LTA Order: 0017-10-10-19 Implementing the FM Radio Regulations

October 10, 2019
PURSUANT TO PART VI SECTION 25 (2) OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT (2007), THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY HEREBY ISSUES AND PUBLISHES THIS ORDER ON THE USAGE OF FM RADIO FREQUENCIES

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act 2007 (the Act) of the Republic of Liberia, empowers the LTA to develop regulations which will serve as guidance for the management, allocation, assignment, and use of radio frequency required for the operation of FM Radio Service Providers in Liberia,

WHEREAS, in compliance with best practices, the regulations have established technical, environmental and safety requirements/standards for the operation of radiocommunication equipment, interference-causing equipment, and radio-sensitive equipment in the Republic of Liberia,

WHEREAS, following due notice, opportunities to be heard and inputs from various stakeholders, and taking into account the results of public consultations in line with the LTA’s Guidelines for Consultation Process to Develop Regulations 2009, the LTA has finalized regulations on the operation of radio stations, which have been adopted as the FM Radio Regulations; and

WHEREAS, FM Radio Service Providers have been categorized into four (4) general classes for smooth implementation of the regulations, and fees for each category established pursuant to the Act consistent with the populations and economy of coverage areas,

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises, the LTA hereby orders:

1. That the FM Radio Regulations shall come into effect commencing October 10, 2019.

2. That all FM Radio Stations operating in the Republic of Liberia are required to be licensed based on the FM Radio Regulations once this Order takes effect.

3. That in order to transition to the new licensing regime, all licensed FM Radio Service Providers shall file an application with the LTA, and submit all required documents including the Ministry of Information, Cultural and Tourism (MICAT) Broadcast Permit pursuant to Part IV Section 9.0 of the FM Radio Regulations

4. That the transition period for existing Service Providers shall commence on the effective date of this Order and ends on December 31, 2019. All Radio Service
Providers are ordered to transition during this period, after which non-compliant FM Radio Service Providers shall be treated as new applicants and may lose their existing frequency assignments.

5. New FM Radio application will be accepted for processing under the new licensing regime effective January 1, 2020.

6. That failure to adhere to this Order, Regulatory actions will be taken.

THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON PUBLICATION; IT SHALL HAVE THE SAME LEGAL FORCE AS A RULE OF THE LTA OR PERSUANT TO LEGAL PROCESS.

ISSUED THIS 10th DAY OF OCTOBER 2019 IN THE CITY OF PAYNESVILLE, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

Hon. Edward Crump Zackpa
Commissioner, LTA

Hon. Maria G. Harrison
Commissioner, LTA

Hon. Zotawon D. Titus
Commissioner, LTA

Hon. Israel Akinsanya
Commissioner, LTA

Hon. Ivan G. Brown
Chairperson, LTA