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TOPIC

Frequency Reorganization Action Plan (FY2024 Version)

1. About Frequency Reorganization Action Plan (FY2024 Version)

On December 13, 2024, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) has formulated the “Frequency Reorganization Action Plan (FY2024 version)” to ensure smooth and steady implementation of frequency reorganization.

To promote the effective utilization of finite and scarce radio wave resources and to cope with the introduction of new radio spectrum utilization systems and increasing frequency demand, the MIC has been formulating and announcing the Frequency Reorganization Action Plan every year since 2004.

The MIC has formulated a Frequency Reorganization Action Plan based on the results of the Survey on Actual Radio Spectrum Usage by the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications and the Evaluation of the Degree of Effective Utilization of Radio Spectrum by the Radio Regulatory Council.

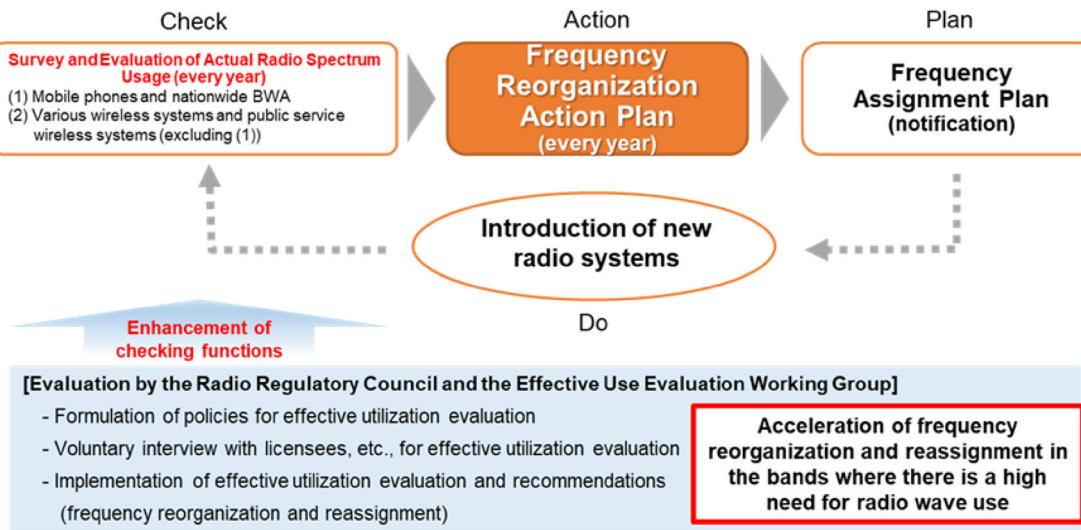


Figure 1: Overview of Frequency Reorganization Action Plan

2. Goals for securing frequency bands by the end of 2040

According to the “Report of Radio Policy Roundtable For Expanding Digital Business” compiled in August 2024, it has been estimated that a total of bandwidth of approximately 70 GHz (73.1 GHz) will be required to accommodate the wireless traffic in 2040, using Mobile phone networks, NTN, and Wi-Fi by categorized by region, etc.

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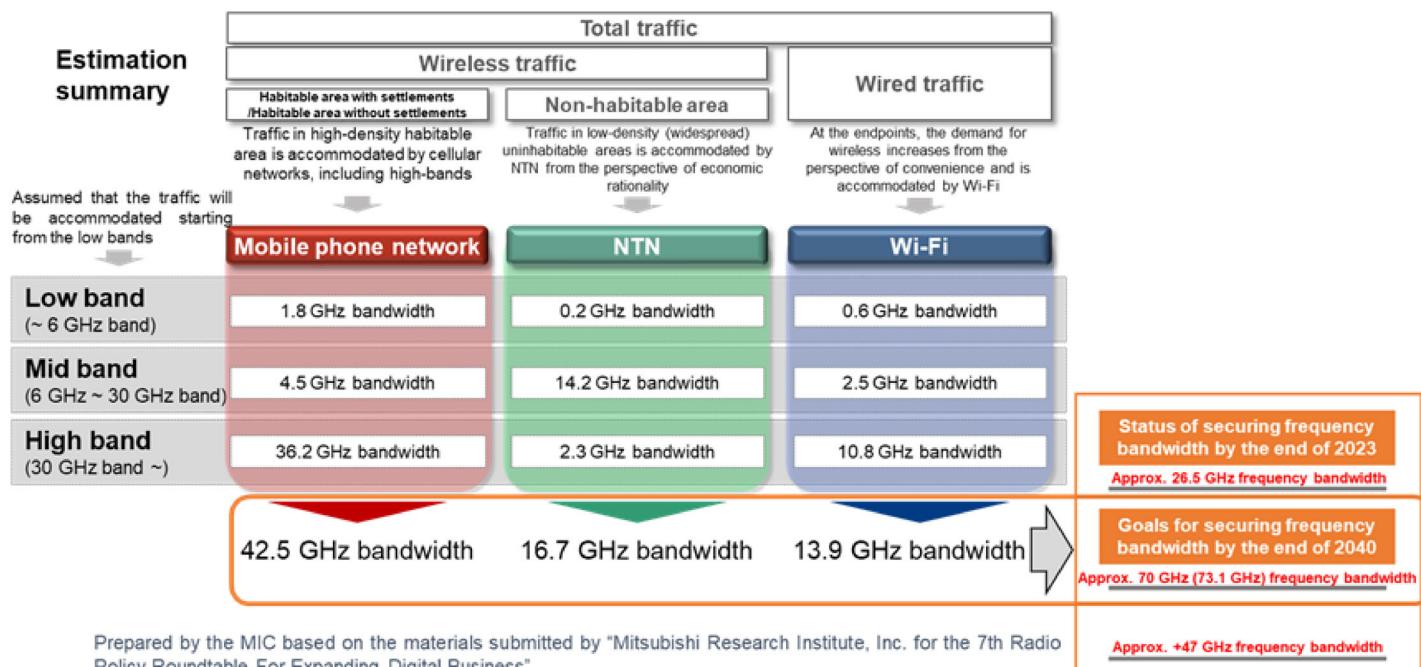


Figure 2: Image of goals for securing frequency bands by the end of 2040

3. Priority Initiatives in the “Frequency Reorganization Action Plan (FY2024 version)”

In the “Frequency Reorganization Action Plan (FY2024 version)”, the following priority actions will be taken.

- (1) Securing of frequencies toward widespread adoption of 5G
With the aim of implementing a conditional auction of the 26 GHz and 40 GHz bands by the end of FY2025 and allocating them to 5G, MIC will compile technical conditions by spring FY2025 while appropriately reflecting the transition measures of current systems and progress of studies on frequency sharing and formulate the technical standards by autumn of FY2025.
- (2) Further enhancement and frequency extension of wireless LANs.
Advance studies on technical conditions for outdoor use of 6 GHz band wireless LAN and for extending the bandwidth including the outdoor use of 6.5 GHz band wireless LAN. At that time advance the necessary studies on the operation method of the AFC system required for interference avoidance with existing radio stations, and compile the technical conditions by the end of FY2025.
- (3) Frequency use by drones in the airspace
Regarding the use of 4G, 5G, local 5G, and BWA in airspace by drones, studies on technical conditions began in July 2024, and conclusions reached early will be compiled within the same year.
In addition, advance studies on the expanding the use of 5GHz band wireless LAN in airspace, and complete regulatory revisions by the end of FY2024.
- (4) Promotion of examination of V2X
Based on the interim report compiled by the “Study Group on ‘Next- Generation ITS Communications’ in the Autonomous Driving Era” in August 2023, advance studies on transition measures of current systems and frequency sharing to facilitate the allocation of the 5.9 GHz band for V2X by the end of FY2026.

Frequency Reorganization Action Plan (FY2024 Version)

(5) Advanced use of Non-terrestrial Networks (NTNs)

Conduct research and development, engineering tests, and studies of technical conditions to realize NTN, including HAPS and new non-geostationary satellite constellation.

(6) Effective use of frequencies for public services

With regard to national public service radio stations identified as “systems using frequencies for which demand has emerged in other applications” and “systems using analog formats,” surveys of utilization will continue to be carried out.

(7) Promotion of Beyond 5G

Accelerate initiatives toward social implementation based on the “Strategy for Realization of Next-Generation Information and Communication Infrastructure to Support AI Society - Beyond 5G Promotion Strategy 2.0.” announced by MIC in August 2024.