
Comments on CRC Regulatory Agenda 2026–2027 (Public Consultation)

Desde Rodrigo Cruz Gebrim

Fecha Vie 14/11/2025 8:58 PM

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CC Jennifer Manner

Dear CRC Team,

AST SpaceMobile welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the draft Regulatory Agenda 2026–2027. AST SpaceMobile is building the first space-based direct-to-device (D2D) mobile broadband network, designed to connect directly to standard, unmodified mobile phones and IoT devices using 5G/LTE protocols. This technology is no longer a distant prospect. In 2024–2025, AST SpaceMobile successfully completed real 4G and 5G broadband video calls, text messages and data sessions using ordinary smartphones, in partnership with major mobile operators such as Vodafone, AT&T, Rakuten and Verizon.

Given this rapid global progress, we commend the CRC for recognizing the growing importance of Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTN) and Direct-to-Device (D2D) communications in its draft Agenda. In this context, we respectfully submit the following comments and suggestions.

First, regarding the **inclusion of D2D and NTN as a strategic priority**, we appreciate that the draft Agenda highlights NTN and satellite–mobile integration as global trends. Considering the technological maturity already demonstrated and the international regulatory momentum, including ITU-R studies under WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.13, we recommend that NTN and D2D be elevated from a general trend to a core strategic line of action within the Agenda, particularly with regard to rural connectivity, emergency communications and digital inclusion.

Second, with respect to **prospective analysis of non-terrestrial networks (NTN) initiative**, the proposed prospective analysis on NTN is highly relevant. We suggest that its scope explicitly include D2D communications in IMT and MSS bands, the technical frameworks such as SCS and SMCS, and concrete use cases for IoT, emergency services and mobility connectivity, including rural areas, highways and maritime environments.

Third, on the topic of **moving satellite–terrestrial integration from a “good practice” reference to a regulatory workstream**, the Agenda correctly identifies D2D and SCS integration as a promising tool for rural coverage. Considering the strategic importance of universal connectivity in Colombia, we encourage the CRC to formalize this subject as a dedicated line of regulatory work, with clear objectives and deliverables over the 2026–2027 period.

Fourth, we see **NTN and D2D technology as powerful instruments to reduce the digital divide**. These solutions can directly address coverage gaps, especially in rural and remote regions, by enabling continuous mobile coverage in isolated areas, providing reliable connectivity during disasters and outages, and supporting public-interest services in sectors such as education, health, agriculture and early-warning systems. For this reason, we recommend an explicit alignment between the NTN study and Colombia’s universal service and inclusion objectives.

Fifth, regarding the **integration of NTN in the 5G, 6G and IoT ecosystem**, the Agenda correctly links satellite–terrestrial interconnection with emerging digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, 5G, 6G and IoT. To reinforce this vision, we suggest that NTN and D2D be treated as integral components of Colombia’s future 5G, 6G and IoT policy, particularly in relation to massive IoT deployments, extensions of rural 5G coverage, mission-critical communications and the resilience of national connectivity.

Sixth, in line with the **CRC’s commitment to evidence-based and collaborative regulation**, we suggest that the Agenda consider the creation of an NTN and D2D regulatory sandbox, as well as pilot programs in selected areas of the country. These instruments would allow the regulator and industry to jointly test the technology, assess its coexistence with terrestrial systems and better understand its potential before adopting permanent regulatory measures.

Finally, AST SpaceMobile congratulates the CRC on a forward-looking and comprehensive draft Agenda. We remain at your disposal to contribute technical expertise, share international experience and support the development of NTN and D2D initiatives that can expand connectivity and promote digital inclusion in Colombia.

Kindly regards,

Rodrigo Gebrim

Head of International Strategy and Regulatory Affairs (LATAM)

AST SpaceMobile



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