



**Resolution No. 6 of 2023**

## **The Schedule of Fees Regulation**

**Publication Date: 21 September 2023**

**Resolution No. (6) of 2023**  
**Promulgating the Schedule of Fees Regulation**

**The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority's Board of Directors,**

After perusal of:

The Telecommunications Law as promulgated by Legislative Decree No. 48 of 2002, as amended by the Legislative Decree No. 38 of 2017,

The Resolution No. 7 of 2017 of issuing the Schedule of Fees Regulation,

And on the basis of the submission made by the General Director of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority,

And after the approval of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority's Board of Directors,

The following is decided:

**The First Article**

The Schedule of Fees Regulation attached herewith is hereby being approved and adopted.

**The Second Article**

This Schedule of Fees Regulation shall not apply with regard to radio frequency spectrum, Telecommunications Networks and services used by the Bahrain Defence Forces and all security organs in the Kingdom pursuant to the Second Article of Legislative Decree No, 48 of 2002 promulgating the Telecommunications Law.

**The Third Article**

The Resolution No. (7) of 2017 of issuing the Schedule of Fees Regulation shall be repealed.

**The Fourth Article**

The official Arabic version of the Resolution and Regulation attached hereto shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force the following day of the date of publication.

**Chairman of the Authority's Board of Directors**  
**Eng. Mariam Ahmed Jumaan**

Issued on 17 September 2023

## **Article 1**

### **Definitions**

For the purpose of this Regulation, the following terms and expressions shall have the same meaning as attributed to it in the Telecommunications Law unless the context requires otherwise and without prejudice to the terms defined in the Radio Regulations issued by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU):

**Allotment (of a radio frequency or radio frequency channel):** an authorization given by the Authority for one or more Radiocommunications Stations to use a radio frequency or radio frequency channel under specified conditions in identified geographical area. This understanding is adopted for the purpose of the Regulation.

**Annual Frequency Licence Fees:** the fees to be paid to the Authority on an annual basis for the usage of radio frequency spectrum Assigned or Allotted.

**Area Coverage Factor (ACF):** in radio frequency the 'area sterilized' refers to the area over which a given transmitting station radiates. Intuitively, a wireless communication between any two pieces of Equipment, whether fixed or mobile, requires a link between both. The assignment area will often be a radial area around the base station reflecting both the transmission coverage of the base station and the area of likely interference caused by the mobile stations.

**Assignment (of a radio frequency spectrum):** an authorization given by the Authority for a station to use a radio frequency or radio frequency channel under specified conditions.

**Assignment Fee:** in the context of numbering, refers to a fee which applies when a Licensee is being assigned a number block.

**Earth Station:** a station located either on the earth's surface or within the major portion of the earth's atmosphere and intended for communication with one or more space stations; or with one or more stations by means of reflecting satellites or other objects in space, which also covers the VSAT station and earth station in motion ("ESIM").

**Interference Investigation:** the field service which the Authority provides to radio telecommunications network upon request of a radio spectrum user or any other entity.

**Law:** the Telecommunications Law issued by Legislative Decree No. (48) of 2002.

**Low Opportunity Cost Band:** bands that would be used, for example but not limited to, for satellite control or for scientific use as defined in the ITU Radio Regulations and/or Bahrain's National Frequency Plan or as may be otherwise defined by the Authority. The use of Low Opportunity Cost Bands would be on the basis of the user not causing harmful interference.

**Number Block:** means a sequence of contiguous numbers with the same leading digits used as the basis for allocating numbers to operators. In this Plan a Number Block consists of 1,000 or 10,000 numbers as identified in the Plan for a specific Number Range, except in cases where the Plan explicitly states that numbers are assigned individually (in such cases a Number Block is equal to 1 number).

**Satellite User Terminal Device:** any device used by an end-user or earth station in motion (ESIM) or any other devices attached to it enabling communication with satellites which is considered as an earth station monitoring its transmission and control through the licensee's telecommunications facilities.

**Short-Range Devices (SRD):** radio devices that offers a low risk of interference with other radio services, usually because their transmitted power and hence their range is low. SRD are essentially low power Radiocommunication systems. Examples are access control (including door and gate openers); alarms and movement detectors; closed-circuit television (CCTV); cordless audio devices, including wireless microphones; industrial control; local area networks (LAN); medical implants; UWB sensors & radars (such as ground probing radar); remote control; radio frequency identification (RFID); road transport telematics; or telemetry, etc.

**Special Events:** a distinct type of events and is only available to private users (any Person who has been granted a Frequency Licence other than a Public Telecommunications Operator).

**Spectrum Usage Rights Fees:** the fees imposed by the Authority in exchange for the acquisition of radio frequency spectrum licence within the framework of specific allotment processes such as competitive tendering, auction or direct attribution. They are not covered by this Regulation and do not exempt the licensee from a Frequency Licence Fee.

**Standard Band:** bands that are normally used for commercial satellite services or satellite usage in bands with potential high terrestrial use/demand.

**Terminal Devices:** any device used by an end user, enabling communication or a relevant component thereof which is intended to be connected directly or indirectly by any means whatsoever to interfaces of communications networks.

**Unit Price:** a fixed amount used in the formula for determining Fees (where applicable) as is expressed in Bahrain Dinars per 1 MHz of bandwidth per year.

## **Article 2**

### **Telecommunications Initial, Application and Renewal Fees for Service Licences**

- (a) The Telecommunications Licence application fee is set at BHD500, it is a non-refundable fee, which will apply to the initial application and renewal of a Telecommunications Licence.
- (b) The application fee for a Telecommunications Licence shall be paid promptly following the submission of an application for the grant of a Licence and shall be non-refundable in the event that the application is not successful.
- (c) The initial Licence fees and renewal Licence fees are set out in schedule (1) attached to this Regulation.
- (d) Individual Licenses for VSAT services issued by the Authority shall fall within the category of Individual Licence for Earth Station Services.
- (e) Initial and renewal Licence fees are payable promptly upon notification from the Authority that the Licence application or the Licence renewal request is approved and before such Licence is issued.

## **Article 3**

### **The Annual Licence Fee based on the Gross Annual Turnover**

The annual turn-over based fee is currently 1% of the gross annual turnover of the Licensee resulting from activities covered by the Licence, or any percentage set by the Law.

## **Article 4**

### **Frequency Licence Fees**

#### **(a) General Provisions**

- 1. Spectrum Usage Rights Fees are out of the scope of this Regulation as they are addressed within the framework of specific allotment processes (competitive auction, comparative hearings, or direct attribution).

2. Charging of Annual and temporary Frequency Licence Fees by the Authority shall be per Assignment/Allotment. i.e. per unidirectional link.
3. Except for station Licence fees, the Annual Frequency Licence Fees are due from the issuance of the Frequency Licence and pro-rated, i.e. payable for the number of months assigned or allotted, rounded up to the nearest integer.
4. Except in the event of the termination of an annual Frequency Licence for fixed point-to-point links upon the request of a Licensee, the Authority shall not reimburse any portion of annual or temporary Frequency Licence fee. In such case, the Authority shall issue a credit note to equivalent to the unexpired term of the Frequency Licence. The credit note shall be valid for a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance of the credit note.
5. Application fees are payable upon the submission of an application for a Frequency Licence and shall not be refunded irrespective of whether the application was successful or not.
6. Any Frequency Licence, renewable on an annual basis, will be invoiced for a further term of one (1) year unless that Frequency Licence has been cancelled or modified. Therefore, the Authority must be formally notified by 30th November of any cancellation or modification of existing Frequency Licences. Only notifications submitted after 1st of January will be considered. Provided that in the event that an invoice has not been paid by the due date, then that Licence shall be ipso facto revoked.
7. If a Licensee wishes to change its annual Frequency Licence to a temporary Frequency Licence for the next calendar year or vice versa, it shall inform the Authority of such change by submitting an application form no later than 1 calendar month before the expiry of its Frequency Licence. Failure to submit an application on time will result in the Licensee becoming liable to pay the relevant Annual Frequency Licence Fees.

8. The fees charged for a frequency licence to (i) operate an Earth Station or (ii) provide satellite-based services through Satellite User Terminals Devices in Bahrain will be based on the Area Coverage Factor ("ACF") set out in the schedules (2) and (3) attached to this Regulation.
9. A Licensee operating on a Standard Band shall take all measures to operate without causing interference to any other user of the spectrum, the Authority may, on its own discretion, consider that such band is operating on a low opportunity cost band.. If an interference is not remedied, the Authority has the right to request the Licensee to stop transmitting on the frequency causing interference. Following the request to stop transmitting, the frequency may be made available and the fees will be set to that appropriate for Standard Band operation.
10. The Authority provides an option to obtain receiver protection subject to paying a charge using the ACF set out in the schedule (2) and (3) attached to this Regulation.
11. Where Earth Stations and Satellite User Terminals Devices operate under the same frequency (in both directions, Tx & Rx), such Earth Station will be treated as Satellite User Terminals Devices and therefore the Frequency Licence fees will be calculated in accordance with schedule (3) attached to this Regulation.

**(b) Application and Modification Fees applicable to Frequency Licences**

1. Except for Special Events, all applications for Frequency Licences are subject to the payment of an application fee of BHD30 per Assignment/Allotment. For station Licences, one application shall be limited to one station.
2. Any request from the Licensee to add new Radiocommunications Equipment to his private network shall be subject to the payment of a fee amounting to BHD30.
3. In the event of any change made to an existing Frequency Licence within the applicable year a modification fee of BHD30 is payable.
4. In the event of the Licensee requesting to issue a replacement of a lost or damaged certificate/Licence, a fee of BHD10 is charged for each certificate/Licence.

### (c) Annual Frequency Licence Fees

1. With the exception of station Licence fee, which are set separately (in paragraph (f) of this Article), all Annual Frequency Licence Fees are calculated based on the following formula:

$$\text{Annual Frequency Licence Fee} = \text{Unit Price} \times \text{BW} \times \text{FREQ} \times \text{DF} \times \text{ACF}$$

2. Where the parameters are defined as follows:
  - i. **Unit Price** = A fixed amount expressed in Bahrain Dinars per 1 MHz of bandwidth per year.
  - ii. **BW**: Bandwidth (in MHz or part thereof);
  - iii. **FREQ**: Frequency Factor reflecting the frequency band of the Assignment/Allotment.
  - iv. **DF**: Demand Factor;
  - v. **ACF**: Area Coverage Factor.
3. The values of parameters used in the formulas are detailed in Appendix 1 of this Regulation.

### (d) Temporary Frequency Licence Fee

1. As temporary Frequency Licence fee, an amount of 1/12 of the annual Frequency Licence fee should be charged on a monthly basis. In addition, the application fee will be charged once for each temporary period.
2. The temporary Frequency Licence fee is set based on the following formula:

$$\text{Temporary Frequency Licence Fee} = [(\text{Unit Price} \times \text{BW} \times \text{FREQ} \times \text{DF} \times \text{ACF}) / 12] \times [\text{Duration of temporary Frequency Licence (in number of months, rounded up to a whole month)}]$$

3. The values of parameters in the formula of the temporary Frequency Licence fee are the same as defined for Annual Frequency Licence Fees formula.
4. The minimum duration for a temporary assignment is one (1) calendar month and the maximum is eleven (11) calendar months, non-renewable.
5. The application fee shall be paid at the beginning of each period of a temporary Assignment.
6. In case of any modification of the Frequency Licence within the temporary period, a modification fee of BHD30 is charged. The Authority reserves the right to reject a request for temporary Assignment/Allotment on the grounds of congestion and/or non-availability during the requested period.

**(e) Minimum Fee**

1. When the result of the formula used to calculate the Annual Frequency Licence Fees is below the minimum fee, the minimum fee applies for the Frequency Licence.
2. The minimum fee is set at the fixed value of 1% of the unit price per Frequency Assignment.

**(f) Station Licence Fees**

1. The Annual Frequency Licence Fees for the categories of station Licence are set out in schedule (4) attached to this Regulation.
2. The fees for the categories of stations in schedule (4) attached to this Regulation are payable for the calendar year irrespective of the application date.

**(g) Temporary Frequency Licence Fees for Special Events (Private Users)**

The temporary Frequency Licence for Special Events is only available for private users and is applicable for a non-renewable maximum period of thirty (30) days or per visit for the diplomatic entities. The corresponding fees is set according to schedule (5) attached to this Regulation.

## **Article 5**

### **Application Fee for Interference Investigation**

- (a) Any Licensee requesting an investigation on alleged interference cases shall pay a fee for interference investigation.
- (b) The fee for Interference Investigation is set at BHD100 and is non-refundable.

## **Article 6**

### **Technical Support Fee**

- (a) Any Person requesting technical support from the Authority which involves the deployment of its technical team, and/or monitoring equipment, and/or portable inspection station shall pay a technical support fee.
- (b) The technical support fee is based on the following formula:

**Technical Support Fee** = number of days × BHD 100 (fraction of a day is rounded up to a whole day)

## **Article 7**

### **Numbering Fees**

- (a) An application fee of BHD25 shall be payable for each application made for a reservation or an assignment of a Number Block. For the avoidance of doubt, any request for modification of a Number Block reservation or assignment is considered as an application.
- (b) The Assignment Fee per 8-digit number is set at BHD0.100 per annum. The Assignment Fee will be increased by a factor of 10 for each one-digit reduction in

length of the number. Hence, for a 3-digit short code number, the applicable assignment fee is BHD10,000 per annum.

- (c) The Assignment Fee for any number that is in excess of 8 digits is BHD0.010 (10 Fils) per annum.
- (d) The reservation fee is set at 80% of the Assignment Fee.
- (e) Assignment fees and reservation fees are payable in advance on a quarterly basis. However, the Authority reserves the right to modify the payment terms in the future.
- (f) The numbering fees is set out in schedule (6) attached to this Regulation.

## **Article 8**

### **Type Approval Fees**

- (a) The type approval Fees are payable in respect of schedule (7) attached to this Regulation.
- (b) Fees are payable as per schedule (7) attached to this Regulation irrespective of whether the application was successful or not. The type approval certificate shall be valid for a period of three (3) years.
- (c) The modification fee is charged in the event of any change made to a type approval certificate that has been issued by the Authority.
- (d) The renewal fee is charged in the event that a type approval certificate needs to be renewed without any changes thereto. The type approval certificate which has not been renewed for two (2) years will be treated as a new issuance.
- (e) A fee of BHD10 is payable in respect of an application for the issuance of a non-objection certificate (NOC) (or electronic approval). A non-objection certificate is valid for three (3) months and may only be used once.

## **Article 9**

### **Radio Equipment Dealers Licence Fee**

- (a) An annual fee of BHD200 is charged for the issuance of a radio equipment dealers licence despite the date where the application is made. This licence granted to trade (import, sell and maintain) wireless devices, specifically private mobile radio (PMR) equipment and fixed wireless (microwave) equipment.
- (b) Holder of the radio equipment dealers licence shall notify the Authority in writing for the cancellation or modification of the said licence before the 30th November of any calendar year. If such licence is not cancelled or modified, the Authority shall issue an invoice covering the licence fee for the subsequent year shall be issued. The licence will be cancelled if the holder of the radio equipment dealer licence does not pay the renewal fees on time.

## **Article 10**

### **Public Radiocommunications Station (Mast and Towers) Sites Fees**

- (a) The fees for the review of applications and issuance of the final permit for the installation of each public Radiocommunications Station shall be in accordance with schedule (8) attached to this Regulation.
- (b) In cases where two or more Licensee share a new public Radiocommunications Station, the initiating operator shall be responsible for the payment of the fee set forth under paragraph (a) of this section and may recover part of such fee from the sharing Licensee in proportion to its use of such station.
- (c) Licensee shall pay to the Authority fees for the review of applications and issuance of the final permit for the upgrade of each existing public Radiocommunications Station set out in schedule (9) attached to this Regulation.
- (d) In cases of sharing of existing public Radiocommunications Stations, the requesting Licensee shall be required to pay the fee set forth under paragraph (c) of this Article.
- (e) Licensee shall pay to the Authority the fees listed in schedule (10) attached to this Regulation per public Radiocommunications Station for the performance of annual compliance audit to ensure its compliance with the applicable regulations. The fees of non-compliant public Radiocommunications Station with zoning

requirements shall be applicable in accordance with the rectification plan issued by the Authority.

- (f) In cases where two or more Licensee share a public Radiocommunications Station, the owning Licensee shall be responsible for the payment of the fee set forth under point (e) of this section and may recover part of such fee from the sharing Licensee in proportion to its use of such station.

## **Article 11**

### **Exemptions**

- (a) The following are exempted from the payment of Frequency Licence fees:
  - 1. Public services receive-only equipment, including, but not limited to terrestrial and satellite TV and Radio receivers, GPS.
  - 2. Approved Short range devices (SRDs).
  - 3. Frequencies used by amateur, standard marine channels, exclusive frequencies for radio location service & exclusive frequencies for radio navigation service.
  - 4. Frequencies used under the Innovation Licence for testing and innovation purposes.
  - 5. Users of Satellite Terminals and ESIMS only to the extent that they utilize spectrum in respect of which frequency licence fees have already been paid by a frequency licence holder.
- (b) Exemption from the payment of Frequency Licence fees remains without prejudice to the duty to pay application or modification fees with regard to the relevant Frequency Licence.

## The Schedule of Fees Imposed by the Authority on Licenses and other Services

### Schedule 1: Initial Licence Fees and Renewal Licence Fees

	Licence Category	Fees (in BHD)
1	Individual Licence for Earth Station Services	5,000
2	Individual Licence for International Telecommunications Facilities	20,000
3	Individual Licence for International Telecommunications Services	10,000
4	Individual Licence for National Fixed Services	35,000
5	Individual Internet Exchange Licence	5,000
6	Class Licence for Internet Services	5,000
7	Class Licence for Value Added Services	1,000
8	Individual Licence for Mobile Virtual Network Operator and/or Enabler	5,000
9	Fixed Telecommunications Infrastructure Network Licence	35,000

### Schedule 2: Area Coverage Factor for Gateway

	Options	Tx	Rx
1	Standard Band with receiver protection	ACF NGSO <sup>1</sup> - GSO <sup>2</sup>	ACF NGSO- GSO
2	Standard Band no receiver protection	ACF NGSO- GSO	ACF = 0
3	Low Opportunity Cost Band with receiver protection	ACF = 0.07	ACF NGSO- GSO
4	Low Opportunity Cost Band no receiver protection	ACF = 0.07	ACF = 0

<sup>1</sup> “**NGSO**” means Non-Geostationary Orbit.

<sup>2</sup> “**GSO**” means Geostationary Satellite Orbit.

### Schedule 3: Area Coverage Factor for Terminals

	Options	Tx	Rx
1	Standard Band with receiver protection	ACF = 1	ACF = 1
2	Standard Band no receiver protection	ACF = 1	ACF = 0
3	Low Opportunity Cost Band with receiver protection	ACF = 0.07	ACF = 1
4	Low Opportunity Cost Band no receiver protection	ACF = 0.07	ACF = 0

### Schedule 4: Station Licence Fees

	Licence	Fee (in BHD)
1	Marine ship station Licence (private)	10
2	Marine ship station Licence (commercial)	100
3	Aircraft station Licence	100
4	Coast station Licence	40
5	Amateur station Licence	10

### Schedule 5: Special Events Temporary Frequency Licence Fees for Private Users

	Bandwidth	Fee (BHD)
1	0 – 1 MHz	25 per Assignment/Allotment
2	> 1MHz	25 per MHz per Assignment/Allotment

### Schedule 6: Reservation Fees and Assignment Fees for Numbers

Type	Reservation Fee (BHD)	Assignment Fee (BHD)	Fee basis
Application	25	25	one-time per application
Per 9 digit or more number	0.008	0.010	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)
Per 8 digit number	0.080	0.100	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)
Per 7-digit number	0.800	1	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)
Per 6-digit number	8	10	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)
Per 5-digit number	80	100	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)
Per 4-digit number	800	1,000	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)
Per 3-digit number	8,000	10,000	Annually pro-rated per day (from the day of reservation/assignment)

### Schedule 7: Type Approval Fees

	Category	Application Fee (BHD)	Renewal Fee (BHD)	Modification Fee (BHD)
1	Short Range Devices	50	10	40
2	Telecommunications Equipment (except Short Range Devices and Terminal Devices)	100	10	80
3	Terminal Devices	50	10	40

**Schedule 8: Fees for Issuance of the Final Permit for Installation of  
Public Radiocommunications Station**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Type of Public Radiocommunications Station</b>	<b>Fees of Public Radiocommunications Station (BHD)</b>
1	Lattice Mast	100
2	Guyed Mast	100
3	Monopole	100
4	Rooftop Mast	100
5	Stub Mast	25
6	Wall Mount	25
7	Temporary Public Radiocommunications Station	50
8	Street works	25
9	Small-scale	25
10	Camouflaged	25

**Schedule 9: Fees for issuance of the Final Permit for upgrading of  
Public Radiocommunications Stations**

	<b>Type of upgrade or modification</b>	<b>Fee (BHD)</b>
1	Sharing of an existing public Radiocommunications Station	25
2	Structural modifications public Radiocommunications Station	25
3	Modification to public Radiocommunications Station that may affect health and safety of the public or the visual impact of such station	25

### Schedule 10: Annual Compliance Fees of Public Radiocommunications Stations

No.	Type of Public Radiocommunications Station	Annual Compliance Fees (BHD) of Public Radiocommunications Stations	
		Compliant with Zoning Table*	Non-compliant with Zoning Table*
1	Lattice Mast	50	425
2	Guyed Mast	50	425
3	Monopole	50	425
4	Rooftop Mast	50	425
5	Stub Mast	10	Nil
6	Wall Mount	10	Nil
7	Temporary Public Radiocommunications Station	50 (per week or fraction of week deployed)	
8	Street works	10	Nil
9	Small-scale	10	Nil
10	Camouflaged	10	Nil

## **Appendix 1**

### **Value of Parameters in the Formula**

1. Appendix 1 describes the parameters of the formula for determining the amount of annual and temporary Frequency Licence fees in accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of Article 4 of this Regulation.
2. The Unit Price is set at BHD7,000 per MHz of bandwidth per year.
3. The bandwidth ("BW") is the size of the frequency Assignment/Allotment expressed in MHz.
4. The frequency factor ("FREQ") differs according to the frequency band in which the frequency Assignment/Allotment is requested:

**Table 1: Frequency Factors**

<b>From frequency (in MHz)</b>	<b>To frequency (in MHz)</b>	<b>Value of Frequency Factor ("FREQ")</b>
0.003	3	1.20
3	30	1.00
30	300	0.80
300	1,000	0.50
1,000	3,000	0.40
3,000	5,000	0.30
5,000	10,000	0.25
10,000	20,000	0.18
20,000	30,000	0.10
30,000	60,000	0.05
60,000	Above 60,000	0.01

5. The Demand Factor (“DF”) is determined according to the following table:

**Table 2: Demand Factors**

Applicable Sub-Bands		
From (MHz)	to (MHz)	Demand Factor
137.000	144.000	1.50
146.000	149.900	1.50
150.050	156.490	1.50
156.560	156.760	1.50
156.840	174.000	1.50
230.000	312.000	1.50
312.000	328.600	2.00
335.400	470.000	2.00
21,200.000	23,600.000	1.50
24,500.000	26,500.000	1.50
37,000.000	39,500.000	2.90
40,500.000	43,500.000	2.90
71,000.000	76,000.000	0.33
81,000.000	86,000.000	0.33

6. The demand factor reflects the demand for a particular spectrum band; the default value is 1 for bands and sub-bands not indicated in table (2).

7. The Area Coverage Factor (“ACF”) is determined according to table (3).

**Table 3: Area Coverage Factors**

	Description of ACF	ACF Values
1	ACF for fixed point-to-point links	0.05
2	ACF for Transmitting Earth Stations (GSO)	0.07
3	ACF for Transmitting Earth Stations (nGSO)	0.35

4	ACF for Receiving Earth Stations (GSO)	0.035
5	ACF for Receiving Earth Stations (nGSO)	0.175
6	ACF for all other cases except the above	1

8. Point (6) of table (3) from this Appendix includes satellite user terminals and ESIMs. Satellite user terminal or ESIM is an Earth Station whose transmission is monitored and controlled by a network control facility of a Licensed Operator.
9. The Authority may at their own discretion amend the values of the tables.