

Press release

## FREQUENCIES IN THE OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

### Frequency assignments in Guiana, in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin: results of the positioning auctions for the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands, and final results of the frequency awards procedures launched in 2023 in Guiana, in Saint-Barthélemy and Saint-Martin

Paris, 6 July 2023

The “positioning” auctions for 700 MHz band frequencies in Guiana, in Saint Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin, and for 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band frequencies in Saint Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin took place on **27 June 2023**.

**The frequency award procedures launched in 2023 in Guiana concerned the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands: the final results of the award procedures are as follows:**

#### 700 MHz band arrangement in Guiana



#### 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band arrangement in Guiana



**Legend:** in pink: Digicel AFG; in grey: Free Caraïbe; in orange: Orange Caraïbe; in red: Outremer Telecom

The following table recaps the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band spectrum that Arcep will be awarding to each winning candidate in Guiana, along with the amounts due from each at the outcome of this frequency assignment procedure:

Candidate	Digicel AFG	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Outremer Telecom	Total
<i>The 700 MHz band</i>					
Frequencies	703 – 713 MHz and 758 – 768 MHz	728 – 733 MHz and 783 – 788 MHz	718 – 728 MHz and 773 – 783 MHz	713 – 718 MHz and 768 – 773 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	10 MHz (paired)	5 MHz (paired)	10 MHz (paired)	5 MHz (paired)	30 MHz (paired)
Amount due	€1,800,047	€16,991	€1,820,413	€0	€3,637,451
<i>3.4 – 3.8 GHz band</i>					
Frequencies	3530 – 3590 MHz	3480 – 3530 MHz	3670 – 3730 MHz	3730 – 3800 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	60 MHz	50 MHz	60 MHz	70 MHz	240 MHz
Amount due	€10,082	€0	€10,000	€710,114	€730,196

**The frequency award procedure launched in 2023 concerned the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands in Saint-Barthélemy and Saint-Martin, and a block of 4.8 MHz (paired) in the 900 MHz band and a block of 5 MHz (paired) in the 2.1 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy. The final results of the assignment are as follows:**

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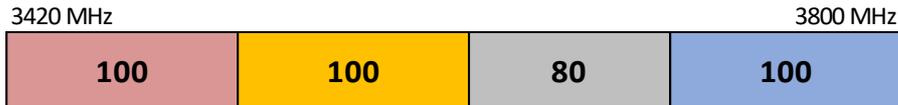
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### 700 MHz arrangement in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin



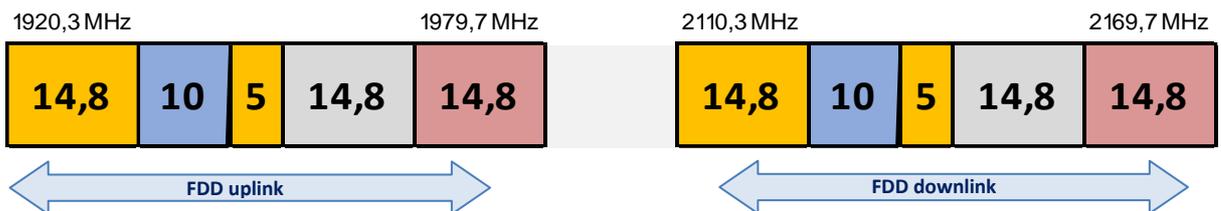
### 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band arrangement in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin



### 900 MHz band arrangement in Saint-Barthélemy



### 2.1 GHz band arrangement in Saint-Barthélemy



**Legend:** in blue: Dauphin Telecom; in pink: Digicel AFG; in grey: Free Caraïbe; in orange: Orange Caraïbe

The following table recaps the spectrum that Arcep will be awarding to each winning candidate in the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands in Saint-Barthélemy and Saint-Martin, and in the 900 MHz and 2.1 GHz bands in Saint-Barthélemy at the outcome of the frequency assignment procedures conducted in 2023, along with the amounts due from each winning candidate resulting from these frequency award procedures:

Candidate	Dauphin Telecom	Digicel AFG	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Total
<b><i>The 700 MHz band in Saint-Barthélemy</i></b>					
Frequencies	708 – 713 MHz and 763 – 768 MHz	-	703 – 708 MHz and 758 – 763 MHz	713 – 723 MHz and 768 – 778 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	5 MHz (paired)	-	5 MHz (paired)	10 MHz (paired)	20 MHz (paired)
Amount due	€24	€0	€2,000	€12,051	€14,075
<b><i>The 700 MHz band in Saint-Martin</i></b>					
Frequencies	708 – 713 MHz and 763 – 768 MHz	-	703 – 708 MHz and 758 – 763 MHz	713 – 723 MHz and 768 – 778 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	5 MHz (paired)	-	5 MHz (paired)	10 MHz (paired)	20 MHz (paired)
Amount due	€24	€0	€2,000	€12,051	€14,075
<b><i>3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy</i></b>					
Frequencies	3700 – 3800 MHz	3420 – 3520 MHz	3620 – 3700 MHz	3520 – 3620 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	100 MHz	100 MHz	80 MHz	100 MHz	380 MHz
Amount due	€2	€2	€0	€2	€6
<b><i>3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Saint-Martin</i></b>					
Frequencies	3700 – 3800 MHz	3420 – 3520 MHz	3620 – 3700 MHz	3520 – 3620 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	100 MHz	100 MHz	80 MHz	100 MHz	380 MHz
Amount due	€2	€2	€0	€2	€6
<b><i>900 MHz band in Saint-Barthélemy</i></b>					
Frequencies	-	-	910.1 – 914.9 MHz and 955.1 – 959.9 MHz	-	-
Quantity of frequencies	-	-	4.8 MHz (paired)	-	4.8 MHz (paired)
Amount due	-	-	€0	-	€0
<b><i>The 2.1 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy</i></b>					
Frequencies	-	-	-	1945.1 – 1950.1 MHz and 2135.1 – 2140.1 MHz	-
Quantity of frequencies	-	-	-	5 MHz (paired)	5 MHz (paired)
Amount due	-	-	-	€4	€4

In the coming weeks, Arcep will award licences to use spectrum in the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands in Guiana, in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin and in the 900 MHz and 2.1 GHz bands in Saint-Barthélemy.

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## Reminder of the previous stages of the procedures in Guiana

Having completed the examination of the applications for the assignment of blocks of 5 MHz (paired) of spectrum in the 700 MHz in Guiana in exchange for commitments<sup>1</sup>, the principal auction for assigning all of the remaining available frequencies in the 700 MHz band (by blocks of 5 MHz (paired)), which was held on 18 April 2023<sup>2</sup>, made it possible to determine the quantity of spectrum obtained by each of the winning candidates, provided the procedure for awarding spectrum in the 700 MHz band in Guiana is brought to completion, and the commitments made by the winning candidates in exchange for blocks of 5 MHz (paired) are translated into obligations in their frequency licences.

The principal auction whose purpose was to assign the four blocks of frequencies in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band available in predetermined positions (Block 1 of 50 MHz, Blocks 2 and 3 of 60 MHz each and Block 4 of 70 MHz), which was held on 1 June 2023<sup>3</sup>, made it possible to determine the blocks of frequencies obtained by each of the winning candidates, provided the procedure for awarding spectrum in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Guiana is brought to completion.

## Results of the positioning auction in Guiana

At the outcome of the positioning auction for the assignment of 700 MHz band frequencies, the results in Guiana are as follows:

Candidate	Digicel AFG	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Outremer Telecom	Total
<i>The 700 MHz band</i>					
Positioning in the 700 MHz band in Guiana from the bottom up	1	4	3	2	-
Amount due from the positioning auction	€0	€16,991	€20,366	€0	€37,357

## Licence fee payment in Guiana

As a reminder, the winning candidates will pay:

- The combined amount bid during the principal auction and the positioning auction, to be paid in four equal instalments over four years, the first of which will be paid upon being awarded their frequency licence, and the remaining three on the anniversary of that date;
- The amount proportional to the amount of spectrum awarded for the current year, expressed in MHz, payable before 31 January or, for a new assignment, the date on which the frequencies are released. This amount per MHz assigned in Guiana, is set as follows: 572.50 euros for the 700 MHz band and 143.13 euros for the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band.

In addition to these amounts, operators will pay a variable annual fee, equal to one percent of the revenue earned from the use of these frequencies, with the exception of the revenue earned on the operation of a second generation (2G) mobile network.

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<sup>1</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>2</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>3</sup> [The press release](#)

## Reminder of the previous stages of the procedures in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin

Having completed the examination of the applications for the assignment of blocks of 50 MHz in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin in exchange for commitments<sup>4</sup>, the principal auctions for assigning all of the remaining available frequencies in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band (by blocks of 10 MHz) and in the 700 MHz band in these two territories, which were held, respectively, on 18 April 2023<sup>5</sup> and 1 June 2023<sup>6</sup>, made it possible to determine the quantity of spectrum obtained by each of the winning candidates, provided the procedure for awarding spectrum in the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin are brought to completion, and the commitments made by the winning candidates in exchange for blocks of 50 MHz are translated into obligations in their frequency licences.

Upon examination of the candidates' applications, only the firms Free Caraïbe and Orange Caraïbe were qualified to participate in the assignment procedure for the block of 4.8 MHz (paired) in the 900 MHz band and the block of 5 MHz (paired) in the 2.1 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy<sup>7</sup>.

Upon completion of the principal auctions for the assignment of the 700 MHz band in Saint-Barthélemy, the cap on requests for low-band spectrum compatible with neighbouring territories' frequency plans, stipulated in II.6.1 of Document II in the Annex to Arcep Decision No. 2022-0723, made it possible to determine – in light of the quantity of low-band spectrum held by the two candidates – and provided the procedure for awarding 700 MHz band spectrum in Saint-Barthélemy is brought to completion, the winning candidate for the block of 4.8 MHz (paired) in the 900 MHz band in Saint-Barthélemy, provided the procedure for awarding the 900 MHz band in Saint-Barthélemy is brought to completion<sup>8</sup>. The principal auction for assigning the block of 5 MHz in the 2.1 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy, which was held on 15 May 2023<sup>9</sup>, made it possible to determine the winning candidate for this block of frequencies, provided the procedure for awarding 2.1 GHz band spectrum in Saint-Barthélemy is brought to completion

## Results of the positioning auction in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin

At the outcome of the positioning auction for the assignment of 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band frequencies, the results in Saint-Barthélemy are as follows:

Candidate	Dauphin Telecom	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Total
<i>The 700 MHz band</i>				
Positioning in the 700 MHz band in Saint-Barthélemy from the bottom up	2	1	3	-
Amount due from the positioning auction	€0	€0	€1,000	€1,000

<sup>4</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>5</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>6</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>7</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>8</sup> [The press release](#)

<sup>9</sup> [The press release](#)

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Candidate	Dauphin Telecom	Digicel AFG	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Total
<b>3.4 – 3.8 GHz band</b>					
Positioning in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Saint-Barthélemy from the bottom up	4	1	3	2	-
Amount due from the positioning auction	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0

At the outcome of the positioning auction for the assignment of 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band frequencies, the results in Saint-Martin are as follows:

Candidate	Dauphin Telecom	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Total
<b>The 700 MHz band</b>				
Positioning in the 700 MHz band in Saint-Martin from the bottom up	2	1	3	-
Amount due from the positioning auction	€0	€0	€1,000	€1,000

Candidate	Dauphin Telecom	Digicel AFG	Free Caraïbe	Orange Caraïbe	Total
<b>3.4 – 3.8 GHz band</b>					
Positioning in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Saint-Martin from the bottom up	4	1	3	2	-
Amount due from the positioning auction	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0

## Licence fee payment in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin

As a reminder, the winning candidates will pay:

- The combined amount bid during the principal auction and the positioning auction, to be paid in four equal instalments over four years, the first of which will be paid upon being awarded their frequency licence, and the remaining three on the anniversary of that date;
- The amount proportional to the amount of spectrum awarded for the current year, expressed in MHz, payable before 31 January or, for a new assignment, the date on which the frequencies are released. This amount per MHz assigned in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin is set as follows:
  - o In Saint-Barthélemy, this amount per MHz assigned is set at 65.00 euros for the 700 MHz, 900 MHz and 2.1 GHz bands, and at 16.25 euros for the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band;
  - o A Saint-Martin, this amount per MHz assigned is set at 125.00 euros for the 700 MHz band and at 31.25 euros for the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band.

In addition to these amounts, operators will pay a variable annual fee, equal to one percent of the revenue earned from the use of these frequencies, with the exception of the revenue earned on the operation of a second generation (2G) mobile network.

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## **Associated documents**

- [Page dedicated to the procedure](#)
- [Arcep Decision No. 2023-1462 of 4 July 2023 on the summary and results of the award procedure for licences to use frequencies in the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands in Saint-Barthélemy and in Saint-Martin and in the 900 MHz and 2.1 GHz bands in Saint Barthélemy to establish and operate a mobile radio network open to the public](#)
- [Arcep Decision No. 2023-1461 of 4 July 2023 on the summary and results of the award procedure for licences to use frequencies in the 700 MHz and 3.4 – 3.8 GHz bands in Guiana to establish and operate a mobile radio network open to the public](#)
- [Arcep Decision No. 2023-0148 of 28 March 2023 on the summary of the examination of the tender dossiers received and the results of the assignment phase for the blocks of 50 MHz in the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band in Saint-Martin and Saint-Barthélemy to establish and operate a mobile radio network open to the public](#)
- [Arcep Decision No. 2023-0147 of 28 March 2023 on the summary of the examination of the tender dossiers received and the results of the assignment phase for the blocks of 5 MHz \(paired\) in the 700 MHz band in Guiana to establish and operate a mobile radio network open to the public](#)

## **Arcep at a glance**

The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Postal Affairs and Print Media Distribution (Arcep), a neutral and expert arbitrator with the status of independent administrative authority (IAA), is the architect and guardian of internet, fixed and mobile communications and postal networks in France.

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