



Public Utilities
Regulatory Authority
Equity in development

GUIDELINES
FOR
DEPLOYING OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

JULY 2013

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In exercise of the powers conferred upon the Authority under Section 14 (1) (g) of the PURA Act 2001, the Authority hereby makes the following Guidelines for Deploying New Technologies.

1.0 PREAMBLE

These Guidelines set forth the principles and procedures to be followed by a Telecommunications/ICT Service Provider to submit to the Authority for its review notification for the deployment of new technologies in accordance with the provision of its licence services.

2.0 SHORT TITLE, EXTENT AND COMMENCEMENT

These Guidelines shall:

- a. be referred to as the Guidelines for *Deploying of New Technologies*
- b. be applicable to all Telecommunications/ICT Service Providers
- c. come into force with effect from 31st July, 2013

3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE GUIDELINES

The overall objective of these Guidelines is to ensure that the Authority is well informed to enable it perform the necessary due diligence exercise prior to the **deployment and launch** of any new technologies by the Licensee.

These Guidelines have the following specific objectives:

- a. to ensure Licensee roll out their services to customers in a seamless manner;
- b. to enable the Authority to analyse technical specification, financial issues and commercial terms and condition;
- c. to promote innovation in deploying products and services to customers;
- d. to enable the Authority to have the relevant data to deal with complaints or concerns raised by customers and stakeholders;
- e. to enable the Authority to plan and avail resources (numbers, frequencies, signalling codes, etc) in advance;
- f. improving the operation and performance of interconnected networks;
- g. assisting in the development of related telecommunications/ICT markets.

4.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The Guidelines for Deploying of New Technologies have been prepared by the Authority in accordance with the following principles:

- a. Licensees providing telecommunications/ICT services shall notify the Authority of its intention to deploy new technologies and services
- b. the burden is upon the Licensee to demonstrate to the Authority's satisfaction the reason(s) and justification for the deployment of the new technology.
- c. the Licensee shall notify the Authority about its intention to deploy new technologies, at least three (3) months prior to intended date of deployment.
- d. the Authority shall perform its evaluation of the application, in systematic, consultative, fair and transparent manner.

5.0 SCOPE

In order for the Authority to deal with notification for the deployment of new technologies, the Licensees must submit to the Authority complete information which should include amongst others the information:

- a. Provide details on network roll out plan for the deployment:
 - i. Indicate number of new network equipment in the urban and rural area;
 - ii. Are there any plans of upgrading the existing networks, if yes to what version(s);
 - iii. Schematic diagram of your network ;
- b. Provide details about the type and technical specifications of the new equipment to be deployed.
- c. Provide details about the current resource utilisation of the existing network, i.e. frequencies, numbers, signalling codes, interconnection, back haul.
- d. If new resources are required, explain to the Authority why the current resource (frequencies, signalling codes, interconnection, backhaul, etc) assignment for the existing network cannot be used for your new deployment. Provide detailed justification for requesting new resources (frequencies, signalling codes, interconnection, backhaul, etc) for the new network.
- e. Deployment & marketing strategy
- f. Commercial terms and conditions of services to be offered under the newly deployed technologies.
- g. Anticipated investment cost plan for the deployment.
- h. Anticipated benefits to customers.
- i. Estimated number of customers to be served
- j. Anticipated date of project commencement and commissioning dates.

6.0 EVALUATION OF THE APPLICATION

Upon receipt of a notification from a Licensee intending to deploy new technologies, the Authority will perform the tasks listed below:

- a. Conduct an appropriate technical, financial and commercial evaluation of the notification.
- b. In the course of the evaluation, the Authority may request the Licensee to clarify certain aspects of the notification and to provide supplementary information.
- c. Request the Licensee to provide access to facilities/sites both referred to and/or not referred to in the notification to facilitate inspection.
- d. Request the Licensee to do a presentation on the new technology deployment.
- e. Request for technical specification, financial and commercial documentation.

7.0 COMMERCIAL OPERATION

The Licensee must inform the Authority in writing to **validate** the deployed technology **prior** to commercial launch.

In order for the Authority to validate the deployed technology, the Licensees shall be required to do the following:

- a. Provide a list of the completed sites
- b. Anticipated service capacity/throughput

- c. Commercial terms and conditions of services to be offered under the newly deployed technologies.
- d. Investment cost plan for the deployment.
- e. Anticipated benefits to customers.
- f. Network coverage areas
- g. Customer care processes
- h. Anticipated date of project launch
- i. Project expansion plans

The Authority may request the License to do a presentation on the deployment.
The Authority shall do a due diligence on the technology to ascertain if it meets the minimum international standards of the technology deployed.

The Authority shall upon completion of the due diligence on the technology prepare a technical report. This report shall be shared with the licensee to launch services if the deployed technology meets the minimum international standards.

8.0 EFFECTIVENESS

These guidelines shall become effective from the date of signature.

ISSUED BY

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DATED THIS.....DAY OF.....

DIRECTOR GENERAL