

## **Abstract**

### **«Spectrum and licensing issues for IMT-2000 »**

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The development of the worldwide mobile communications market highlights the advantages of implementing mobile communications systems based on open international standards in globally harmonised frequency bands. GSM is used today by approximately 70% of mobile subscribers in the world. All GSM and some other operators who have already obtained a 3G/IMT-2000 license have chosen to deploy UMTS networks. UMTS should thus become the leading 3G/IMT-2000 technology.

Globally harmonised frequency bands have already been allocated to 3G/IMT-2000 by the ITU. However, the deployment of 3G/IMT-2000 networks may not be cost efficient in these frequency bands in low density areas of developed countries and in medium and low density areas of developing countries.

As of today, 33 countries have allocated a total of 178 3G/IMT-2000 licenses on the basis of different allocation methods. Their experiences could be useful for countries where the allocation process have not yet started.

The presentation will focus on two main issues :

- Existing spectrum allocations for IMT-2000 and desirable spectrum allocations for IMT-2000 taking into consideration the problem of the geographic extension of network coverage
- Mechanisms used for allocating 3G/IMT-2000 licenses and some lessons that can be drawn from the experiences of countries that have already allocated 3G/IMT-2000 licenses.