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PRESS RELEASE

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Commission Announces Successful Applicants for Spectrum Award 2016

16 August, 2016– The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (*Commission*) is pleased to announce that it has completed its review and assessment of the Applications made in the Spectrum Award 2016 process and notified Successful Applicants. All three mobile operators CCT, Digicel and Flow applied for and were successful in being awarded spectrum in the Spectrum Award 2016.

On 26 May 2016, the Commission gave Notice of Consultation on the Modified Invitation to Apply for 700, 1900 MHz and AWS-1 Spectrum Award (*MITA*). The final MITA was published on 5 July, 2016, together with the Consultation Report. The deadline for registration for the Award was 12 July 2016. The three mobile operators in the Virgin Islands (CCT, Digicel and Flow) successfully Registered for the Spectrum Award 2016 and Applied for relevant spectrum in accordance with the Spectrum Award Rules.

The Commission notified today, 16 August 2016, the successful applicants of the spectrum that they will be awarded. Frequency Authorisations will be granted by the Commission to the operators on 23 August – subject to compliance with the Rules and any agreed Undertakings. Each of the operators were successful with their first or second spectrum preferences in the Award.

The aim of the Award has been to provide the three mobile operators with spectrum they can use to deliver high speed mobile broadband services using LTE technology. The implementation of this technology in the Virgin Islands will provide enterprises, consumers and citizens with better quality mobile broadband services and is in line with developments that have already occurred in North America and Europe and being implemented elsewhere across the Caribbean.

Guy Lester Malone, Chief Executive Officer of the Commission said “We are very pleased to report that the Spectrum Award 2016 process has been successful and is now complete. We appreciate the care, professionalism and diligence that all of the operators have shown in the Spectrum Award process.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. The Commission is the independent regulator with responsibility for regulating the telecommunications sector of the Virgin Islands, protecting interests of users of telecommunications services, ensuring fair competition among operators of telecommunications networks and providers of telecommunications services, promoting the development of telecommunications throughout the Virgin Islands and advising the Minister of Communications and Works on telecommunications policies.