

Cyprus

Exposure guidelines	<p>The ICNIRP guidelines have been adopted by legislation in 2004. The legislation has been recently updated to include the UMTS and DVBT sources. Additionally the measurements in the vicinity of a base station should be performed at three places around the base station in a distance less than 100m in residential areas and at two places in case the distance to the nearest building is more than 200m. Although the public concern is still remarkable and the pressure from green parties is significant the Department of Electronic Communication (DEC) changed the legislation (to be effective in 2014) and the EMF measurements will be conducted once a year on every base station. The project is implemented in collaboration with accredited laboratories. The results are delivered to DEC and are posted on their webpage.</p>
Planning Authority	<p>Municipality and Ministry of Interior's Planning and Housing Department.</p>
Requirements for planning permission	<p>Vary according to type and location. All base stations have to comply with the Cypriot legislation formed in 2006 as the new guidelines were incorporated in the National Building Code. Municipalities provide permits to cases where a base station is installed on roof tops. Planning and Housing Department provide permits for base station installed on rural plots. In residential areas usually both permits, planning and building, are needed. In cultural or developing areas, both permits are needed and sometimes an environmental risk assessment should be performed. In most cases where location makes it necessary, base stations need to assure approval from the Civil Aviation Department, Archaeological Department, Forestry Department and the Fire Department, Local authorities, Department of Electronic Communication, Department of Medical Care, Department of Civil Works and Department of Environment. All base stations have to comply with the guidelines of Ministry of Health and the Department of Electronic meeting Environmental Impact Assessment standards.</p> <p>Achieving a building permit under the existing legislation is difficult and time consuming. The interacting Departments are often confused with regards to their authorities and in many cases there are overlapping requirements by the different departments causing delays and in some cases unjustified rejection of permits.</p>
Timescales for Permission	<p>The original provision of six weeks contained in the new legislation is hardly ever kept by the Authorities. Typical timescales go up to one year. Worst cases two years.</p>
Appeals process	<p>Appeals go through administrative courts within 30 days of rejection of the permit.</p>
Public Consultation	<p>Not mandatory, but requirements may vary. The company's policy is to make publications in local newspapers when a new base station is about to be installed (in compliance with the Law).</p>

Exemptions & Existing site upgrade	Upgrades are evaluated following the procedures for new base stations. Indoor antennas are excluded from building permits.
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(GSMA Europe: Extract from Base Station Planning Permission In Europe, December 2013.)