

23. Radio Transmitters and Satellite Receivers

23.1 Installation of Radio Transmitters

Missions and posts are not permitted to install radio transmitters without the permission of the receiving State, as per Article 27 of the VCDR.

It is New Zealand practice to notify consent for communication transmitters by the issue of a licence, which contains the conditions observed. Radio Spectrum Management in the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) issues the licence.

Missions and posts wishing to install any type of radio transmitter must first apply via Third Person Note to Protocol Division. Missions and posts may also wish to consult Protection Services and MBIE to seek informal guidance on technical matters. However, requests for licences may not be made without first seeking written approval through Protocol Division. The formal request should indicate the following:

- the willingness of the sending State to permit the installation of a transmitter in New Zealand's mission or post in that country on a reciprocal basis;
- the type of emission, power, bandwidth, frequencies and equipment type which will be used; and
- undertaking that any physical constraints or planning requirements of relevant local authorities will be met, in particular those applicable to the installation of aerials and satellite dishes.

Following the necessary consultations, Protocol Division will refer the mission or post concerned to the Radio Spectrum Management of MBIE for completion of technical requirements and the issue of the licence.

Missions and posts installing transmitters must ensure that trades people installing such equipment are aware that MFAT and MBIE must have been consulted on the installation in advance.

23.2 Installation of Satellite Receiving Dishes

Where a mission or post intends to install a satellite-receiving dish, Protocol Division should be informed before installation. Local council approval may be required and approval should not be assumed.

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