



INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA

DIGITAL MIGRATION STATE OF READINESS

27 - 28 November 2012



GLOSSARY



DTT – Digital Terrestrial Television

BDM – Broadcasting Digital Migration

ITA – Invitation To Apply

STB – Set Top Box

ECS – Electronic Communication Services

ECNS – Electronic Communication Network Services



Introduction and Background

Ministerial Policy published – 08 September 2008

Amended 07 February 2012

Withdrawn & republished on 17 February 2012

Authority's Consultative process: Round 1

Draft Broadcasting Digital Migration Framework Regulations 03 October 2008

Closing date for submissions 07 November 2008

Public hearings 28 November & 01 December 2008

Authority's Consultative process: Round 2

Draft Digital Terrestrial Television Regulations 31 March 2009

Closing date for submissions 30 April 2009

Final Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Regulations 03 July 2009

Authority's Consultative process: Round 3

Final DTT Regulations withdrawn & republished 04 September 2009

Closing date for submissions 02 October 2009

Public hearings 29 – 30 October 2009

Final Digital Migration (DM) Regulations 15 February 2010

Authority's Consultative process: Round 4

Repeal Final DM Regulations & publication of draft DTT Regs 28 September 2011

Closing date for submissions 10 November 2011

Public Hearings 12 -14 March 2012

Authority's Consultative process: Round 5

Draft DTT Regulations for final round of consultation 10 July 2012

Closing date for submissions 30 July 2012

Public Hearings 21 -23 August & 06 September 2012



Introduction and Background

- South Africa has fifteen (15) licensed television services:-
 - **Public Free to Air:** SABC 1, SABC 2 and SABC 3
 - **Commercial free to Air:** e-TV
 - **Commercial Pay TV:** M-Net, Multichoice, On Digital Media, Super 5 Media, WOW TV, and E-Sat
 - **Community TV:** Trinity, Cape Town, Bay TV, Tshwane and Soweto
- All public TV services use analogue frequencies while commercial pay TV use digital satellite technologies (DVB-S)
- Not enough terrestrial frequencies to accommodate the introduction of new community TV, public regional and the opening of competition in the free-to-air market
 - **2x Multiplexer for National DVB-T**
 - **2x Multiplexer for Metro providing DVB-H**
- The Authority has received four applications for Community TV in the Eastern Cape and the North West provinces (all were granted but only issued 3)



OBJECTIVE OF BDM

- Broadcasting digital migration (BDM) offers an opportunity to create additional opportunities for other interested services;
- The uptake of digital technology will free more spectrum currently occupied by the existing services to accommodate rising demand
- The released spectrum will also be utilized to accommodate digital radio, high definition TV and broadband services;
- Therefore, a frequency that currently carry one TV channel e.g. SABC 1, will carry more than 8 channels with the uptake of digital technology; and
- The same capacity used for one TV channel will carry over 50 radio services



INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

- The Authority's approach to BDM is also informed by international law, known as the Geneva 06 (GE 06) Agreement entered into by all countries in region 1 of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), a UN Agency for communications
- The ITU has three regions: Region 1(Africa, EU and the Middle East; Region 2: the Americas and Region 3: Asia & the Pacific
- The GE 06 excludes all countries in region 2&3 with the exception of the Islamic Republic of Iran which signed the agreement



POLICY



Delay in finalising policy: delay in regulatory initiative

- Final Policy issued after the publication of the draft DTT Regulations
- Adopted dual illumination approach – no commencement date and deadline
- Technical Standards for STBs
- Manufacture and distribution of STBs
- Broadcasters state of readiness



REGULATIONS



- Sections 30(2)(c) and (d) read with section 4(1)(a)(b) and (d) of the ECA
- Transmission during dual illumination period
- ITU RRC06 deviation – address national peculiar needs
- 2 DTT Multiplexes for existing television broadcasting service licensees:
 - Multiplex 1 – Public and Community television service
 - Multiplex 2 – Commercial Free-to-air television service and Subscription Broadcasting service



REGULATIONS continued

MULTIPLEX 1 – PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY TELEVISION SERVICES

- SABC 80% Capacity and Community TV 10%
- 10% - Trials (a year or less) on Analogue
- Now: SABC 90% Capacity and Community TV 10%
- Digital incentive channels – authorisation
- Public Value Assessment – section 10 of Broadcasting Act



REGULATIONS continued

MULTIPLEX 2 – COMMERCIAL FREE-TO-AIR TELEVISION SERVICES AND SUBSCRIPTION BROADCASTING SERVICES

- E-tv 40% Capacity and Mnet 30%
- Other interested licensees 30% – future use
- Now: E-tv 50% Capacity and Mnet 40%
- 10% - trial purposes only
- Digital incentive channels – authorisation



REGULATIONS continued

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK SERVICE LICENSEE

- Existing television broadcasting licensees to provide their preferred ECNS to be Multiplex Operator
- Failure – ICASA issue ITA for Multiplex Operators
- Section 62 (ECA) – multiplexing & signal distribution services
- Multiplex 1 & 2 – population coverage (dual illumination period)



PROPOSAL OF MULTIPLEX 3 – NEW ENTRANTS

Options:

1. Split 2nd Mobile Multiplex into two & utilise 49% Capacity for DTT purposes
2. Utilise the whole Mobile Mux for DTT

Opted for option 2:

- 40% - subscription television service licensee
- 50% - new FTA Commercial television service licensee
- 10% - Commercial sound broadcasting service licensees



REGULATIONS continued

Joint Spectrum Advisory Group

- **Comprise:**
- Broadcasting and ECNS licensees
- Officials of ICASA
- Advise ICASA to minimise interference
- Cease after 6 months following switch-off date

Digital Television Content Advisory Group

- **Comprise:**
- Broadcasting licensees; Independent Producers; consumer protection & Civil society Organisations
- Officials of ICASA
- Advise ICASA on the most effective way to ensure the supply of digital television content
- Cease after 6 months following switch-off date



DTT regulation making process

Final phase of **Digital Migration (DM) Regulations**

Published a revised set of DTT regulations on 10 July 2012 for public comment

Twenty (20) written submissions were received on 30 July 2012

Public hearings on the draft regulations on 21 – 23 August 2012 & 06 September 2012

Final DM regulations by end November 2012.



CHALLENGES



- Competition issue raised by the BDM Policy
- Performance Period – No exact commencement date
- Regional Open window



CONCLUSION

ICASA remains committed to engage stakeholders on better and innovative ways to achieve the Digital Migration and the Digital Dividend



QUESTIONS?

Thank you!