

DECT Forum

13 March 2023

Reply to ACMA's paper
"Replanning of the 1880-1920 MHz band"

ACMA Replanning of the 1880–1920 MHz band

Introduction

DECT Forum thanks ACMA for having taken our inputs to the 'Exploring future use of the 1.9 GHz band discussion paper' into consideration and for the opportunity to now provide further inputs to the 'Replanning of the 1880–1920 MHz band Options paper'.

DECT Forum responses to the questions provided in the Replanning document

1. The ACMA invites comments on the proposed desirable planning outcomes.

DECT Forum supports the proposed desirable planning outcomes.

2. The ACMA seeks stakeholders' views on any other applications we have not identified that could be accommodated under SR WBB.

DECT Forum is not aware of any additional applications to the ones mentioned in our submission to the consultation 'Exploring future use of the 1.9 GHz band discussion paper' as well as the ones mentioned in the submissions of our member companies Wirepas, Riedel and Sennheiser.

3. The ACMA invites comments on the replanning options, especially the preliminary preferred option presented in this paper, and any alternative options.

Having considered the options listed by ACMA, DECT Forum has a preference for Option 4 'hybrid arrangements'. We are very supportive to the extension of the band in which DECT can be used to now include 1900–1920 MHz allowing DECT (classic and NR+) to offer the complete bouquet of many different applications and use cases. We are also positive about sharing the band but we believe this should only be considered with technologies that have sharing mechanisms equally advanced to those built into the classic DECT and DECT NR+ standards. In this perspective DECT Forum has some concerns about sharing the band with MulteFire and proposes that interference studies be conducted.

Sharing the finite frequency spectrum resource is an important objective and necessary to improve the efficient use of frequency spectrum, however we believe it is necessary to investigate how different technologies can share efficiently. DECT technology (classic and NR+) was developed for easy setup and easy sharing following class-licensed unmonitored use. Obviously, another sharing technology without such polite sharing mechanism could create very harmful interference.

4. Is personal handy phone system (PHS) technology still required to be included in the cordless communication devices class licence?

As this technology is being phased out in Japan in 2023 where it has been in use, DECT Forum does not see any issues with removing it from the class licence.

5. The 1900–1920 MHz frequency band plan will sunset on 1 April 2023. Is the band plan still required, or can the band plan be allowed to sunset?

DECT Forum believes that sunseting is possible.

6. The ACMA invites comments on coexistence considerations, and analysis on coexistence issues for the proposed options in this band.

As suggested under question 3 above, DECT Forum proposes coexistence studies between DECT, DECT NR+ (DECT-2020 NR) and MulteFire be carried out.