

International Telecommunication Union

**ITU-R**  
Radiocommunication Sector of ITU

**Recommendation ITU-R SM.1603-2**  
(08/2014)

**Spectrum redeployment as a method  
of national spectrum management**

**SM Series**  
**Spectrum management**



## Foreword

The role of the Radiocommunication Sector is to ensure the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio-frequency spectrum by all radiocommunication services, including satellite services, and carry out studies without limit of frequency range on the basis of which Recommendations are adopted.

The regulatory and policy functions of the Radiocommunication Sector are performed by World and Regional Radiocommunication Conferences and Radiocommunication Assemblies supported by Study Groups.

## Policy on Intellectual Property Right (IPR)

ITU-R policy on IPR is described in the Common Patent Policy for ITU-T/ITU-R/ISO/IEC referenced in Annex 1 of Resolution ITU-R 1. Forms to be used for the submission of patent statements and licensing declarations by patent holders are available from <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/patents/en> where the Guidelines for Implementation of the Common Patent Policy for ITU-T/ITU-R/ISO/IEC and the ITU-R patent information database can also be found.

### Series of ITU-R Recommendations

(Also available online at <http://www.itu.int/publ/R-REC/en>)

Series	Title
<b>BO</b>	Satellite delivery
<b>BR</b>	Recording for production, archival and play-out; film for television
<b>BS</b>	Broadcasting service (sound)
<b>BT</b>	Broadcasting service (television)
<b>F</b>	Fixed service
<b>M</b>	Mobile, radiodetermination, amateur and related satellite services
<b>P</b>	Radiowave propagation
<b>RA</b>	Radio astronomy
<b>RS</b>	Remote sensing systems
<b>S</b>	Fixed-satellite service
<b>SA</b>	Space applications and meteorology
<b>SF</b>	Frequency sharing and coordination between fixed-satellite and fixed service systems
<b>SM</b>	<b>Spectrum management</b>
<b>SNG</b>	Satellite news gathering
<b>TF</b>	Time signals and frequency standards emissions
<b>V</b>	Vocabulary and related subjects

*Note: This ITU-R Recommendation was approved in English under the procedure detailed in Resolution ITU-R 1.*

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## RECOMMENDATION ITU-R SM.1603-2

**Spectrum redeployment\* as a method of national spectrum management**

(Question ITU-R 216/1)

(2003-2012-2014)

**Scope**

This Recommendation gives guidelines for spectrum redeployment issues.

**Keywords**

Guidelines, national spectrum management, spectrum redeployment, spectrum refarming.

**Related ITU Recommendations, Reports**

Reports ITU-R SM.2015, ITU-R SM.2012 and ITU-R SM.2153.

NOTE – In every case the latest edition of the Recommendation/Report in force should be used.

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

*considering*

- a) that all administrations need to make spectrum available for new radio applications and for increased use of existing applications;
- b) that as the use of the spectrum increases it may become progressively more difficult for administrations to find suitable spectrum for radio applications;
- c) that making spectrum available for some new applications may require redeployment to other frequency bands or redeployment to new technologies (i.e. to decreased bandwidth or analogue to digital);
- d) that redeploying licence-exempt bands will be complicated by lack of records of users;
- e) the experiences of administrations in spectrum redeployment techniques would provide information on the practice;
- f) that frequency management and thus redeployment of spectrum is a national responsibility and there is a need for guidelines by collating the experiences of administrations in spectrum redeployment techniques,

*recommends*

**1** that the following definition for spectrum redeployment be recognized as:

“Spectrum redeployment (spectrum refarming) is a combination of administrative, financial and technical measures aimed at removing users or equipment of the existing frequency assignments either completely or partially from a particular frequency band. The frequency band may then be allocated to the same or different service(s). These measures may be implemented in short, medium or long time-scales.”;

**2** that Annex 1 should be used as a guide for national consideration of redeployment issues.

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\* Also referred to as “refarming”.