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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

URCA Proposes Technical Standards Framework for FM Radio Broadcasting in The Bahamas Consultation Document now available

On 22 December 2015 the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) released its public consultation document namely: "Technical Standards Framework For FM Radio Broadcasting in The Bahamas – ECS 07/2015". http://www.urcabahamas.bs/download/095048500.pdf

URCA is seeking the views of FM radio broadcast licensees, interested parties and members of the public in relation to establishing a comprehensive set of technical standards for FM radio broadcasting in The Bahamas. The proposed technical standards are mainly aimed at reducing undesirable interference in FM radio broadcasting and ensuring that the radio listening public in The Bahamas receives the best possible quality radio signals. This consultation process therefore has the following as its core objectives:

- (i) to further the interest of consumers by promoting the optimal use of radio spectrum as a state asset;
- (ii) to improve the quality of FM Broadcasting in The Bahamas by establishing technical standards to govern:
 - (a) RF emissions for radio stations operating in the defined FM radio frequency band;
 - (b) RF carrier performance;
 - (c) equipment used in FM radio broadcasting;
 - (d) FM sound transmission;
 - (e) FM broadcast station physical separation; and
- (iii) to maximize the capacity of the FM broadcasting frequency band to allow for new entrants.

All of the responses under this consultation process will be carefully considered and used by URCA for the development of the appropriate technical standards for FM broadcasting in The Bahamas.

The deadline for response to this Consultation is **February 12, 2016.**

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