### RADIO SPECTRUM AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Proposed Revision to HKCA 1082 Performance Specification for New Radio (NR) Base Station

#### **Purpose**

This paper proposes the adoption of the following revised HKCA specification:

HKCA 1082 Performance Specification for New Radio (NR)
Issue 2 Base Station

#### **Background**

- 2. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology ("MIIT") announced in June 2023 that the whole or part of the 6425 7125 MHz band ("6/7 GHz band") would be identified for International Mobile Telecommunications ("IMT") services in the Mainland with effect from 1 July 2023 to promote fifth generation ("5G") and the future sixth generation ("6G") mobile communications technology and industry innovation<sup>1</sup>.
- 3. In the World Radiocommunication Conference held by the International Telecommunication Union ("ITU") in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, from 20 November to 15 December 2023 ("WRC-23"), the 6/7 GHz band has been identified for IMT. In order to ensure protection for the fixed-satellite service (Earth-to-space), WRC-23 has added Resolution 220 to the ITU Radio Regulations<sup>2</sup>, which defines the requirement on the level of expected power spectral density emitted by an IMT base station as a function of the vertical angle above the horizon.
- 4. On 1 March 2024, the Communications Authority ("CA") and the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development issued a joint statement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The announcement of MIIT (in Chinese only) is available at: https://www.gov.cn/lianbo/bumen/202306/content 6888759.htm

The ITU Radio Regulations are available at: <a href="https://www.itu.int/hub/publication/r-reg-rr-2024">https://www.itu.int/hub/publication/r-reg-rr-2024</a>

announcing the arrangements for assignment of the spectrum in the 6/7 GHz band for the provision of public mobile services and the related spectrum utilisation fee<sup>3</sup>. Thereafter, an auction of the radio spectrum in the 6/7 GHz band was conducted in November 2024, with three mobile network operators successfully bidding for 300 MHz of spectrum in the 6/7 GHz band.

- 5. The current issue of HKCA 1082 (Issue 1) covers 5G NR base stations by drawing reference to the harmonised European standards ETSI EN 301 908-1 and ETSI EN 301 908-24 published by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute ("ETSI"), and the standards 3GPP TS 38.141-1 and TS 38.141-2 published by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project ("3GPP"). It covers all the existing frequency bands for IMT services in Hong Kong, except the newly auctioned 6/7 GHz band.
- 6. 3GPP introduced in June 2022 the 6/7 GHz band as one of the IMT bands for NR to Release 17 of the 3GPP specifications, including 3GPP TS 38.141-1 and TS 38.141-2, while the 6/7 GHz band has not yet been included in the relevant ETSI standards.

#### **Proposed Revision to HKCA 1082**

- 7. Having considered the frequency bands and technical requirements, revision to the existing specification HKCA 1082 is proposed to include the 6/7 GHz band for mobile services in Hong Kong.
- 8. Salient points of the proposed revision to specification HKCA 1082 are given below
  - (a) the 6/7 GHz band is added to the list of operating frequency bands; and
  - (b) reference is made to Resolution 220 of the ITU Radio Regulations for the requirement on the level of expected power spectral density as a function of the vertical angle above the horizon.

The proposed revised specification HKCA 1082 is given at the **Annex**.

## **Certification Requirement**

9. NR base station equipment is classified under the Compulsory Certification Scheme of the Hong Kong Telecommunications Equipment

The joint statement is available at: https://www.coms-auth.hk/filemanager/statement/en/upload/632/ca statement 20240301.pdf

Evaluation and Certification Scheme. Such equipment must be certified before it can be used in Hong Kong.

## World Trade Organisation ("WTO") Notification

10. As the proposed revised specification HKCA 1082 is based on open standards, notification to the WTO is not required.

#### Recommendation

11. It is recommended that the proposed revised specification HKCA 1082 be submitted to CA for adoption.

## **Advice Sought**

12. Members are invited to offer comments on the recommendation above.

# Office of the Communications Authority January 2025