

Name: Draft VoIP Regulations

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# VoIP Regulations

## Definitions

**Article (1):** The following definitions shall apply for the purpose of this regulation:

- (1) VoIP Application - The communication of speech between two parties over the Internet where the speech signals are not conveyed under a service agreement by third party infrastructure other than infrastructure that is part of the general infrastructure of the Internet.
- (2) VoIP Service - The communication of speech over the Internet where the speech signals are conveyed under a service agreement by third party infrastructure other than infrastructure that is part of the general infrastructure of the Internet.
- (3) VoIP-PSTN Nomadic Service (Non-infrastructure based) - A VoIP Service where the speech signals are sent to or received from a public telecommunications service but is not a VoIP-PSTN Replacement Service.
- (4) VoIP-PSTN Replacement Service (Infrastructure based) - A VoIP Service where the speech signals are sent to or received from a public telecommunications service, and that is provided over a form of Internet access that uses access infrastructure that is not also used for the provision of a public telephone service to the same subscriber.

## Registration

**Article (2):** All providers of VoIP Services shall verify and register their subscribers according to the same regulations that apply to subscribers to public telecommunications services.

## Licensing

**Article (3)** VoIP-PSTN Nomadic Services (Non-infrastructure based) shall be provided under a Class 2 licence.

**Article (4)** VoIP-PSTN Replacement Services (Infrastructure based) shall be provided under a Class 1 licence.

## **Access to emergency services**

- Article (5)** All providers of VoIP-PSTN Replacement Services (Infrastructure based) shall ensure that each subscriber to such service is able to access the emergency services when calls are made from their registered location.
- Article (6)** All providers of VoIP-PSTN Nomadic Services (Non-Infrastructure based) shall ensure that each subscriber to such service is made clearly aware when they subscribe to the service and each time they make a payment for calls that the service does not provide access to the emergency services.

## **Quality**

- Article (7)** All providers of VoIP-PSTN Nomadic Services (Non-Infrastructure based) and VoIP-PSTN Replacement Services (Infrastructure based) shall ensure that each subscriber to such service is made clearly aware at the time of subscription that the service is not required to conform to the same quality standards as the public telephone service.

## **Numbering**

- Article (8)** All providers of VoIP-PSTN Nomadic Services (Non-Infrastructure based) shall be entitled to obtain blocks of non-geographic numbers from the Class 1 licensee that provides their access to the public telephone network.
- Article (9)** All providers of VoIP-PSTN Replacement Services (Infrastructure based) shall be entitled to obtain blocks of non-geographic numbers from the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority in accordance with the numbering plan.

## **Non-discrimination in traffic handling**

**Article (10)** Providers of the infrastructure of the Internet under Class 1 licences that also provide public telephone services shall not block or degrade the transmission of packets used for voice communications over the Internet in a discriminatory way compared to the transmission of packets used for other purposes.

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