto, Kotido, Nakapiripirit, and Amudat*) by 2025.
 - ii). for the award in the 2300MHz, 2600MHz, 3300MHz or 3500MHz, provide throughput of an average Street level (outdoor) downlink speed of 50Mbps in Kampala district within twelve (12) months effective the date of spectrum assignment. MTN committed to delivering an average downlink speed of 60Mbps by 2028 in Kampala district.
- 2.3.2. **in addition to the requirements in 2.3.1 above, provide**
 - i). broadband internet in at least 90% geographical coverage of the territory of Uganda (*including water bodies*) by the 5th anniversary of the date of grant of the National Telecommunications operator (NTO) License under which the Radio Frequency Spectrum Authorisation is being granted (2025).
 - ii). an average street-level downlink internet speed on handheld mobile terminals of 25Mbps in the Great Metropolitan Area (*Nsangi, Goma, Mukono Town Council, Mukono Kawuga, Kira, Nangabo, Nabweeru, Gombe, Wakiso, Ssisa, Katabi and Entebbe Municipality*) by 2025. MTN committed to delivering an average downlink speed of 30Mbps for Greater Kampala by 2028.
 - iii). an average street-level (outdoor) downlink internet speed on handheld mobile terminals of 15Mbps in all other district centres (in a coverage radius of 8km) to be achieved by the 5th Anniversary of the date of grant of the associated NTO license. MTN committed to deliver an average downlink of 18Mbps by 2027.
 - iv). reducing the cost of 1GB of mobile internet to less than Uganda Shilling 2100 by 2025;
 - v). reducing the cost of 1Mbps of fixed wireless internet connection to less than Uganda Shilling 106,400 by 2025.