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GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA**NOTICE 900 OF 2022****DRAFT AMENDMENT NUMBERING PLAN REGULATIONS, 2016, IN ACCORDANCE
WITH CHAPTER 11 OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT, 2005 (ACT
NO. 36 OF 2005)**

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa ("the Authority") hereby declares its intention to amend the Numbering Plan Regulations, 2016 (published in the Government Gazette on 24 March 2016 (Notice No. 370 of 2016)), to the extent reflected in the schedule.

A copy of the draft Regulations will be made available on the Authority's website at <http://www.icasa.org.za>.

Written representations on the draft Regulations must be submitted to the Authority thirty (30) working days from the date of the publication of this notice (by no later than 11 May 2022) by e-mail to: ELetlape@icasa.org.za and TKhomo@icasa.org.za.

Written representations received by the Authority pursuant to this notice, will be made available for inspection by interested persons at the Authority's website.

The request for confidentiality by any person who submits written representations pursuant to this notice, the Authority may determine that such representations or any portion thereof is to be treated as confidential in terms of section 4D of the ICASA Act. The request for confidentiality must be accompanied by a written statement explaining why the specific information should be treated as confidential in terms of section 4D 1(b) of the ICASA Act. The Authority may determine that such representations or any such portion thereof is to be treated as confidential.

Where the request for confidentiality is refused, the person who made the request will be granted an opportunity to withdraw such representations or portion(s) thereof. Persons requesting confidentiality are thus urged to acquaint themselves with the ICASA Guidelines for Confidentiality Request published in Government Gazette No. 41839 (Notice No. 849) of 17 August 2018.

Persons submitting written representations are further invited to indicate, as part of their submissions, whether they require an opportunity to make oral presentations to the Authority.

All enquiries should be directed to either Mr Elias Letlape or Ms Tumishang Khomo at 012 568 3323 and 012 568 3651 respectively between 09h00 and 16h00, from Monday to Friday.



DR KEABETSWE MODIMOENG

CHAIRPERSON

DATE: 16/03/2022

GOVERNMENT NOTICE**INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA**

NO [] OF 2022

**DRAFT NUMBERING PLAN REGULATIONS**

The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa has, under section 68 read with section 4 of the Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act No. 36 of 2005), made the Regulations in the schedule.

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

In these regulations "the Regulations" means the regulations published by Government Notice No. R.370 (Government Gazette No. 39861) of 24 March 2016, as amended by Government Notice No. R.245 (Government Gazette No. 43230) of 15 April 2020.

2. Amendment of regulation 1 of the Regulations

Regulation 1 of the Regulations is hereby amended -

- 2.1. by the insertion, after the definition "assignment", for the following definition:

"biometric data" means the measurement and statistical analysis of people's unique physical and behavioural characteristics"

- 2.2. by the substitution of the definition "bulk Short Message Service (SMS)/ Multimedia Service (MMS)" for the following definition:

"bulk Short Message Service (SMS)/ Multimedia Service (MMS)" means a subset service of Machine Related Services (MRS) which comprises of communication, sent in large volumes, that originate from an application to a mobile handset."

- 2.3. by the substitution of the definition "calling line identification" for the following definition:

"caller line identification (CLI)" means a facility that enables a party receiving a call to see the caller party's assigned number."

- 2.4. by the insertion after the definition "caller line identification" for the following

definitions:

“**calling line identification presentation (CLIP)**” means a supplementary service offered to the called party which provides the calling party's number, with additional address information if any, to the called party.

“**calling line identification restriction**” means a supplementary service offered to the calling party to restrict presentation of the calling party's number, with additional address information if any, to the called party.”

“**churn rate**” means a percentage of numbers that have discontinued accessing or receiving services of a licensee within a given timeframe.”

- 2.5. by the substitution of the definition “machine related service” for the following definition:

“**machine related service**” means a service whereby:

- (a) communications between two or more machines that need limited or no direct human intervention; or
- (b) communication originating from a device or machine to a person and vice versa.”

- 2.6. by the substitution of the definition “mandated number” for the following definition:

“**mandated number**” means a receiving number that has been determined to be of national and/or public importance by the Authority.”

- 2.7. by the insertion after the definition “mandated number”, for the following definition:

“**migration**” means a process of moving electronic communication services from old number range to a new number range within a given timeframe.”

“**mobile network code (MNC)**” means a component, the second field of the

IMSI and in combination of the mobile country code, provides sufficient information to identify the home network.”

- 2.8. by the insertion, after the definition “Mobile Network Code”, for the following definitions:

“**valid number**” is a number that complies with sub-regulation (14)(3) and has been designated for the service in question in terms of regulation 15 or 16. In the instance of international calls, a valid number is one that that is presented in the correct international format as set out sub-regulation (14)(3).”

“**dialable number**” is a number that is active, wherein caller can make a return or initiate a new call and where the user (individual or an organization) of the number has the authority to use the number by means of having been assigned (either directly or indirectly) the number by the licensee originating the call.”

- 2.9. by the deletion of the definition “mass calling number”.

- 2.10. by the substitution of the definition “short code” for the following definition:

“**short code**” means any number between 3 and 6 digits in length.”

- 2.11. by the insertion after the definition “short code” for the following definition:

“**signalling point code**” means a Network Code adopted or otherwise used in Public Communications Networks using SS7 /C7 that identifies the originating or terminating node of each SS7 /C7 message.”

3. Insertion of regulation 2A in the Regulations

- 3.1. The following regulation is hereby inserted in the Regulations, after regulation 2:

“2A. Application of these Regulations

These Regulations apply to licensees that have been issued an Individual Electronic Communications Service licence (I-ECS) and/or an Individual Electronic Communications Network Service licence (I-ECNS) \or a Ship Station License holder”

4. Substitution of regulation 4 of the Regulations

4.1. The following regulation is hereby substituted for regulation 4 of the Regulations:

“4. HARMONISED AND MANDATED NUMBERS

- (1) Only numbers that have the status ‘protected’ or ‘released’ may be harmonised.
- (2) When harmonising numbers, the Authority must:
 - (i) not less than thirty (30) days before any number is harmonised, consult affected licensee regarding the proposed changes; and
 - (ii) publish a notice in the *Gazette* stating the numbers that are harmonised and describing the services for which the numbers must be used to receive communication.
- (3) Licensees must ensure communications to a mandated number is routed irrespective of the electronic communication network used in originating the communication.
- (4) Licensees must ensure that callers incur no charges for communications to a mandated number irrespective of the electronic communication network used in originating the communication

5. Amendment of regulation 5 of the Regulations

5.1. Regulation 5 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (2) of the following sub-regulations:

“(2) The application set out in sub-regulation (1) must be furnished in the format as ~~set~~ out in **Schedule 3** of these Regulations with the following information:

- (a) Proof of payment for the prescribed fee (Schedule 5).
- (b) A copy of the Individual Electronic Communications Service licence (I-ECS) licence issued by the Authority where applicable
- (c) A copy of a valid competency certificate issued by the relevant institution and certified by SANSA for certain classes of vessel, both commercial and pleasure, that are required under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1951 to be provided with an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB), programmed with a unique 9-digit number as specified by the ITU called a MMSI.” where applicable.

5.2. Regulation 5 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (5) of the following sub-regulation:

“(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub regulation (3) the period contemplated therein may be extended if:

- (a) a period of consultation contemplated in sub regulation (4) is required; or
- (b) there are significant issues relating to the application that cannot be reasonably considered within that period.”
- (c) If the authority requires additional information to substantiate the submitted application, the licensee must submit the information within thirty (30) days from the date of the request.

5.3. Regulation 5 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the insertion of sub regulation (5A) after sub-regulation (5).

“(5A) A licensee must ensure that its application, at a minimum, demonstrates the utilisation percentage of no less than 80% for mobile and machine related numbers and a percentage of no less than 60% for geographic and other non-geographic numbers, to be calculated as follows:

(i) For geographic and other non-geographic numbers, the degree of usage is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Degree of usage (\%)} = \left[\frac{\text{total numbers assigned to customers within an NDC}}{\text{total numbers allocated within an NDC}} \right] \times 100$$

(ii) For mobile and machine related numbers, the degree of usage is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Degree of usage (\%)} = \left[\frac{\text{(total numbers assigned to customers + number used for internal network purposes)}}{\text{total numbers allocated to a licensee}} \right] \times 100$$

5.4. Regulation 5 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition of the following sub regulations:

“(8) An application for mobile numbers must include:

- (a) A copy of the radio frequency spectrum licence issued in line with chapter 5 of the Act and of which the licence condition permits the roll out of mobile service; or
- (b) National mobile roaming agreement with a Licensee that has been issued a spectrum licence in line with chapter 5 of the Act and of which the licence condition permits the roll out of mobile service

- (9) The Authority may decline an application in terms of sub-regulation (1) if a licensee fails to submit prescribed information in terms of sub-regulation (2) and regulation 8 any of the following circumstances occur:
- (a) non-payment of the prescribed application fees;
 - (b) underutilisation of the usage of numbers;
 - (c) non submission of number audit data in line with regulation 8; and
 - (d) failure to submit the required information within 30 days.

6. Insertion of regulation 6A to the Regulations

- 6.1. The following regulation is hereby inserted in the Regulations, after regulation 6:

"6A ACTIVATION, DEACTIVATION AND RE-ASSIGNMENT / RECYCLE OF NUMBERS

- (1) Churn rate must be calculated by taking the quantity of numbers that are no longer in service/discontinued accessing or receiving a service and divide by the quantity of numbers activated at the beginning of a given timeframe.
- (2) Churned numbers must be quarantined for a period of 90 days before being recycled into the pool of available numbers.
- (3) Prior to activating a quarantined for a period of 90 days of withdrawing numbers from assigned subscribers, a licensee must notify the subscriber of the intended withdrawal. The subscriber must be afforded a grace period of 31 days to object to the withdrawal notice.
- (4) Should a subscriber object to the withdrawal as per sub regulation (3), the licensee must abandon the withdrawal and subsequent deactivation of the number\.

- (5) On activation of a mobile number on its network, a licensee must ensure that it collects and link the biometric data of the subscriber to the number.
- (6) A licensee must ensure that, at all times, it has the current biometric data of an assigned mobile number.
- (7) Mobile number\’s assigned to a juristic person are exempted from the provisions of sub regulation (5).
- (8) The biometric data collected in terms of sub regulation (5) must be used for the sole purpose of authentication of a user assigned a mobile number.
- (9) If a subscriber requests a SIM swap, the Licensee must ensure that the biometric data of the user requesting the SIM swap corresponds with the biometric data associated with the mobile number.
- (10) If the biometric data does not correspond with the biometric data associated with the mobile number, the SIM swap must be declined.”

7. Amendment of regulation 8 of the Regulations

Regulation 8 of the Regulations is hereby amended:

7.1. by the substitution for sub-regulation (1) of the following sub regulation:

“(1) Every licensee must submit its number audit data to the Authority, annually, on a date which must not be later than 31 March.”

8. Amendment to regulation 9 of the Regulations

8.1. Regulation 9 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-regulation (1) of the of the following sub regulation:

“(1) A licensee is prohibited from routing communications from or to numbers

that have been barred, if the Authority has consulted with the licensee (s) affected and determined that the numbers have been used in ways that could harm consumers or other licensees.”

- 8.2. Regulation 9 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition of the following sub regulations:

“(5)A Licensee must provide a facility that enables subscribers to opt to bar calls from specified numbers on their respective devices.”

9. Amendment to regulation 11 of the Regulations

- 9.1. Regulation 11 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the addition of the following sub regulations:

“(3) A licensee that is transferring numbers, to another licensee other than the one acquiring the service licence, must:

- (a) apply to the Authority for the transfer of numbers granted under the licence if any part of the block(s) is assigned to end-users.
- (b) return the numbers granted under the licence to the Authority if any part of the block(s) of numbers has not been assigned to end-users.

(4) An application for the transfer of numbers, in terms of sub-regulation (1) and (2) must:

- (a) be submitted in format prescribed (Schedule 3);
- (b) be accompanied by the proof of payment of the prescribed fee (schedule 5);
- (c) be accompanied by the relevant copies of approval letter\s or certificate\s issued by the Authority and information regarding conditions imposed on the allocated number resources;

- (d) contain details of all proposed transfer of numbers and the reasons for the proposed amendments;
 - (e) include a copy of a valid Ship Station licence issued by the Authority for certain classes of vessel, both commercial and pleasure, that are required under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1951 to be provided with an EPIRB, programmed with a unique 9-digit number as specified by the ITU called a MMSI where applicable;
 - (f) be supplemented by any other information the Authority may require subsequent to the lodging of the transfer application.”
- (5) A licensee must not transfer allocated number resources without the prior written approval of the Authority.”

10. Amendment to regulation 12 of the Regulations

Regulation 12 of the Regulations is hereby amended -

- 10.1. by the substitution for paragraph (d) of sub regulation (1) of the following paragraph:

“(d) ensure that Caller Line Identification (CLI), wherein the caller has opted not to restrict their CLI, includes a valid, dialable number which uniquely identifies the caller;”

- 10.2. by the addition to sub regulation (1) of the following paragraphs:

“(e) override any CLIR, that may have been invoked by a caller, in the event a caller makes an emergency call to code 112. A licensee must ensure that the call includes a valid, dialable number which uniquely identifies the caller;

(f) ensure that in the event a caller has opted to use another number for their CLIP, that the number in question must have been either allocated or ported to the originating Licensee, must be a valid, dialable number which uniquely identifies the caller and must not be a number that connects to a Premium Rate Service;

- (g) ensure that, as the originating Licensee, the correct CLI is generated at call origination and that the correct CLI data is exchanged, where applicable, over points of interconnection;

- (h) ensure that, as a transit and/or terminating Licensee and where it is technically capable, stop calls with an invalid and/or non-dialable CLI.”

10.3. by the deletion of sub regulation (2).

11. Substitution of regulation 14 of the Regulations

11.1. The following regulation is hereby substituted for regulation 14 of the Regulations:

"14. INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL NUMBERS

- (1) The format for an international number is guided by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Recommendation E.164. It must be composed of decimal digits arranged in two code fields: the country code (CC) and the national (significant) number N(S)N.
- (2) The national (significant) number (either geographic or non-geographic) must be subdivided into the national destination code (NDC) and the subscriber number.
- (3) The format for an international and national numbers is as per figure 1:

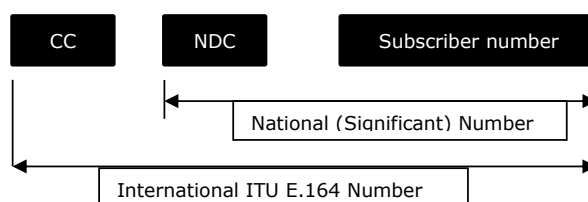


Figure 1: Number structure

- (4) National numbers, geographic or non-geographic are as set out in Table 2: Geographic and Non-Geographic Numbers

Table 2: Geographic and Non-Geographic Numbers

Digits	Significance
00	International prefix
01	
02	

03	
04	
05	Geographic numbers
06	Geographic and Non-geographic numbers
07	
08	
09	
	Non-geographic numbers

..

12. Amendment to regulation 15 of the Regulations

12.1. Regulation 15 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub regulation (3) for the following sub regulation:

“(3) A geographic number must have a length of ten (10) digits. Geographic NDCs and their associated regions are as per Table 3: Area code of geographic numbers:

12.2. Regulation 15 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for “Table 3: Area codes of geographic numbers” of the following table:

“Table 3: Area code of geographic numbers

Digits	Status	Area
010	Released	Johannesburg region
011	Released	
012	Released	Tshwane region (including Pretoria)
013	Released	Northern and western parts of Mpumalanga (including Middelburg, Witbank and Nelspruit)
014	Released	Northern part of Northwest and southern and western parts of Limpopo (including Rustenburg and Nylstroom)

015	Released	Northern and eastern parts of Limpopo (including Polokwane)
016	Released	Vaal Triangle (including Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark and Sasolburg)
017	Released	Southern part of Mpumalanga (including Ermelo)
018	Released	Southern part of Northwest (including Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp)
019	Protected	'Protected'
020	Protected	'Protected'
021	Released	Cape Town region (including Stellenbosch, Somerset West and Gordons Bay)
022	Released	Western coast of Western Cape and Boland (including Malmesbury)
023	Released	Karoo (including Worcester and Beaufort West)
024	Protected	Protected
025	Protected	
026	Protected	
027	Released	Namaqualand (including Vredendal, Calvinia, Clanwilliam, Springbok, Alexander Bay and Port Nolloth)
028	Released	Southern coast of Western Cape (including Swellendam, Caledon and Hermanus)
029	Protected	'Protected'
030	Protected	
031	Released	Durban region
032	Released	KwaZulu Natal central coast (including Stanger)
033	Released	KwaZulu Natal Midlands (including Pietermaritzburg)

Digits	Status	Area
034	Released	Northern KwaZulu Natal (including Vryheid and Newcastle)
035	Released	Zululand (including St. Lucia and Richards Bay)
036	Released	Drakensberg (including Ladysmith)
037	Protected	'Protected'
038	Protected	
039	Released	Eastern Pondoland and southern coast of KwaZulu Natal (including Port Shepstone)
040	Released	Bhisho region
041	Released	Port Elizabeth region (including Uitenhage)
042	Released	Southern and central parts of Eastern Cape (including Humansdorp)
043	Released	East London region
044	Released	Garden Route (including Oudtshoorn, Knysna, Plettenberg Bay, Mossel Bay and George)
045	Released	Northern and eastern parts of Eastern Cape (including Queenstown)
046	Released	Southern and eastern parts of Eastern Cape (including Grahamstown)
047	Released	Eastern part of Eastern Cape (including Mthatha)
048	Released	Northern part of Eastern Cape (including Steynsburg)
049	Released	Western part of Eastern Cape (including Graaff-Reinet)
051	Released	Southern and central parts of Free State (including Bloemfontein) and far eastern part of Eastern Cape (including Aliwal North)
053	Released	Eastern part of Northern Cape (including Kimberley) and far western

		part of North West
054	Released	Gordonia (including Upington)
056	Released	Northern part of Free State (including Kroonstad)
057	Released	Free State Goldfields (including Welkom)
058	Released	Eastern part of Free State (including Bethlehem)

"

13. Amendment to regulation 16 of the Regulations

Regulation 16 of the Regulations is hereby amended -

13.1. by the substitution for sub regulation (3) of the following sub regulation:

“(3) A machine related number must have a maximum length of twelve (12) digits.”

13.2. by the insertion, after sub-regulation (3) of the following:

“(4) Non-geographic ranges are along with their associated services are as listed in Table 4: Non-geographic ranges and services.”

13.3. by the substitution for Table 4 of the following table:

“Table 4: Non-geographic ranges and services

Digits	Status	Significance
050	Released	Mobile services
052	Released	
055	Released	
059	Released	
060	Released	Mobile services
061	Released	
062	Released	
063	Released	
064	Released	
065	Released	
066	Released	
067	Released	
068	Released	
069	Released	
070	Released	

071	Released	
072	Released	
073	Released	
074	Released	
075	Released	Mobile services
076	Released	
077	Released	
078	Released	Mobile services
079	Released	
080	Released	Toll free services
081	Released	
082	Released	Mobile services
083	Released	
084	Released	
085	Released	Mobile services
086	Released	Inbound services
087	Released	Voice over the internet services (VoIP)
088	Released	Future non-geographic services
089	Released	Future non-geographic services
090	Released	Premium rate services (090 2 reserved for adult content)
091	Released	Premium rate services
092	Released	Premium rate services
093	Protected	
094	Protected	'Protected'
095	Protected	
096	Released	
097	Released	Machine related services
098	Released	
099	Protected	'Protected'

"

14. Amendment to regulation 17 the Regulations

14.1. Regulation 17 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the insertions to sub regulation (4) of the following paragraphs:

“(k) the service codes 103, 104, 105, 106, 111, 113, 118, 132 and 139 are designated for Special National Emergency Service such as COVID-19 Emergency service number.

(l) the service codes contemplated in paragraph (k) must be mandated upon request to a specific national government department/ s for access on-net and off-net for a specified Special National Emergency service.”

15. Amendment to regulation 21 the Regulations

15.1. Regulation 21 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for sub regulation (1) of the following sub regulation:

“(1) A numbers must be a receiving number for a premium rate service if-

(a) the number is a premium rate number (10 digits) or a machine related number (12 digits); or

(b) it is a short code that begins with a ‘3’ or ‘4.’”

16. Substitution of regulation 22 of the Regulations

16.1. The following regulation is hereby substituted for regulation 22 of the Regulations:

"22. Machine Related Numbers

(1) Assignments for bulk SMS/ MMS services, that extend beyond the numbering capacities by licensees as submitted to the Authority before 2016, must be in the designated numbering range for MRS. "

17. Substitution of regulation 23 of the Regulations

17.1. The following regulation is hereby substituted for regulation 23 of the Regulations:

"23. Fees

- (1) Fees payable by licensees for the allocation of numbers to recover the administration costs are:
- (a) contained in Annexure A of these Regulations;
 - (b) non-refundable; and
 - (c) subject to an annual increase in the number fee structure calculated by the weighted average of Consumer Price Index of the previous calendar year."

18. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

These regulations are called the Numbering Plan Amendment Regulations, 2022 and will come into effect on the date of publication in the *Government Gazette*.

19. Amendment to section 2 of schedule 1 of the Regulations

19.1. Section 2 of Schedule 1 of the Regulations is hereby amended by the substitution for subparagraph (iii) with the following:

“(iii) Service designated for harmonized services

Harmonized Codes

Service	Code
Voicemail deposit & retrieval	134
Customer care\service	135
Prepaid recharge and balance enquiry	136
Account Enquiries	137

20. Substitution of schedule 3 of the Regulations

20.1. The following schedule is hereby substituted for schedule 3 of the Regulations:

"SCHEDULE 3: APPLICATION FORM FOR NUMBERING RESOURCES



Independent Communications Authority of South Africa

350 Witch-Hazel Avenue, Eco Point Office Park

Eco Park, Centurion

Private Bag X10, Highveld Park 0169

Enquiries: NumberingApplications@icasa.org.za

APPLICATION FORM FOR ALLOCATION, ASSIGNMENT AND RESERVATION OF NUMBERS\CODES

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Application ref No	<input type="text"/>
Payment Received?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Application for Allocation, Assignment & Reservation of Numbers\ codes.	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

1. APPLICATION TYPE:

e.g 080, Geographic, 086, Mobile, MMSI. Do not mix types on this application

Application for: Allocation Assignment Reservation

2 APPLICANT/LICENSEE'S INFORMATION

Name	
I-ECS\ I-ECNS\ Ship Station License No's. and competency tests certificate for MMSI	
Fixed line No	
Mobile No	
Web Site	
Applicant/Licensee Representative	
Name and Surname	
Fixed line No	
Mobile No	
E-mail address:	
External Numbering Representative (In case of an applicant's using an external adviser e.g. consultant)	
Company Name	
Name and Surname	
Fixed line No	
Mobile No	
E-mail address	

Business Address	
Street Address	
Suburb	
Postal Code	
City	
Postal Address	
P.O. Box	
Suburb	
Postal code	

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Complete 3, 4, 5 and 8 for Numbering code, block, individual number, MMSI, MNC and Portability Routing Code.
2. Complete 6 and 8 for ISPC's
3. Complete 7 and 8 NAT1 Signalling Point Code application

3 Technical Information

Numbering code, block, individual number, MMSI, MNC and Portability Routing Code requested

(Where appropriate second and third preferences should be indicated. (NB: allocation of preferred requested numbering is not guaranteed)

1	
2	
3	

Description of service (For Individual number requests i.e. 086 xxx xxxx include the name of the business requesting the number and attached the customer acquisition letter) MMSI include the name of the ship stations/ vessel, competency test certificate and the call sign of the ship station or vessel)			
4 PREVIOUS ALLOCATIONS (RELEVANT TO THIS APPLICATION) NOT APPLICABLE TO MMSI APPLICATIONS			
Data date: (If date differs from the date of application)			
	Service Description of Numbers	Quantity (Allocated)	Quantity (Active)
A	Allocated by The Authority		
B	Internal Network Services		
C	Contract Services		
D	Pre-Paid Services		
E	Total used for services/network (B+C+D)		
F	Degree of usage ((E/A) *100)		
Numbers in Time Window Lock (i.e. numbers in recycling)			
Numbers Set aside for future use			

5. REPORT ON NUMBERS ACTIVATED AND CHURNED IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS, NOT APPLICABLE TO MMSI APPLICATIONS

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6
Actual numbers activated						
Actual numbers churned						

6. ISPC's
Relevant information regarding GMSS:
Required Date – Date by which the assignment is required:
Location of Switch (Town and Address)
Unique Name of Switch (If Available)
Activation Date - Date on which the service is planned to be made operational:
Confirmation of assignment of single ISPC per signaling operational:
Nature of use in the network (e.g. STP, GMSC) -
Physical address of the signaling point/s:
Signaling point manufacture/type:
Identification of at least one planned MTP signalling relation (including name and address of distant signaling point:
Location of distant signaling point:
ISPC of distant signaling point (if known)
Name and/or acronym of the ISPC applied for:

Previous Applications (where applicable)

ISPC	Application's Date	Application's Result	Remarks
Comments (Please attach any additional information you may have)			

<u>7. NAT1 SIGNALING POINT CODE APPLICATION</u>	
<u>Node/Switch information</u>	
Name of the Node/Switch SPC is applied for	
Acronym to be used for the above-mentioned Node/Switch	
Where is this Node/Switch situated? (Physical location)	
Province where this Node/Switch is situated?	
Will the Node/Switch be used as an integrated STP too?	
Is there any Other SPC allocated to the same Node/Switch/STP?	
What will the SPC be used for?	
Planned 'In-service' date	
<u>Interconnect</u>	
Identify the POI or Nodes that this Node/Switch/STP will be interconnecting to.	
Please attached your interconnection agreement that you have signed with the interconnecting Licensee.	

8. Declaration

I declare that all the information in this Application Form and any the attachments provided are true and correct. I understand that the approval from ICASA for this Application is based on the information as declared in this Application Form. Should any of the information declared, found to be inaccurate or incorrect after approval has been granted to the Applicant, ICASA reserves the right to suspend or revoke such approval without compensation. I declare that the numbers will be used in accordance with the numbering conventions.

Note: Reservations will lapse after six months unless covered by an application for an allocation or a further period of reservation.

Name: _____

Date:

Signature:

21. Insertion of schedule 4 of the Regulations

21.1. The following schedules are hereby inserted in the Regulations, after schedule 3:

"SCHEDULE 4

NETWORK NUMBER ACTIVATION AND ROUTING FRAMEWORK

1. PURPOSE OF NETWORK NUMBER ACTIVATION AND ROUTING FRAMEWORK

The purpose of this framework is to set maximum timelines in number activations and routing by parties to an interconnection agreement.

2. REQUESTS FOR NUMBER ACTIVATION AND ROUTING

- (1) A request for number activation and routing must be in writing and must, amongst others, include:
 - (a) the type of interconnection (direct or indirect); and
 - (b) the date of the expected activation and routing.
- (2) The request must be responded to within seven (7) days of receipt, in writing and the response must, amongst others, include the date of expected activation and routing.
- (3) The parties must finalise the number activation and routing within thirty days from the date of request inclusive of the 7 days in clause 2.2. provided that the parties may agree on a longer period, which period must not exceed forty-five (45) days.

3. ROUTING FAULTS AND BREAKS

- (1) Where routing breaks, the party providing the routing must notify the other party within twenty-four (24) hours; and

(2) Parties should fix routing faults/breaks in line with their fault procedures.”

22. Insertion of schedule 5 of the Regulations

22.1. Please see explanatory note.

EXPLANATORY NOTES



INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA

EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE AMENDMENTS

1. Amendment of regulation 1 of the Regulations

The amendments of regulation 1 encapsulates:

- a. Refining existing definitions that require further clarification and certainty for implementation and compliance with the Regulations as well as to remove ambiguity and to align the terms with current practices.
- b. Addition of new definitions intended to encompass provisions not previously incorporated into the Regulations.

The additional new definitions incorporated into the Regulations are:

- (i) Churn rate;
- (ii) Calling Line Identification Presentation;
- (iii) Calling Line Identification Restriction;
- (iv) Migration;
- (v) Mobile Network Code; and
- (vi) Signalling Point Code

2. Insertion of regulation 2A to the Regulations

New insertion in the regulations which provides clarity and certainty in terms of licensees that are eligible to apply for the allocation or assignments of numbering resources. Section 5 (3)(c) of the ECA refers to I-ECS/ECNS utilising numbers from the national numbering plan. The Authority has been receiving numbering applications from C-ECS/ECNS hence the clarity to remove a burden of administration and provide for regulatory certainty.

3. Substitution of regulation 4 of the Regulations

3.1 The amendments separate the provisions for mandated and harmonised numbering resources which were previously captured within a single context while they represent two separate obligations in terms of implementations and requirements but can at times be implemented jointly. The amendments seek to make clear that distinction.

3.2 The amendments also seek to provide guidance on the requirements and expectations of licensees when the Authority pronounces on mandating and/or

harmonization of a numbering resource. Previous instances i.e., 116 and the Covid 19 emergency code, where the Authority has mandated numbers, have necessitated the amendments to ensure a much more fluid implementation as and when it occurs.

4. Amendment of regulation 5 of the Regulations

4.1 The amendment provides clarity on the requirements in terms of applications for different numbering resources. The Authority has noted that applicants were unsure as to the supporting documents required for the different number applications i.e., Mobile number applications. Thus, the amendment with the incorporated clarification seeks to ease the number application process and provide regulatory certainty

4.2 Furthermore, the Regulations have provided guidance on some of the disqualifying factors that would render applications to be declined. Again, this is to assist the numbering application process by bringing more certainty and clarity on the process for the licensee

4.3 One important aspect that has created challenges in the number application process has been the misunderstanding of the turnaround timeframe. As such the Authority deemed it beneficial to expand and clarify the circumstances under which this turnaround period may be extended. This amendment seeks to assist in managing licensee and customer expectations.

4.4 The amendments have also included new requirements i.e., Proof of payment because of the Regulations incorporating the number fee structure. The number fee structure has been incorporated due the legislative requirements of the section 68(7)(a).

4.5 The amendments also have requirements for the allocation for maritime numbering resources which have previously not been incorporated into the regulatory framework.

4.6 As earlier indicated the amendments provide clarity on and requirements and supporting a document that will need accompany an application, the new

insertion of sub regulation (8) focuses on mobile number applications. This emphasis comes about as result of the confusion around what constitutes or is accepted as a mobile service and to which mobile numbers can be allocated.

4.7 The amendments prescribe the requirement of a frequency spectrum licence or roaming agreement, which in terms of the Authority's definition of mobile service is an important characteristic in the provision of such a service.

5. Insertion of regulation 6A to the Regulations

5.1 The insertion addresses matters related to activation and deactivation of numbers from a subscriber perspective. There two main concerns the insertion seeks to assist, namely:

- (a) Circumstances on the deactivation of numbers i.e., mobile numbers, wherein subscribers have raised concerns of inadequate notification of deactivation of an assigned mobile number. This matter further exacerbated by sensitive data and connectivity that can be linked with mobile numbers rendering, at times, the deactivation of mobile numbers a devastating occurrence. The insertions standardize a period from which subscribers can remedy a possible deactivation.
- (b) Activation of mobile numbers with the requirement to link biometric data with the assigned numbers. Over a period, the Authority has been presented with concerns wherein mobile numbers have been hijacked either through a porting and/or SIM swap transaction.
- (c) The hijacking of mobile numbers is a small but integral part of a wider form of fraud where sensitive data is diverted or comes in the control of criminal elements.
- (d) The Authority is of the view that the association of mobile numbers with the biometric data of a subscriber will assist to curb the hijacking of assigned subscriber mobile numbers. There are several jurisdictions that have linked mobile numbers with biometric data of subscribers thus this form of authentication is in practice and is a possible remedy to ensure

that subscribers do not lose control of their assigned mobile numbers.

6. Amendment to regulation 8 the Regulations

- 6.1 The amendment seeks to emphasise the requirement for licensees to comply the number audit requirement.
- 6.2 Number audit data provides the Authority with significant data on the usage of allocated numbering resources integral to the Authority's insight on services accommodated by the numbering plan.
- 6.3 Thus, the amendments have placed a measure under which the Authority will address licensees who do not submit the required data. The amendment adds additional conditions to non-compliance with regulation 8 which are that application from licensees with potential non-compliance shall not be considered.

7. Amendment to regulation 11 the Regulations

The amendment adds additional provision to cater for scenarios which were excluded by the current regulations and provide a procedure for the transfer of numbering resource\s.

8. Amendment to regulation 12 the Regulations

- 8.1 The amendments to regulation 12 have expanded on the original provision relating to caller line identification (CLI). Wherein the original text only stipulated that licensee must "*Prohibit the transmission of an inaccurate Calling Line Identification (CLI) as the originator of communication.*"
- 8.2 The intention of the expansion seeks to address the complexities, inconsistencies and innovations that have arisen around CLI (presentation or restriction).
- 8.3 In expanding on the original provision, consideration was taken of similar international practices that have been implemented amongst other jurisdictions

with similar dynamics.

- 8.4 The substitution of sub regulation 12(1)(d) seeks to elaborate on what must be encompassed within CLI data.
- 8.5 The insertion of sub regulation 12(1)(e) seeks to affirm the circumstances under which CLI restriction will have to be overridden by Licensees as part of the provision for emergency services under section 76(4)(b) of the ECA.
- 8.6 The new insertion of sub regulation 12(1)(f) has come about as a result of the complexities and innovations around CLI wherein subscribers, particularly organizations, would want an option of opting to use an alternative number for CLI presentation. This is argued to be for marketing and promoting accessibility of the organization concerned.

9. Amendment to regulation 15 and 16 the Regulations

- 9.1 The national numbering plan currently makes one major distinction in numbering resources: geographic and non-geographic numbers, of which mobile numbers are a subset of non-geographic numbers.
- 9.2 In terms of the non-geographic portion of the numbering plan:
 - a. Due to innovations some services have become
 - b. A total of 230 million mobile numbers in the national numbering plan to which a significant portion has already been allocated.
- 9.3 In terms of geographic number allocations, over the period of 5 years, since the enforcement of the Regulations, the allocations do not depict an overwhelming uptake. Except for metropolitan areas i.e., Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban etc. allocations made in the outskirts areas are low and similarly their utilization i.e., uptake.
- 9.4 In addition to low allocations and utilizations, there are 12 National Destination Codes (NDCs) that remain "protected" and unutilised. This amounts to unutilised capacity of 120 million numbers.

9.5 There has also been changes on the provision of geographic services. Due to technological advancements i.e., Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) there has been a change from the tradition manner of providing geographic services i.e., Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). This has had the consequence of giving geographic services "mobility" and thus an appearance of convergence of services.

9.6 Thus, to ease the constraints noted in the non-geographic section of the numbering plan, the amendment has reclassified some of the geographic destination codes to mobile resources.

10. Amendment to regulation 17 the Regulations

10.1 The amendment provides for reservation of service codes in respect of national disaster requirements such as the need for a COVID-19 emergency code.

10.2 Current regulation does not cater for this and creates a challenge when the need arises because the service codes released are self-regulated by licensees and as such requires a lengthy period to find available short codes.

11. Amendment to regulation 21 the Regulations

This amendment removes expired conditions and revises the length of the digits for the machine related service number resources.

12. Amendment to regulation 22 of the Regulations

12.1 In terms of section 68 (7)(a) of the ECA, the Authority must incorporate, in the Regulations, matters relating to fees Licensees must pay for the allocation of numbers.

12.2 The amendment will seek to introduce the provisions of the number fee structure in line with the provisions of the ECA.

12.3 This schedule will be added subject to a separate consultation process on the fees structure.

13. Amendment to schedule 1 of the Regulations

The amendment has merged voicemail retrieval and deposit into a single service, this is to promote efficiency hence the reduction of the number of harmonized codes.

14. Amendment to schedule 3 of the Regulations

The amendment of schedule 3 has updated the number application form to include additional requirements, new provisions i.e. maritime numbering resources and fees that will be applicable in the number application process.

15. Insertion of schedule 4 to the Regulations

15.1. The amendment introduces number activation and routing framework. The Authority has been receiving queries from as far back as 2018 on challenges faced by licensees on number activation and routing. A recent query is dated 27 August 2020 wherein one Licensee had queried on whether it was acceptable for another licensee to refuse to activate number ranges on their networks from interconnection partners due to network freeze periods.

15.2. In another query received back in 2018, the Numbering Unit had solicited comments from other licensees to share their experiences regarding number activation and routing with interconnected partners. From the comments it was clear that there is inconsistency on how licensees treat interconnection partners. This experience ranged from amongst others, whether there is an existing interconnection agreement and whether the interconnection agreement is direct or indirect.

15.3. The regulatory vacuum created by both the Interconnection and Numbering Regulations not to provide timelines to conclude number activation and routing has had some intended consequences. It has further led to inconsistency and in some instances delays that lasts longer than the period prescribed to conclude an interconnection agreement.

15.4. It is therefore prudent that number activation and routing should have timelines similar or less than the periods prescribed in the Interconnection Regulations. It is for this reason that the Special Committee on Numbering has resolved to add Schedule 4 to the Numbering Regulations setting

timelines for concluding number activation and routing.

- 15.5. It is the committee's view that the Numbering Regulations and not the Interconnection Regulations are best placed to address number activation and routing as this process is triggered by numbering allocation from the Numbering Plan.

16. Insertion of schedule 5 to the Regulations

The amendment introduces numbering fee structure in terms of the ECA requirement. The numbering fee structure will be published separately and will be subject to separate consultation process.

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