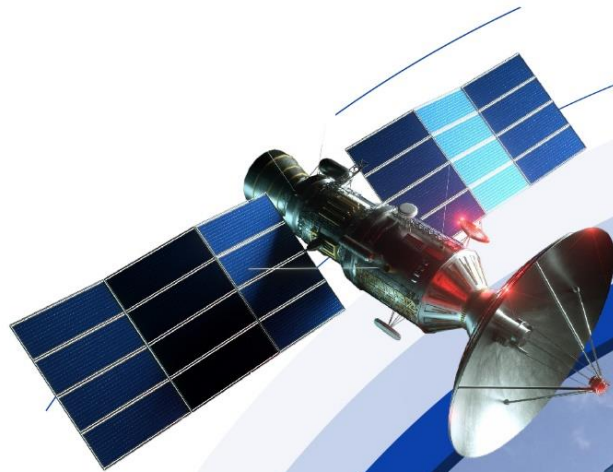




**NATIONAL  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AUTHORITY**

# **SATELLITE LICENSING FRAMEWORK IN GHANA**



MAY  
**2024**

## Version of the Document

Date	Version	Comments
May, 2024	1.0	First official publication
October, 2024	1.1	First Revision to clarify the different categories of non-FSS Landing Rights

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## List of Abbreviations

API:	Advance Publication Information
BR:	Radiocommunication Bureau
BR IFIC:	BR International Frequency Information Circular
EPFD:	Equivalent Power Flux Density
ESIM:	Earth Stations in Motion
FSS:	Fixed Satellite Service
GIPC:	Ghana Investment Promotion Centre
GSO:	Geostationary-Satellite Orbit
ITU:	International Telecommunication Union
IGW	International Gateway
IWCL	International Wholesale Carrier
MIFR:	Master International Frequency Register
NCA or the Authority:	National Communications Authority
NFAT:	Ghana National Frequency Allocation Table
NGSO:	Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit
PLMN:	Public Land Mobile Networks
PSTN:	Public Switched Telephone Networks
PST:	Portable Satellite Terminal
RR:	Radio Regulations (RR)
SESN:	Satellite Earth Station Networks
SEST:	Satellite Earth Station Terminal
VSAT:	Very Small aperture Terminal
WRC:	World Radiocommunications Conference

## 1.0 Introduction

### Whereas

- a) Section 64 of the Electronic Communications Act, 2008 (Act 775) authorises the National Communications Authority (“NCA” or “the Authority”) *“to ensure that access to the space segment is made available on a non-discriminatory and equitable basis in allocating frequency bands for electronic communications services that use satellite systems”*;
- b) Section 58 (2) of Act 775 requires the Authority to comply with applicable standards and requirements of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and its Radio Regulations (RR), as agreed to or adopted by the Republic of Ghana in controlling, planning, administering, managing and licensing the use of the radio frequency spectrum;
- c) No. **0.3** of the Preamble to the Radio Regulations provides that, *“in using frequency bands for radio services, Members shall bear in mind that radio frequencies and any associated orbits, including the geostationary-satellite orbit are limited natural resources and that they must be used rationally, efficiently and economically, in conformity with the provisions of these Regulations”*;
- d) The Radio Regulations further provide in article 18.1 that, *“No transmitting station may be established or operated by a private person or by any enterprise without a licence issued in an appropriate form and in conformity with the provisions of these Regulations by or on behalf of the government of the country to which the station in question is subject”*;
- e) ITU-R Resolution 22 (WRC-19) requires that the operation of transmitting earth stations within the territory of an administration is carried out only with due authorization by that administration;
- f) Under Sections 9(1, 2 & 3) of Act 775 the use of a spectrum for designated services is pursuant to a frequency authorisation granted by the Authority upon an application in the manner specified by law and in accordance with policies and rules published by the Authority;

### 1.1 Legal Framework

In exercise of the power of the Authority to issue guidelines and standards from time to time further to Section 3 (r) of the National Communications Authority Act, 2008 (Act 769), this document, **Satellite Licensing Framework in Ghana**, has been developed to provide the framework of the policies and rules relating to the application for frequency authorisations for satellite services in Ghana. It outlines the various categories of satellite services, the licensing requirements and their associated fees.

### 1.2 Scope of Application

The provisions in this document shall be read and applied together with all applicable laws currently in force and with such modifications as subsequent legislations and directives issued by the Authority may prescribe.

## 2.0 General Requirements for all Applicants

2.1. An Application shall be in writing and addressed to:

The Director General  
National Communications Authority  
No. 6 Airport City, KIA, Accra  
P. O. Box CT1568, Cantonments, Accra  
Ghana

And a copy sent to:

Email: spaceservices@nca.org.gh

2.2. An applicant shall complete the relevant sections of the NCA Customer Registration Form AP01B and provide the required technical information specified in this document, and submitted together with the requisite non-refundable application fee payable by Banker's Draft to the NCA or by Bank transfer.

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/NCA-FORM-AP01B.pdf>

## 3.0 Space Segment Satellite Services

This section details the requirement for licensing of Space Segments Satellite services. These are Satellite Filings and Satellite Landing Rights. For entities applying for Satellite Landing Rights Licence, evidence of registration as a body corporate other than in Ghana is acceptable.

### 3.1 Satellite filings

#### 3.1.1 Overview

The United Nations Outer Space Treaty (1967) provide that outer space is free for exploitation and use by all states in conformity with international regulations. Article 8 of the ITU Radio Regulations provide that frequency spectrum or orbits used by stations in space derive their right to international recognition from the recording of the frequency assignments and/or orbital positions in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR).

The NCA is the notifying administration of the Republic of Ghana, and it submits and manages all satellite filings to the ITU on behalf of organisations registered in Ghana. The NCA will support new and established satellite operators with satellite projects in the Geostationary-Satellite Orbit (GSO) and those in the Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit (NGSO) to realise their projects through the requirements of the ITU's process as contained in the applicable articles of the Radio Regulations and the relevant Appendices and Resolutions. In particular, the NCA shall ensure compliance with the provisions of RR Article 5 (Table of Frequency Allocations), Article 9 (Procedures for effecting coordination with or obtaining agreement of other administrations) and Article 11 (Notification and recording of frequency assignments), as well as obligations under Article 44 of the Constitution and ITU-R Resolution 49 (Administrative due diligence applicable to some satellite services).



### 3.1.2 Application Requirements

- a. Applications and all correspondence relating to satellite networks in planned and non-planned bands shall be submitted by the applicant to the NCA in electronic format, in accordance with the format required by the ITU Space Services software (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/software/space/index.html>) to:  
Email: [spaceservices@nca.org.gh](mailto:spaceservices@nca.org.gh)
- b. The NCA shall only file a satellite network application to the ITU on behalf of an applicant whose satellite network(s) meets the criteria contained in this document and which is consistent with the ITU Radio Regulations.
- c. Applicants must establish satisfactorily that their satellite project can be realised within the relevant regulatory time limits and the relevant technical and operational parameters consistent with Resolution 35 (WRC 19).

### 3.1.3 Fees

#### 3.1.3.1 ITU Fees

- a) In accordance with the provisions of ITU Council Decision 482, as amended, the ITU charges fees for processing satellite network filings on a cost recovery basis. Detailed arrangements for the implementation of these cost recovery charges are available from the ITU.
- b) The ITU Finance Department raises its invoices for fees incurred in processing a satellite network filing directly against the satellite network operator concerned. Invoices will be sent to NCA and we will in turn forward these to the operator concerned. On receipt, the operator will make the payment directly to the ITU by the required date and will inform NCA that the payment has been made.
- c) If payments are not received by the ITU in accordance with the provisions of Council Decision 482, as amended, the ITU-BR will cancel the filing(s), after informing NCA.

#### 3.1.3.2 NCA Fees

Filing activity/type	Payment Due Date	Charges (US\$)
<b>Submissions (and relevant modifications)</b>		
New requests (except NGSO EPFD filings)	On date of request/application	1,000.00
New NGSO EPFD filing requests		3,000.00
<b>Annual management</b>		
API filings	Q1 annually (on receipt of invoice)	1,200.00
CR/C GSO and NGSO filings (<100 ITU units)		2,500.00
CR/C GSO and NGSO filings (≥100 ITU units)		4,000.00
<b>Notifications</b>		
API requests	On date of request/application	1,000.00
CR/C GSO and NGSO requests		



## 3.2 Satellite Landing Rights (FSS)

### 3.2.1 Overview

This Licence grants rights to a space segment satellite operator to use spectrum in Ghana subject to the ITU Radio Bureau publication of notice for the system in the BR International Frequency Information Circular (Space Services) (BR IFIC) towards the successful registration into the MIFR. The operations shall be in accordance with its registration in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

This Licence grants the Licensee the authorisation to provide services to NGSO terminals on-board foreign registered Aircrafts and Vessels while passing Ghana's airspace and territorial waters in the licensed frequency bands. The Licence does not authorise Space segment operators to retail their services in Ghana without the requisite licence.

The licensee can provide services only through Authorised/Licensed telecom service operators in Ghana including direct connectivity between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment. These operators must be entities with any of the following Authorisation/Licence:

- Internet/Public Data Service and Satellite Earth Station Network
- Mobile Network Operators
- Broadband Wireless Access Operators
- Satellite Earth Station Terminal

### 3.2.2 *Direct Connectivity between Space Stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment*

A Satellite Landing Right licence **does not** authorise a satellite operator to establish direct connections between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) devices, such as mobile phones or tablets.

The current policy of the Republic of Ghana is that the trial or commercial deployment of direct connectivity between space stations and IMT devices shall be undertaken through the provider of the Rural Telephony Network (RuraCom) established by the Ghana Investment Fund for Electronic Communications (GIFEC). All Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) have a roaming agreement with GIFEC to enable their customers use the RuraCom established to provide coverage to unserved and underserved rural communities in Ghana. Any trial or commercial deployment of direct connectivity between space stations and IMT devices shall be subject to the approval of the NCA.

The NCA shall, in due course, commence a consultation process consistent with Section 27 of Act 775 and Section 4.1 of the National Telecommunications Policy, 2005, to establish modalities for direct connectivity between Space Stations and IMT user equipment in Ghana based on developments in the technology and studies at ITU-R.

### 3.2.3 *Application Requirements*

A satellite operator applying for Landing Rights shall be required to provide the following in addition to the requirements under section 2:

- a. A copy of the licence from the applicant's home country in which the satellite is registered as well as ITU Coordination procedure status i.e. the CRC special section number and BR IFIC number in which the satellite network was published.
- b. Technical information on the satellite system including frequencies used, orbiting parameters, and coverage footprint as provided to the ITU or the country of satellite registration.
- c. An overview of the applicant's intended services of operations in Ghana.
- d. Completed Technical Satellite application form, NCA Form AP15A.

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15A-Satellite-Landing-Right-Services-2.pdf>

### 3.2.4 *Licence Validity Period*

The licence shall be valid for up to ten (10) years, renewable subject to continued compliance with the licence conditions/obligations.

### 3.2.5 *Fees*

The fees payable shall consist of:

- a. Application Fees: US\$1,000.00
- b. Licence Fees: US\$10,000.00 per satellite system

A Satellite system used here refers to the number of sets of satellite(s) working together in unison in the same constellation within the same frequency band and with footprint over the territory of Ghana.

- c. Annual Regulatory Fees: no charges

### 3.2.6 *Special Conditions of licence*

- a. The Licensee shall furnish the NCA with subscriptions of its Distribution Partners/Wholesale Customers and/or its activities in Ghana.
- b. The Licensee shall under no circumstance undertake termination of international voice traffic on the Public Land Mobile Networks (PLMN) and Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN) without an arrangement with a licensed international wholesale carrier (IWCL) or international gateway (IGW) licence holder. The operations should avoid causing financial or technical harm or compromise national security.

### 3.3 Satellite Landing Rights (MSS)

#### 3.3.1 Overview

This authorisation grants rights to a space segment satellite operator operating the Mobile Satellite Service.

The Licensee is granted rights for the related satellite services and to use spectrum in Ghana subject to the ITU Radio Bureau publication of notice for the system in the BR IFIC towards the successful registration into the MIFR. The operations shall be in accordance with its registration in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The licensee can provide services only through Authorised/Licensed telecom service operators in Ghana including direct connectivity between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment. These operators must be entities with any of the following Authorisation/Licence:

- Internet/Public Data Service and Satellite Earth Station Network
- Mobile Network Operators
- Broadband Wireless Access Operators
- Satellite Earth Station Terminal

#### 3.3.2 Application Requirements

A satellite operator applying for Landing Rights shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2:

- a. A copy of the licence from the applicant's home country in which the satellite is registered as well as ITU Coordination procedure status i.e. the CRC special section number and BR IFIC number in which the satellite network was published framework.
- b. Technical information on the satellite system including frequencies used, orbiting parameters, and coverage footprint as provided to the ITU or the country of satellite registration.
- c. An overview of the applicant's intended services of operations in Ghana.
- d. Completed Technical Satellite application form, NCA Form AP15A.

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15A-Satellite-Landing-Right-Services-2.pdf>

#### 3.3.3 Licence Validity Period

The licence shall be valid for up to ten (10) years, renewable subject to continued compliance with the licence conditions/obligations.

#### 3.3.4 Fees

The fees payable shall consist of:

- a. Application Fees: US\$1,000.00



- b. Licence Fees: US\$10,000.00
- c. Annual Regulatory Fees: no charges

### *3.3.5 Special Conditions of Licence*

- a. The Licensee shall furnish the NCA with subscription of its Distribution Partners/Wholesale Customers and/or its activities in Ghana.
- b. The Licensee shall under no circumstance undertake termination of international voice traffic on the Public Land Mobile Networks (PLMN) and Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN) without an arrangement with a licensed international wholesale carrier (IWCL) or international gateway (IGW) licence holder. The operations should avoid causing financial or technical harm or compromise national security.

## **3.4 Satellite Landing Rights (Others)**

### *3.4.1 Overview*

This authorisation grants rights to a space segment satellite operator operating in all satellite services other than the Fixed and Mobile Satellite Service including but not limited to satellite systems in the Navigational, Earth Observation, Remote Sensing and Broadcasting Services.

The Licensee is granted rights for the related satellite services and to use spectrum in Ghana subject to the ITU Radio Bureau publication of notice for the system in the BR IFIC towards the successful registration into the MIFR. The operations shall be in accordance with its registration in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

### *3.4.2 Application Requirements*

A satellite operator applying for Landing Rights shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2:

- e. A copy of the licence from the applicant's home country in which the satellite is registered as well as ITU Coordination procedure status i.e. the CRC special section number and BR IFIC number in which the satellite network was published framework.
- f. Technical information on the satellite system including frequencies used, orbiting parameters, and coverage footprint as provided to the ITU or the country of satellite registration.
- g. An overview of the applicant's intended services of operations in Ghana.
- h. Completed Technical Satellite application form, NCA Form AP15A.

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15A-Satellite-Landing-Right-Services-2.pdf>

### *3.4.3 Licence Validity Period*

The licence shall be valid for up to ten (10) years, renewable subject to continued compliance with the licence conditions/obligations.



#### 3.4.4 Fees

An application fee of US\$1,000.00 is required.

#### 3.4.5 Special Conditions of Licence

- c. The Licensee shall furnish the NCA with subscription of its Distribution Partners/Wholesale Customers and/or its activities in Ghana.
- d. The Licensee shall under no circumstance undertake termination of international voice traffic on the Public Land Mobile Networks (PLMN) and Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN) without an arrangement with a licensed international wholesale carrier (IWCL) or international gateway (IGW) licence holder. The operations should avoid causing financial or technical harm or compromise national security.

### 4.0 Earth Segment Satellite Services

Licensing of satellite services which require the installation of an earth infrastructure and the provision of services directly to the end users such as Portable Satellite Terminal (PST), Satellite Gateways, Satellite Earth Station Terminal (SEST) including Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs), Earth Stations in Motion (ESIMs) and Satellite Earth Station Networks (SESN), shall be in accordance with the following requirements:

#### 4.1 Special Conditions

- a. The applying Entity must be legally registered and duly certified to operate in Ghana. Applicants shall be required to show proof of their Certificate of Incorporation issued by the Registrar of Companies in Ghana, the Register of members, indicating the shareholding structure, and a Copy of the Company's Regulations.
- b. Entities with foreign ownership shall comply with the investment laws of Ghana including provisions of the Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC) Act, 2013 (Act 865).
- c. The Licensee shall furnish the NCA with subscription of its Distribution Partners/Wholesale Customers and/or its activities in Ghana including traffic volumes, bi-annually (in June and December each year).
- d. The Authority reserves the right to perform monitoring of the network operated under this licence, upon notification of and coordination with the network operator, as may be required for national security reasons or in the public interest.
- e. The Licensee shall under no circumstance undertake termination of international voice traffic on the Public Land Mobile Networks (PLMN) and Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN) without an arrangement with a licenced international wholesale carrier (IWCL) or international gateway (IGW) licence holder. The operations should avoid causing financial or technical harm or compromise national security.

#### 4.2 Portable Satellite Terminals (PST)

##### 4.2.1 Overview

Portable Satellite Terminals (PST) is a communication system where user terminals communicate directly with a constellation of satellites accessible with small and easily transportable terminals

including Satellite phones, Broadband Global Area Networks (BGANs), Amateur Radios, Satellite IoT devices among others to provide voice or data services.

#### 4.2.2 Application Requirements

A satellite earth segment operator applying for PST licence shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2.0:

- a. Completed technical application form, NCA Form AP15.  
<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15-Licences-for-Satellite-Services.pdf>
- b. Copies of technical specifications of all equipment planned for deployment as provided by the equipment manufacturer.
- c. A brief description of the network architecture and underlying technologies.

#### 4.2.3 Licence validity Period

The licence shall be valid for up to five (5) years, renewable subject to continued compliance with the licence conditions/obligations.

#### 4.2.4 Fees

- a. Application Fees: \$200.00
- b. Licence and Annual Regulatory Fees:

PST Categories	Licence Fee	Annual Regulatory Fees
Class 1 (10,001+ unlimited terminals)	\$2,000.00	\$20,000.00
Class 2 (1,001-10,000 terminals)	\$1,500.00	\$10,000.00
Class 3 (501-1000 terminals)	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Class 4 (51-500 terminals)	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Class 5 (1-50 terminals)	\$500.00	\$500.00

### 4.3 Satellite Gateway Earth Station

#### 4.3.1 Overview

Satellite Gateway Earth Stations are large hubs that connect the satellite network to the internet and/or to private networks and cloud services. The Gateway may be used to provide telephony and data backhaul, broadcast feeder links, private networks and Telemetry, Tracking, Commanding and Monitoring of satellite networks.

#### 4.3.2 Application Requirements

A satellite earth segment operator applying for Satellite Gateway Earth Station Licence shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2.0:

- a. Technical information on the satellite system including frequencies used, orbiting parameters, and coverage footprint as provided to the ITU or the country of satellite registration.
- b. Technical plans showing the architecture of the Station and overview of the applicant's intended operations in Ghana.

- c. Completed technical application form, NCA Form AP15.

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15-Licences-for-Satellite-Services.pdf>

#### 4.3.3 Licence Validity Period

The licence shall be valid for up to ten (10) years, renewable subject to continued compliance with the license terms and conditions/obligations.

#### 4.3.4 Fees

- i. Application Fee: US\$2,000.00
- ii. Licence Fee: US\$20,000.00
- iii. Regulatory fee: US\$1,500.00/per terminal/year

### 4.4 Earth Stations in Motion

#### 4.4.1 Overview

“**Earth stations in motion (ESIM)**” shall refer to earth stations that communicate with GSO and NGSO orbit system(s) operating in the Fixed Satellite Service (FSS) and on platforms in motion in all frequency ranges allocated to ESIMs per the National Frequency Allocation Table (NFAT). For the purpose of this framework, ESIMs shall be limited to Aeronautical (on-board aircraft), Maritime (on-board water-vessels), and Land (on-board land vehicles) earth stations. The operations of ESIMs are also permissible with SESN Licence under section 4.5. Foreign-flagged vessels and aircrafts that are in the territory of Ghana for less than a week are exempted.

#### 4.4.2 Application Requirements

A satellite earth segment operator applying for Licence to operate ESIM within the territory of Ghana shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2.0 (not applicable to operators providing ESIM services to non-Ghanaian registered Aircraft and Vessels):

- a. Completed technical application form, NCA Form AP15.  
<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15-Licences-for-Satellite-Services.pdf>
- b. A brief description of the network architecture and underlying technologies.
- c. Copies of technical specifications of all equipment planned for deployment as provided for by the equipment manufacturer.
- d. A copy of the certificate of aircraft registration and air-worthiness (applicable to aeronautical ESIM).
- e. A copy of the certificate of vessel registration issued by Ghana Maritime Authority (applicable to local water-vessel ESIMs) or by the relevant competent authority in the country of origin.

#### 4.4.3 Licence Validity Period

The Licence tenure for an ESIM shall be for 5 years subject to the payment of yearly regulatory fee and the continued compliance with the licence terms and conditions;

#### 4.4.4 Fees

- a. Application fee: US\$1,000.00
- b. Licence fee: US\$1,500.00
- c. Annual Regulatory fee: US\$1,500.00

### 4.5 Satellite Earth Station Terminal

#### 4.5.1 Overview

Satellite Earth Station Terminal (SEST) refers to any fixed earth station terminal (including VSATs) linked to a satellite system for the provision of Internet access and/or connectivity solutions via satellite frequency bands. SEST may route traffic via satellite to and from a hub or gateway earth station in country or outside Ghana. SEST Licence is for single terminal(s).

SEST Licence is categorised into the following based on the intended use:

- a. Private corporate networks.
- b. Internet Connectivity for the Public.
- c. Research purposes.

#### 4.5.2 Application Requirement

A satellite earth segment operator applying for Licence to operate a SEST within the territory of Ghana shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2.0:

- a. Completed technical application form, NCA Form AP15.  
<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15-Licences-for-Satellite-Services.pdf>
- b. Copies of technical specifications of all equipment planned for deployment as provided by the equipment manufacturer.
- c. A brief description of the network architecture and underlying technologies (where applicable or as shall be required).

#### 4.5.3 Licence Validity Period

The Licence tenure for an SEST shall be for 5 years subject to the payment of yearly regulatory fee and the continued compliance with the license terms and conditions;



Satellite Earth Station Terminal			
SEST	APPLICATION FEES (GHS)	LICENCE FEES (GHS)	ANNUAL REGULATORY FEES (GHS)
Private or Corporate use	3,850.00	19,250.00	15,400.00 (per terminal)
Public use	3,850.00	7,700.00	7,700.00 (per terminal)
Public use (Rural Areas in Ghana)	1,155.00	2,310.00	2,310.00 (per terminal)
Educational Use	385.00	1,540.00	1,540.00 (per terminal)

## 4.6 Satellite Earth Station Network

### 4.6.1 Overview

Satellite Earth Station Network (SESN) refers to any fixed earth station network (including VSATs) comprising of Multiple Terminals linked to a satellite system for the provision of Internet access, connectivity solutions or satellite broadband services via satellite frequency bands. SESN may route traffic via satellite to and from a hub or gateway earth station in country or outside Ghana. The procedure for licensing under this category may include a public hearing in accordance with Regulation 94 of the Electronic Communications Regulations, 2011, LI 1991 (i.e., Procedure on receipt of application for a Class I licence).

SESN Licence authorises earth segment satellite operators to provide Satellite based communications and broadband services directly to last mile users including Authorised/Licensed telecom operators.

The scope of the Authorisation shall allow the Authorisation Holder to:

- Establish and operate a nationwide Satellite Internet/Public Data Service network in the Republic of Ghana.
- Provide internet and public data services to the general public using its own satellite constellation or that of a third party's.
- Use other **approved** transport facilities such as microwaves and fibre optics to provide the services.
- Establish Points of Presence to interconnect with the Public and Private networks to provide authorised services to the general public.
- Interconnect with other transport facility operators to carry user traffic.

**Notwithstanding the above, this Authorisation does not permit the Authorisation Holder to use any frequency spectrum or any other transport facilities without obtaining the relevant Authorisations/Licence from the Authority.**

### 4.6.2 Application Requirement

A satellite earth segment operator applying for Licence to operate a SESN within the territory of Ghana shall be required to provide the following in addition to section 2.0:

- a. A brief description of the network architecture and underlying technologies (where applicable or as shall be required).
- b. Copies of technical specifications of all equipment planned for deployment as provided by the equipment manufacturer.
- c. Completed technical application form, NCA Form AP15.  
<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15-Licences-for-Satellite-Services.pdf>

#### 4.6.3 Licence Validity Period

The Licence tenure for an SESN shall be for 5 years subject to the payment of yearly regulatory fee and the continued compliance with the licence terms and conditions.

#### 4.6.4 Fees

Satellite Earth Station Network			
SESN	APPLICATION FEES (GHS)	LICENCE FEES (GHS)	ANNUAL REGULATORY FEES (GHS)
Class 1 (Unlimited Terminals, 1001+)	96,250.00	385,000.00	1% of Net Revenue or 192,500.00 whichever is greater
Class 2 (501-1000 Terminals)	19,250.00	96,250.00	77,000.00
Class 3 (101- 500 Terminals)	7,700.00	70,000.00	50,000.00
Class 2 (51-100 Terminals)		50,000.00	38,500.0
Class 5 (Less/=50 Terminals)		38,500.00	

#### 4.6.5 Procedure for Upgrade/Downgrade of SESN and PST

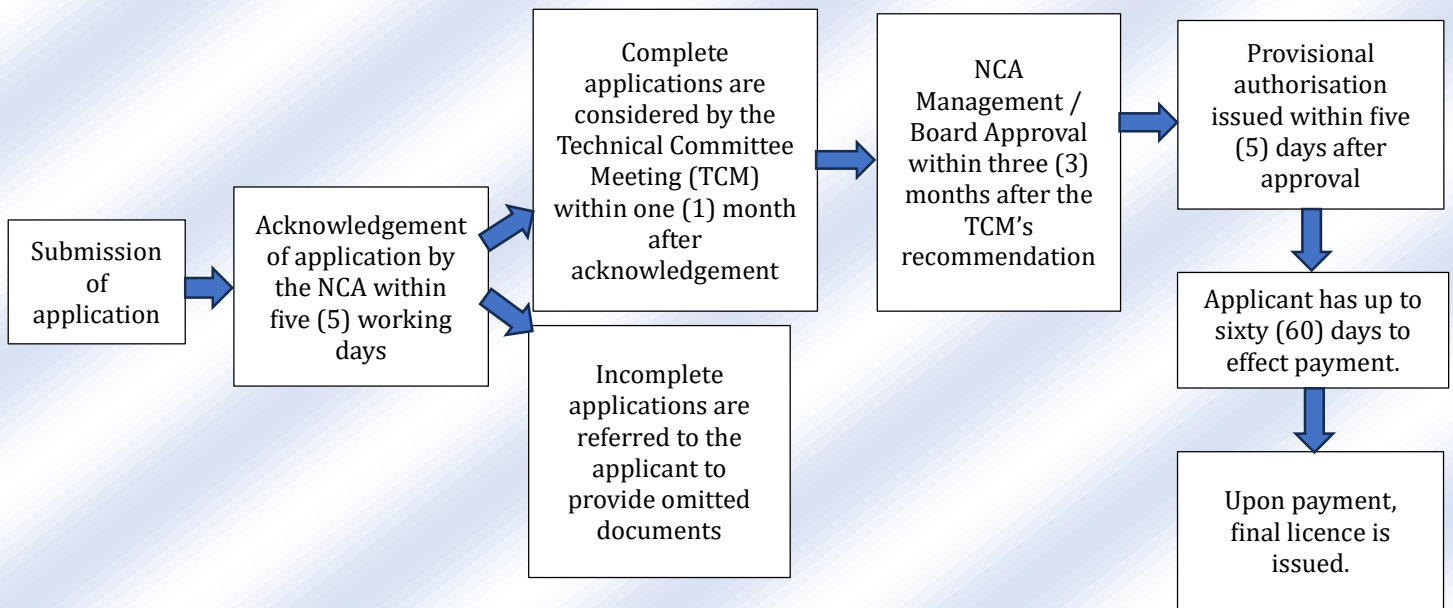
The procedure for the upgrade of the class of SESN or PST shall be based on the analysis made on the biannual reports of the number of active terminals under the licence. The fees for the corresponding upgrade shall be prorated. In cases of downgrade the corresponding annual regulatory fee shall apply during the invoicing cycle for the succeeding year.

## 5.0 Frequency Ranges

All frequency bands allocated to satellite services per Ghana's NFAT are available for use and do not incur additional charges. Applicants are therefore required to specify exact bandwidth within these frequency band. In the unlikely event that the requested frequencies are not allocated or are dedicated for others services, the applicant may justify the use of such frequencies on case-by-case basis.

## 6.0 Licensing Procedure for all Applications

The procedure for licensing shall conform to Regulation 94 of the Electronic Communications Regulations, 2011, LI 1991 (i.e., Procedure on receipt of application for a Class I licence) and/or in accordance with the flow chart below:



## 7.0 Electronic Communications Equipment Authorisation (Type Approval) Requirements

All the electronic communications earth segment network infrastructure and user equipment shall be type approved by NCA. The requirements and process for type approval are outlined in the NCA Type Approval Guidelines 2015.

A copy of the said Guidelines can be obtained on the Authority's website via (<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Type-Approval-Revised-Guidelines-2015-Final-Revised2.pdf>).

Copies of type approval application document can be submitted through [typeapproval@nca.org.gh](mailto:typeapproval@nca.org.gh).

NCA Type Approval Form – AP16 can be assessed via <https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/AP16-TYPE-APPROVAL.pdf>.

## 8.0 Effective Date

This document shall become effective from the date of publication in the official gazette.

## 9.0 Attachments

9.1 NCA Customer Registration Form – AP01B

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/NCA-FORM-AP01B.pdf>

9.2 NCA Satellite Technical Form (Landing Rights) – AP15A

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15A-Satellite-Landing-Right-Services-2.pdf>

9.3 NCA Satellite Technical Form– AP15

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/AP15-Licences-for-Satellite-Services.pdf>

9.4 NCA Type Approval Form – AP16

<https://nca.org.gh/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/AP16-TYPE-APPROVAL.pdf>