16 August 2023

Chairman,
Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission
MCMC Tower 1, Jalan Impact, Cyber 6,
63000 Cyberjaya,
Selangor

AXIATA RESPONSE TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED MALAYSIA’S POSITIONS FOR WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE 2023 (WRC-23) AGENDA ITEMS

Axiata Group Berhad (‘Axiata’), wishes to thank MCMC for its invitation to comment and is pleased to make a submission in relation to Malaysia’s positions for the WRC-23.

As Malaysia continues to aggressively deploy 5G network across the country, adoption of 5G is expected to rise as well. GlobalData forecasted 5G adoption in Malaysia to reach up to six percent by end of 2023 before rising to 46 percent by end of 2027. As such, it is important to ensure availability of sufficient spectrum supply in the market to support its future growth. The limited supply of 5G spectrum that is currently available underscores the need for new identification of mobile spectrum that will be discussed extensively at WRC-23. We also note that, some of bands discussed are not under consideration in Region 3, nevertheless, countries in Region 3 including Malaysia may benefit from wider use of these band which will drive the economies of scale providing for affordable mobile services and devices.

Extensive work is currently underway towards development of a new generation of technology namely 6G. 6G is expected to support enriched and immersive experience, enhanced ubiquitous coverage, and enable new forms of collaboration. Furthermore, it is envisaged to support expanded and new usage scenarios compared to those of 5G, while providing enhanced and new capabilities. 6G is expected to become the primary mobile technology in the 2030s. Similarly to its predecessor technologies, 6G comes with a new spectrum consideration aiming to enable broader, contiguous channel bandwidths. Therefore a spectrum roadmap for 6G needs to be defined in advance. Taking into consideration the timeline for WRC decision to discuss and identify new mobile spectrum, which is typically up to 10 years, the work to identify new spectrum for 6G needs to be initiated at WRC-23.

Attached is Axiata’s views and comments on specific agenda items for MCMC’s kind consideration. Should you require further clarification please contact Siti Hajar Md Saad (hajarsaad@axiata.com)

Yours sincerely,

on behalf of

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Chief Regulatory Officer
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