



**NATIONAL
COMMUNICATIONS
AUTHORITY**

LICENSING FRAMEWORK FOR THE OPERATION OF RADIODETERMINATION SERVICES IN GHANA



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Version of the Document

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Version of the Document	2
1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Legal Framework.....	4
1.2 Scope of Application	5
2. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS	5
3. ELIGIBILITY	6
4. FREQUENCY RANGES	6
5. AUTHORISATION PROCEDURE	7
6. FEES	7
7. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AUTHORISATION (TYPE APPROVAL) REQUIREMENTS	8
8. AMENDMENTS TO AN AUTHORISATION	8
9. CANCELLATION OF AUTHORISATION	8
10. SUSPENSION, WITHDRAWAL OR REVOCATION OF AN AUTHORISATION	8
11. EFFECTIVE DATE	8
12. ATTACHMENTS	9
9.1 NCA Customer Registration Form (Government/Diplomatic Mission) – AP01A	9
9.2 NCA Customer Registration Form (Companies) – AP01B.....	9
9.3 NCA Radiodetermination Technical Form – AP05B.....	9
9.4 NCA Type Approval Form – AP16.....	9
APPENDIX A: A GUIDE TO COMPLETION OF THE NCA FORMS	10

1. INTRODUCTION

Whereas

- a. The National Communications Authority (“The Authority”) is empowered by the National Communications Authority Act, 2008, Act 769 (“The Act”), to regulate electronic communications activities and services in the country; and to provide for related purposes.
- b. Sections 9 (1) of the Electronic Communications Act, 2008 (Act 775) requires that the use of a spectrum for designated services shall be pursuant to a frequency authorisation granted by the Authority.
- c. Article 1.40 of the Radio Regulations (RR) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) defines radiodetermination service as a **radiocommunication service** for the purpose of radiodetermination. Article 1.9 of the ITU radio Regulations defines **Radiodetermination** as the determination of the position, velocity and/or other characteristics of an object, or the obtaining of information relating to these parameters, by means of the propagation properties of radio waves.
- d. Where, radiodetermination is used for the purposes of navigation, including obstruction warning, it is termed **Radionavigation**. Regulation 40 of LI 1991 provides for radionavigational services.
- e. Where Radiodetermination is used for purposes other than those of radionavigation, it is termed **Radiolocation**. Regulation 50 (d) of LI 1991 provides for radiolocation services.
- f. Where Radiodetermination uses the reception of radio waves for the purpose of determining the direction of a station or object it is termed **Radio direction-finding**.
- g. Radiodetermination employs systems such as *Radio Detection And Ranging (RADAR)*. A RADAR is typically based on the comparison of reference signals with radio signals reflected, or retransmitted, from the position to be determined.

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, **Radiodetermination Licensing Framework in Ghana**, has been developed to provide the framework of the policies and rules relating to the application for frequency authorisations for radiodetermination services in Ghana. It outlines the scope of the framework, the licensing requirements and the associated fees.

1.2 Scope of Application

This framework provides an overview of the licensing requirements to develop, install, maintain and operate Radiodetermination services in Ghana.

Radiodetermination services include; radionavigation, radiolocation, radar and radio direction-finding, etc.

No person or business entity is permitted to develop, install, operate and maintain a Radiodetermination service or systems without the requisite Authorisation from the Authority.

Radiodetermination systems include but not limited to Instrument Landing System (ILS), Microwave Landing System (MLS), Distance Measuring Equipment, Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Station (VOR), Doppler VOR, Non Directional Beacons and Surveillance Systems.

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. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

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

2.2 An applicant shall complete the relevant sections of the NCA Customer Registration NCA Form AP01A (for Government Agencies/Diplomatic Missions), AP01B (for Companies)

2.3 An applicant shall complete the Technical form, NCA Form AP05B

2.4 Provide supplementary documents to support the application including the technical details of the Radiodetermination System and network diagram.

2.5 The applicant shall submitted the under listed where applicable.

- a. Certificate of incorporation where applicable.
- b. The Company's Regulations where applicable.

- c. Tax Clearance Certificate (for Renewal).
- d. SSNIT Clearance Certificate (for Renewal).

2.6 An applicant is required to settle the requisite non-refundable application fee payable by Banker's Draft to the NCA or by Bank transfer.

3. ELIGIBILITY

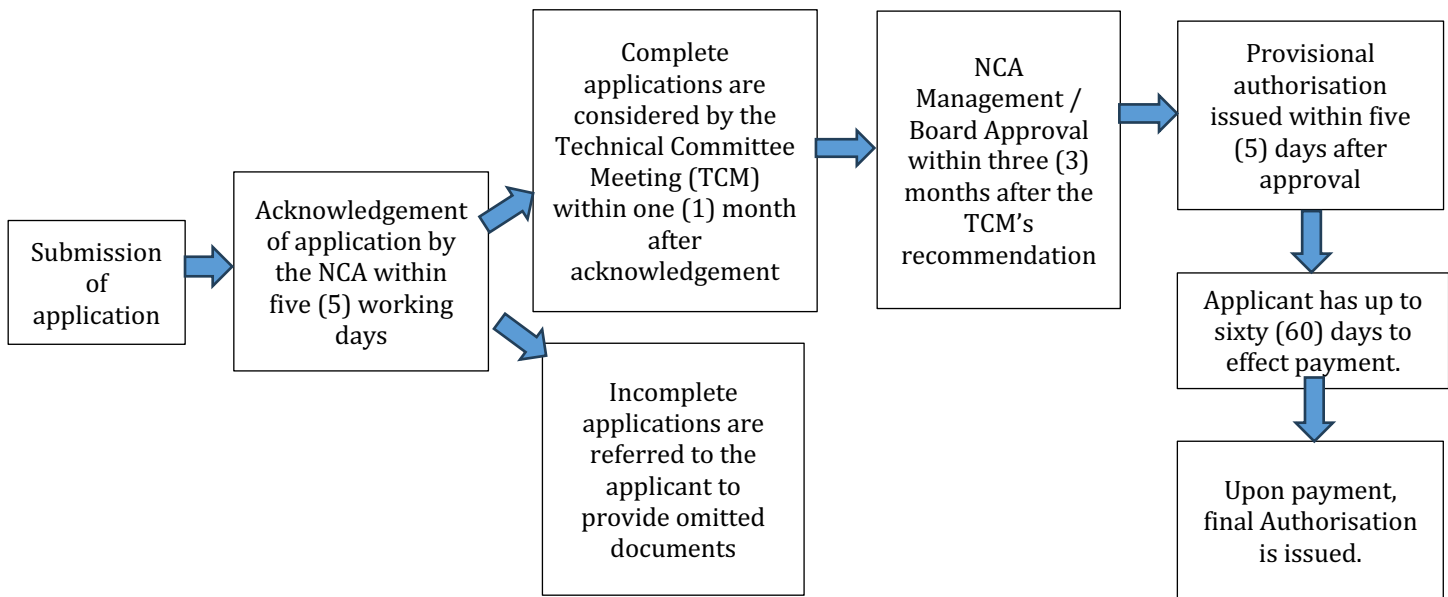
- 3.1 Existing entities operating Radiodetermination services prior to the coming into force of this framework are required to apply to the Authority to obtain a Radiodetermination Services Authorisation within six (6) months from the date of publication in the official gazette.
- 3.2 Any entity that intends to provide Radiodetermination services in Ghana is also required to apply to the Authority by meeting all conditions set out in this Licensing Framework.
- 3.3 A Radiodetermination Services Authorisation shall be issued to Ghanaian registered entities (governmental agencies and companies registered under the Companies Act 2019, Act 992) or Diplomatic Missions in Ghana.
- 3.4 This Authorisation shall be granted by the Authority after the fulfilment of the terms and conditions of this Licensing Framework.

4. FREQUENCY RANGES

Ghana's National Frequency Allocation Table designates various frequency bands for radiodetermination services, which are available without additional fees. Applicants must specify the exact bandwidth required within these allocated bands. If requested frequencies are unavailable or reserved for other services, applicants may provide justification for their use on a case-by-case basis.

5. AUTHORISATION PROCEDURE

The procedure for licensing shall conform to Regulation 111 of the Electronic Communications Regulations, 2011, LI 1991 (i.e., processing an application for a Class II licence) and/or in accordance with the flow chart below:



6. FEES

6.1 A Radiodetermination service applicant shall pay:

- 6.1.1 A non-refundable application fee of \$2,000.00
- 6.1.2 Authorisation fee of \$5,000.00
- 6.1.3 Annual Regulatory fee of \$2,500.00
- 6.1.4 Spectrum Fee: There are no spectrum fees

6.2 The above fees cover the Authorisation for all radiodetermination systems operated by the Authorisation Holder.

7. 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>).

7.1 Copies of type approval application document can be submitted through typeapproval@nca.org.gh.

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

8. AMENDMENTS TO AN AUTHORISATION

The Authority must be notified of any changes to the Authorised Service(s) no later than one (1) month following implementation.

9. CANCELLATION OF AUTHORISATION

A Radiodetermination Services Authorisation may be cancelled at the written request of the Authorisation Holder and there shall be no entitlement to any refund of Authorisation fees in the event of any such cancellation.

10. SUSPENSION, WITHDRAWAL OR REVOCATION OF AN AUTHORISATION

The Authority may suspend, withdraw or revoke a Radiodetermination Services Authorisation in the event of non-compliance by the Authorisation Holder with any condition of the Authorisation. There shall be no entitlement to any refund of the Authorisation fee in the event of any such action.

11. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

12. ATTACHMENTS

9.1 NCA Customer Registration Form (Government/Diplomatic Mission) – AP01A

[link to access application form]

9.2 NCA Customer Registration Form (Companies) – AP01B

[link to access application form]

9.3 NCA Radiodetermination Technical Form – AP05B

[link to access application form]

9.4 NCA Type Approval Form – AP16

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

APPENDIX A: A GUIDE TO COMPLETION OF THE NCA FORMS

1. The prescribed Application Forms (i.e., Customer Registration Form and Technical Form) are the first and foremost instrument for obtaining the Authorisation of a Radiodetermination Service.
2. The application must be made by the applicant(s) or an authorised personnel.
3. The Authorisation shall be granted subject to the payment of applicable fees and any other relevant fees as laid down in this Licensing Framework. This fee shall be amended from time to time.
4. The Authorisation fees and other fees payable in connection with this application and the Radiodetermination Service Registration(s) shall be paid in the form of a Payment Order / Banker's Draft made in favour of the National Communications Authority.
5. The Authority reserves the right either to accept or reject any application submitted without assigning any reason thereof.
6. Consideration for approval of the application shall be based on information declared in the application form. Where necessary, the Authority may seek clarification or request additional information from any applicant/shareholder arising from the application. Any delay in notification or response may also affect the time for a decision on the application.
7. The Authority reserves the right to reject the application if it is found that the information or documents provided for, in this application are untrue, inaccurate or incomplete, and may provide reason thereof.
8. The Authority reserves the right to disclose any information submitted by an Applicant(s) to any competent authority if the Authority deems the same necessary.