

September 2018

AVIA Briefing Paper

Essential Content Lists – International Examples¹

A number of countries operate schemes where “essential programming” lists are maintained. Programming on these lists (usually sporting or cultural events) must be made widely available to all consumers (usually on free-to-air terrestrial TV). This includes countries in Europe such as the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Denmark and Finland, as well as Australia, India, Singapore and Thailand in this region. Other countries, such as the United States and New Zealand, do not operate comparable schemes². A table summarising a selection of schemes is provided at the end of this paper.

Key requirements for a smoothly-functioning and market-friendly “essential programming” list are:

- a) That the list be fixed well in advance. Advance knowledge of the broadcasting conditions allows all industry players to negotiate contractual payments that suit the regulatory requirements. Governments are therefore urged to anticipate this issue, and set the lists in advance (rather than waiting for an event to be imminent).
- b) That the list should be short. It should be confined to events which are really of essential national importance to the government/people in question. Just because an event is popular does not justify its inclusion in an “essential programming” list. Events that are included in such lists lose much of their commercial value, harming both TV operators who might seek to sell them, and also the sporting leagues which sell the rights.³ The European Commission has put in place a set of guidelines for use by its members; those are discussed below.
- c) The list should take account of the rapidly growing quantity of sporting content being made available by organizers of major competitions. The 2016 Olympic Games were broadcast on 584 channels with 270 dedicated digital channels with a record 357,000 hours, of which 284,000 were consumed on digital channels. This shows the huge rise in digital platforms, more than twice that of London 2012. National regulations should not (by intent or through oversight) mandate that all this mass of content must be considered “essential.”

¹ Acknowledgement is made to the Australian Department of Broadband, Communications and Digital Economy, which initially assembled many of the materials in this report.

² Among major Southeast Asian markets, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam do not currently have such lists.

³ Notably, the International Olympic Committee protested against proposed inclusion of all its event content in Australian legislation designating events for FTA broadcast. IOC noted that broadcasts of the Olympic Games have been the principal driver of the funding of the Olympic movement.

Europe

In 2010 the EU issued the Audiovisual Media Services Directive which set out EU-wide coordination of national legislation on all audiovisual media, both traditional TV broadcasts and on-demand services. Whilst this is currently under review, as of June 2018, parts of the revisions are aimed at extending the regulations to new technology, including online platforms. Critically, though, currently Article 14 of the AVMS retains the ability for Member States to take measures compatible with EU legislation to ensure wide access by the public to television coverage of national or non-national events of major importance for society, such as the Olympic Games, the football World Cup and the European football championship.

The Commission of the European Communities must be satisfied that the events listed by Member States have met at least two of the following criteria considered to be reliable indicators of the importance of events for society:

1. a special general resonance within the Member State, and not simply a significance to those who ordinarily follow the sport or activity concerned
2. a generally recognized, distinct cultural importance for the population in the Member State, in particular as a catalyst of cultural identity
3. involvement of the national team in the event concerned in the context of a competition or tournament of international importance
4. the fact that the event has traditionally been broadcast on free-to-air television and has commanded large television audiences.

However, Article 15 requires that those exercising exclusive television broadcasting rights to an event of high interest to the public should grant other broadcasters the right to use short extracts for the purposes of general news programmes on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory terms taking due account of exclusive rights.

The following European countries currently have a designated list of events: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland and the United Kingdom. Most of the lists identify events that must be shown on free-to-air television live or delayed (completely or partly) if the broadcast rights are held exclusively.

The events listed are generally in relation to the national team's participation in an international tournament including the semi-final and final of that tournament (for example, the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup), a one off domestic competition final (e.g. the Football Association Challenge Cup (FA Cup) final), a world tournament (for example, the Olympic Games or World Ice Hockey Championships), a club team's participation in an international tournament as that country's representative including the semi-final and final of that tournament (for example, the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Cup and UEFA Champions League), a one-off event (for example, the Tour de France or a major domestic horse race) and some iconic cultural events (for example, the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra's New Year's Concert).

United Kingdom

The existing regulations are very complex and have been under review by successive governments. The *Broadcasting Act 1996*, as amended by the Television Broadcasting Regulations 2000 and the Communications Act 2003, gives the Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport the power to designate key sporting and other events as 'listed events'. The purpose of the list is to ensure that such events are made available to all television viewers, particularly those who do not have

subscription television. It is only applicable to qualifying broadcasters which are those FTA channels that reach at least 95% of the UK population. The Digital Economy Act 2017 (not yet in force at the time of writing) will give the Secretary of State the power to amend the percentage figure in an effort to future proof for new ways people watch TV with new technologies.

The current list was compiled in Jan 2001 and reviewed in November 2009, although the recommendations were not taken up. The list consists of two groups of events. For Group A events, full live coverage must be offered to generally available free-to-air channels (which, in effect, means BBC1, BBC2, ITV1, Channel 4/S4C and Channel 5). This group includes, for example, the FA Cup Final, the Grand National and the Olympic Games. Group B events may have live coverage exclusive to pay TV provided that secondary coverage (“highlights”) is offered to free-to-air broadcasters. This group includes the Six Nations rugby union tournament, the Ryder Cup, and cricket test matches played in England.

United States

The United States does not operate an “essential content” scheme. In 1994, the United States Federal Communications Commission investigated sports programming in the United States and concluded that there was no significant migration of sporting events from free to-air to pay television. Further, the Commission found that government intervention to promote free access to sporting events of national significance was not warranted. However, the Commission did state that it would monitor the availability of sporting events via free-to-air television and take action consistent with the Commission’s remit if any significant threat arose. (Exclusive distribution of the National Football League’s “Sunday Ticket” games on the DirecTV satellite platform has attracted public controversy, but the FCC has not intervened.)

Australia

Australia continues to maintain the world’s most extensive (and most controversial) “essential content” scheme, although the list was somewhat reduced in 2017. Referred to in that country as an “anti-siphoning” scheme, it was devised in the early 1990s when pay TV was first introduced in Australia, to ensure that television coverage of events of national importance and cultural significance was not “siphoned off” away from terrestrial FTA TV exclusively to pay television.

The Australian *Broadcasting Act 1992* was updated in October 2017 including amending the anti-siphoning legislation. The list was reduced from around 1300 events to around 1200 events. Specific events can be removed from the list in a given year (usually on request of the sporting league in question; the advance deadline for requesting de-listing of an event was also extended from 12 weeks to 26 weeks before the event to align more with the reality of timelines for commercial rights acquisition. (De-listing enables other broadcasters who may be interested in acquiring the broadcast rights, including pay-TV companies, to do so in a timely manner.)

New Zealand

New Zealand does not currently operate an “essential content” scheme. However, the issue of protecting potential free-to-air television coverage of sport of national significance was raised in New Zealand’s 2008 *Digital Broadcasting: Review of Regulation*. The submissions to the review on this aspect were varied in their opinion of whether regulation should be introduced. The report of the review recommended that a study be undertaken which would include examining the issue of access to premium content (for instance, events of national significance). A further bill was

introduced in 2016 to amend the Broadcasting Act to include a list of events of national significance, however the Bill failed to progress, with much of the opposition around the cost to the government.

India

Beginning in 2006 by regulation, and later by a 2007 Act of Parliament, the Indian authorities imposed a system of “Mandatory Sharing of Sports Broadcasting Signals with Prasar Bharati”, the government owned public broadcaster. Sports events of “national significance”, whether held in India or abroad, are eligible for inclusion in the Indian list. The regulations specify that in the case of cricket events, these shall include all matches featuring India and the semifinals and finals of international competitions. The list is reviewed annually.

Named events are to be telecast by Prasar Bharati (PB) on its terrestrial and Direct-to-Home satellite broadcasting service on a live-feed basis. In 2017 the Supreme Court ruled that the “must share” provisions only apply to Prasar Bharati’s own terrestrial television and DTH services and that pay TV providers may not re-transmit those telecasts from Prasar Bharati.

Malaysia

In April 2012 Malaysia’s Minister of Information, Communications and Culture unexpectedly announced (without advance consultation) a “determination” decree requiring rights to certain “Sports Events of National Significance”⁴ to be offered “on reasonable commercial terms” to free-to-air TV broadcasters. The decree, whose list was not unreasonably long, was vaguely worded and provided no guidance as to the nature of “reasonable commercial terms;” it produced considerable uncertainty in the television and sports industries. It has never been brought into effect through implementing regulations, and the Malaysian government chosen in recent elections has not made any further pronouncements on the matter.

Singapore

In 2003, the Media Development Authority in Singapore (MDA) issued a Code of Practice for Market Conduct in the Provision of Mass Media Services (the ‘Code’). Included in the Code is provision for a list of programming which may not be procured by any pay TV operator on an exclusive basis. The code lists a set of criteria on which the MDA’s decisions are based when imposing these.

According to the code, free-to-air protection is applied to certain ‘events of national significance’ which may be programmes that involve ‘major international sporting events, international sporting events in which a Singapore team or personality is participating, or significant local sporting events.’ The Singapore list was revised by the government in a 2012 consultative process; a few events were removed and a few others were added. In any case the list remains fairly short, including broad international sport competitions such as the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, and Asian Games, as well as events of more local interest such as the F1 Race in Singapore and the Paralympics. Games when the Singapore national team plays in some sports (such as the Malaysia Cup soccer tournament or FIFA World Cup) are also singled out for specific coverage.

⁴ Malaysia’s listed events included the Summer Olympics, Asian Games, Southeast Asian Games, Thomas Cup badminton tournament, and the final/semifinal rounds of the FIFA World Cup and Malaysian Super League soccer tournaments. The full list can be found in the appendix.

South Korea

The Broadcasting Act, implemented in 2000, was updated in 2007 to include a reference to the KCC publishing a list of “the sports games and other major events that are greatly popular with the people” which should be shared with all broadcasters at fair and rational prices in order for the general population to have access to them. This legislation remains in place, along with related enforcement regulations. The current list includes the Olympic Games, the FIFA World Cup, the Asian Games, the World Baseball Classic and national team football matches.

Thailand

In January 2013 the NBTC’s criteria for a list of essential events, dubbed “must-have”, came into effect. The list contains seven sports events⁵ that must be available to consumers through a national free-to-air channel (which is then also carried on all pay-TV systems.) Since then the listing process has been the subject of court suits by rights owners and has also been reviewed independently⁶ identifying issues such as the cost to purchase the rights, but to date the NBTC has not acted on the recommendations.

Austria

Austria operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including domestic and international football events and matches, the Olympic Games, FIS World Alpine skiing championships, World Nordic skiing championships, Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra’s New Year’s concert and the Vienna Opera Ball.

Belgium

Belgium operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including domestic and international football events and matches, tennis, cycling, the Olympic Games, athletics, the Belgian Formula 1 Grand Prix and the final of the Queen Elisabeth Music Competition. The list has three parts with events listed that are significant to the Belgian population, the French community in Belgium and the Flemish community in Belgium.

Denmark

Denmark operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including domestic and international football, the Olympic Games and handball.

⁵ Olympic Games, Southeast Asian Games, Asian Games, Paralympic Games, Asian Para Games, ASEAN Para Games, and FIFA World Cup Final Matches

⁶ <http://lib.nbtc.go.th:8080/aion-streaming/access.do?p=Y29udGVudCUyRmVib29rJTJGMjAxNTA4MTFfMTQzOTI2MDkyMTQwNF8xMTA4MjAxNTAyLnBkZg==&m=stream>

France

France operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including domestic and international football events and matches, domestic and international rugby union events and matches, tennis, cycling, the Olympic Games, the French Formula 1 Grand Prix, basketball, athletics and European handball.

Finland

Finland operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including international football events and matches, the Olympic Games, athletics, the Nordic World Ski Championships and ice hockey.

Germany

Germany operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of domestic and international football events and matches.

Hungary

Hungary operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including domestic and international football, the Olympic Games, the Hungarian F1 Grand Prix, water polo and handball matches featuring Hungarian teams.

Ireland

Ireland operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including international football events and matches, international rugby union events and matches, the Summer Olympic Games and several domestic horse races. It was expanded in 2017 to include the All-Ireland Senior Ladies' Football Final and the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final.

Italy

Italy operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including domestic and international football events and matches, cycling, the Olympic Games, the Italian Formula 1 Grand Prix, and the San Remo Italian music festival.

Poland

Poland operates a designated list of events under the Audiovisual Media Services Directive as approved by the Commission of European Communities. The list covers a range of events including

international football events and matches, the Olympic Games, athletics, the Nordic World Ski Championships and volleyball.

Hong Kong
September 2018

Summary Tables: Essential Content Lists

Australia*	Austria	Belgium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ Commonwealth Games ✓ Melbourne Cup ✓ each match in the AFL Premiership and AFL finals ✓ each match in the NRL Premiership and NRL finals ✓ each Rugby League State-of-Origin match ✓ each international Rugby League test match involving Australia, played in Australia or NZ ✓ each international Rugby Union test match involving Australia, played in Australia or NZ ✓ Rugby League World Cup involving Australia, played in Australia, NZ or Papua New Guinea ✓ Rugby World Cup match involving Australia and the final ✓ each test match involving the Australian cricket team, played in Australia ✓ each test match involving the Australian and UK cricket teams, played in the UK ✓ each one-day international involving Australian cricket team, played in Australia ✓ FIFA World Cup matches involving the Australian football team ✓ FIFA World Cup finals tournament ✓ tennis: Australian Open ✓ Davis Cup—matches involving Australia, played in Australia ✓ Davis Cup final if involving Australia ✓ netball World Cup semi-final and final match involving Australia ✓ each race held in the FIA Formula 1 Grand Prix held in Australia ✓ each race in the Moto GP held in Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ FIFA World Cup (men)—Austrian national team matches, opening match, semi-finals and final ✓ European Championship Football (men)—Austrian national team matches, opening match, semi-finals and the final ✓ Austrian Football Cup final ✓ FIS World Alpine skiing championships ✓ Nordic World skiing championships ✓ Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra's New Year's concert ✓ the Vienna Opera Ball. 	<p><i>Live and in full</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Belgian Football Cup final (men) and all matches involving Belgian men's football team ✓ FIFA World Cup finals tournament (men) ✓ European Football Championship finals (men) ✓ Champion's League matches involving Belgian clubs ✓ UEFA Cup matches involving Belgian clubs ✓ Ivo Van Damme Memorial ✓ Belgian Formula 1 Grand Prix ✓ Roland Garros and Wimbledon—quarter finals, semi-finals and finals involving a Belgian player ✓ Davis Cup and Fed Cup—quarter finals, semi-finals and finals involving the Belgian team ✓ Queen Elisabeth Music Competition final. <p><i>Live and with excerpts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Olympic Games ✓ Men's cycling events—Tour de France, Liège-Bastogne-Liège, Amstel Gold Race, Tour of Flanders, Paris-Roubaix, Milan-San Remo, Belgian Road Cycling Championships, World Road Cycling Championships. <p>Events specific to the French Community list</p> <p><i>Live and in full</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ World Athletics Championships, involving Belgian athletes. <p><i>Live and with excerpts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ La Flèche Wallonne (men's cycling) ✓ Winter Olympic Games. <p>Events specific to the Flemish Community list</p> <p><i>Live and in full</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ each Bathurst 1000 race in the V8 Supercar Championship Series <p><i>*short highlighted summary list only</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Champion's League—final and semi- finals ✓ UEFA Cup—final and semi-finals.
Denmark	Finland	France
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ Football World Cup and European Championship final rounds (men) involving Denmark, plus the semi-finals and finals ✓ handball World Cup and European Championship final rounds (men and women) involving Denmark, plus the semi-finals and finals ✓ Denmark's football World Cup and European Championship qualifying matches (men) ✓ Denmark's handball World Cup and European Championship qualifying matches (men and women) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ FIFA World Cup (men's)—Finnish national team matches, opening match, quarter finals, semi-finals and final ✓ European Championship Football (men's)—Finnish national team matches, opening match, qtr finals, semi-finals and final ✓ Ice Hockey World Championships (men's) ✓ Nordic World Ski Championships ✓ World Championship in athletics ✓ European Athletics Championship. <p><i>The opening match, semi-finals and final of the Football World Cup, and the matches of the Finnish team, the opening match, semi-finals and final of the men's Ice Hockey World Championship, and the matches of the Finnish team must be broadcast wholly live.</i></p>	<p><i>Live and in full*</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ official matches of the French national football team in the FIFA calendar ✓ FIFA World Cup (men)—opening match, semi-finals and final ✓ European Championship Football (men)—opening match, semi-finals and final ✓ UEFA Cup final where a French club is involved ✓ UEFA Champions League final ✓ French Football Cup final ✓ Six Nations rugby tournament ✓ Rugby World Cup—semi-finals and final ✓ French Rugby Championship final ✓ European Rugby Cup final, where a French club is involved ✓ Roland Garros tennis—finals of the men's and women's singles events ✓ Davis Cup and Fed Cup semi-finals and finals involving the French team ✓ French Formula 1 Grand Prix ✓ Men's cycling events—Tour de France and Paris-Roubaix ✓ men's and women's finals of the European Basketball Championship, where the French national team is playing ✓ men's and women's finals of World Basketball Championship, where the French national team is playing ✓ men's and women's finals of the European Handball Championship, where the French national team is playing ✓ men's and women's finals of World Handball

		<p>Championship, where the French national team is playing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ World Athletics Championships. <p><i>* Broadcasting of the Tour de France may be limited to highlights, in accordance with the broadcasting tradition for this event. Broadcasting of the Olympic Games and World Athletics Championships may be limited to representative moments reflecting the diversity of sporting disciplines and participating countries and may include recorded material when events take place at the same time. Events of major importance may also be broadcast in pre-recorded form where they take place between midnight and 6 am French time, on the condition that the broadcast in France starts before 10.00 am.</i></p>
Germany	Hungary	India
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ FIFA World Cup (men's)—German national team matches, opening match, semi-finals and final ✓ European Championship Football (men's)—German national team matches, opening match, semi-finals and final ✓ German FA Cup—semi-finals and final ✓ German national football team's home and away matches ✓ UEFA Cup final where a German club is involved ✓ UEFA Champions League final where a German club is involved. 	<p><i>Live and in full</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Olympic Games involving the Hungarian National Team or a Hungarian athlete ✓ opening match, quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals of FIFA Men's Football World Cup and UEFA Men's Football European Championship ✓ all matches of the Hungarian Men's National Football Team ✓ UEFA Champions League final, and the matches of the UEFA Champions League and of the Europa League featuring a Hungarian club team, with the exception of qualifiers, ✓ matches of the International Handball Federation (IHF) Men's and Women's Handball World Championship and of the European Handball Federation (EHF) Men's and Women's Handball European Championship featuring the Hungarian National Team ✓ matches of the Men's and Women's Handball EHF Champions League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Olympics ✓ Commonwealth Games ✓ Asian Games ✓ Special Olympics ✓ Paralympics ✓ Events relating to the following sports— <p>A. Tennis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Davis Cup—All matches featuring India; ✓ Grand Slam Tournaments—Finals of Men's Singles, Women's singles and all matches featuring Indian player from quarterfinals onwards; and ✓ Grand Slam Tournaments—All such matches featuring Indian player in Men's doubles, Women's doubles or mixed doubles, from quarter finals onwards. <p>B. Hockey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ World Cup—All matches featuring India and semi-finals and finals; ✓ Champions Trophy—All matches featuring India and finals; and

	<p>featuring Hungarian club teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ events of the International Swimming Federation (FINA) Men's Water Polo World Championship and the European Swimming Association (LEN) Men's Water Polo European Championship featuring the Hungarian National Team ✓ Formula One Hungarian Grand Prix <p><i>Live and partial coverage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Winter Olympic Games featuring the Hungarian National Team or a Hungarian athlete <p><i>Deferred full or partial coverage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ UEFA Champions League qualifiers featuring a Hungarian club team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Indira Gandhi Gold for Women—Semi-finals and finals. <p>C. Football (soccer)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ World Cup—Opening match, semi-finals and finals; ✓ Asia Cup—All matches featuring India and semi-finals and finals; and ✓ Santosh Trophy—Semi-finals and finals. <p>D. Cricket</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All official One-Day and Twenty-20 matches played by the Indian Men's Cricket Team ✓ Such Test matches as are considered to be of high public interest by the Central Government ✓ Semi-finals and finals of Men's World Cup and International Cricket Council Championship Trophy
Ireland	Italy	Malaysia*
<p><i>Live broadcasting</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Olympic Games ✓ All-Ireland Senior Inter-County Football and hurling finals ✓ Ireland's home and away qualifying games in the European Football Championship and the FIFA World Cup tournaments ✓ FIFA World Cup (men's)—Irish national team matches, opening match, semi-finals and final ✓ European Championship Football (men's)—Irish national team matches, opening match, semi-finals and the final. ✓ Rugby World Cup finals tournament—Ireland's matches ✓ Horse racing—Irish Grand National, Irish Derby and Nations Cup at the Dublin Horse Show ✓ All-Ireland Ladies Gaelic Football Final ✓ All-Ireland Ladies Camogie Final 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ FIFA World Cup—Italian national team matches and the final ✓ European Football Championships—Italian national team matches and the final ✓ all official competitive matches involving the Italian national football team, at home and away ✓ UEFA Cup semi-finals and final where an Italian club is involved ✓ UEFA Champions League semi-final and final where an Italian club is involved ✓ Tour of Italy (Giro d'Italia) cycling competition ✓ Formula One Italian Grand Prix ✓ the Italian MotoGP Grand Prix; ✓ the finals and semi-finals of the world championships of basketball, water polo, volleyball and rugby when the Italian national team is involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Olympics ✓ Commonwealth Games ✓ Asian Games ✓ South East Asian Games ✓ SUKMA Games ✓ Badminton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Thomas Cup and Uber Cup (finals and matches involving a Malaysian team) b) All-England Open championship (finals and matches involving a Malaysian team) c) Malaysian Super Series ✓ Football (soccer) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Malaysian Super League, Malaysian Premier League, and Malaysian Cup (semifinal and final matches) b) ASEAN Football Championship (matches involving the Malaysian team) c) AFC Asian Cup (matches involving the Malaysian team)

<p><i>Coverage on a deferred basis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Six Nations Rugby Tournament—Ireland’s matches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Six Nations rugby matches involving the Italian national team ✓ the final and semi-finals of the Davis Cup and the Fed Cup when the Italian national team is involved and of the Italian Open tennis tournament when Italian players are involved ✓ the bicycle road racing world championship ✓ the opening night of the opera season at La Scala in Milan ✓ the New Year concert at La Fenice in Venice ✓ San Remo Italian music festival. <p><i>* television broadcasters may decide on the manner of FTA broadcasting, with the option of broadcasting live in full or in part or deferred in full or in part other than for the FIFA World Cup and European Football Championships which must be broadcast live in full</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) FIFA World Cup (semifinal and final matches) e) English Premier League (final match) <p><i>*List published in 2012 but never brought into force; no previous list exists.</i></p>
Poland	Singapore	South Korea
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the summer and winter Olympic Games ✓ the semi-finals and finals of the football World Cup and European Championship and any matches involving the Polish national team, including qualifying matches ✓ other matches involving the Polish national football team in official tournaments, and Champions League and UEFA Cup matches involving Polish clubs ✓ matches involving Polish national teams in the men's and women's World and European Volleyball Championships, including qualifying matches ✓ men's Volleyball World League matches played in Poland ✓ semi-finals and finals of the World and European Men's Handball Championships and any matches involving the Polish national team, 	<p>Category “A” programmes: (Must be available for FTA live broadcast)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Olympic Games; ✓ South East Asian Games; ✓ Asian Games; ✓ Commonwealth Games; ✓ FIFA World Cup (opening, semi-final and final matches and matches involving a Singaporean team) ✓ F1 Motor Racing <p>Category “B” programmes: (Must be available for FTA delayed broadcast)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Summer Youth Olympic Games ✓ Summer Paralympic Games ✓ AFF Suzuki Cup ✓ Malaysia Cup (matches involving Singapore teams) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games ✓ FIFA World Cup ✓ Asian Games ✓ World Baseball Classic ✓ National team football matches

<p>including qualifying matches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the Nordic World Ski Championships ✓ women's Cross-Country World Cup (skiing) competitions ✓ Ski Jumping World Cup competitions ✓ World Championships in Athletics 		
Thailand	United Kingdom	
<p>Programs which must be available on free-to-air broadcast:⁷</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games ✓ Southeast Asian Games ✓ Asian Games ✓ Paralympic Games ✓ Asian Para Games ✓ ASEAN Para Games ✓ FIFA World Cup Final Matches <p>Programs which may not be exclusive to any single platform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ World University Sport Championship ✓ Confederation Cup ✓ Asian Football Cup; final and matches including the Thailand national team ✓ Futsal World Championship and Futsal Asian Championship ✓ Sepaktakraw World Championship ✓ Volleyball World Championship ✓ Davis Cup; matches 	<p><i>Live and in full (List A)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Olympic Games (Summer/Winter) ✓ FIFA World Cup finals tournament ✓ European Football Championship finals tournament ✓ FA Cup final ✓ Scottish FA Cup final (in Scotland) ✓ Grand National Steeplechase ✓ the Derby ✓ Wimbledon tennis finals ✓ Rugby League Challenge Cup final ✓ Rugby World Cup final. <p><i>Adequate secondary coverage (List B)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ cricket test matches played in England ✓ non-finals played in the Wimbledon tournament ✓ all other matches in the Rugby World Cup finals tournament ✓ Six Nations Rugby tournament matches involving the United Kingdom's national teams (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland) ✓ Commonwealth Games ✓ World Athletics Championship ✓ Cricket World Cup—the finals, semi-finals and matches involving the United Kingdom's national teams (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland). ✓ Ryder Cup ✓ Open Golf Championship 	

⁷ List effective January 5, 2013