

Telecommunications

Cap. 282B.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCONNECTION)
REGULATIONS, 2003**

2003/103.
2004/17.

Authority: These Regulations were made on 31st July, 2003 by the Minister under section 110(1) and (4) of the *Telecommunications Act*.

Commencement: 31st July, 2003.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the *Telecommunications (Interconnection) Regulations, 2003*.

2. In these Regulations,

"Calling Line Identity" means the information generated by a telecommunications network that identifies the calling number.

3. The general principles of interconnection are those set out in the Barbados Interconnection Policy published in the Daily Nation Newspaper on 11 July, 2003.

4. No person shall be granted interconnection unless that person holds a valid licence for

- (a) the operation of a public telecommunications network; and
- (b) the provision of telecommunications services to the public.

5. A Reference Interconnection Offer ("RIO") filed under section 26 of the Act may, in addition to those terms and conditions referred to in section 26(2), set out

- (a) provisions relating to exchange of information necessary for interconnection;

- (b) provisions relating to notifications, default and termination of interconnection;
- (c) a technical description of the interconnection interfaces, including the signalling protocol used;
- (d) measures of restrictions to ensure network security or integrity;
- (e) service level parameters, including availability, security, efficiency and synchronization;
- (f) early termination charges;
- (g) provisions relating to suspension for breach of the Offer;
- (h) penalties for forecast errors;
- (i) traffic-routing arrangements; and
- (j) arrangements for submitting, handling and clearing fault reports.

6. (1) A dominant carrier shall not withdraw an RIO or portion of an RIO unless the carrier first notifies the Commission in writing of its intention to do so, and the Commission gives its written approval of the withdrawal.

(2) The Commission may in granting approval under paragraph (1) first impose such conditions as it considers necessary to fulfil the objectives of the Act.

(3) An RIO or a portion of an RIO that has been withdrawn ceases to be effective from the date the Commission determines that its approval of the application for withdrawal of the RIO or portion of the RIO takes effect.

7. An Interconnection seeker shall produce a valid carrier licence as proof of being the holder of such a licence as of the date the interconnection commences.

8. (1) No information contained in an RIO shall be designated as confidential.

(2) The entire RIO shall be made available to any person without restriction.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an operator may charge any person who requests an RIO reasonable fees for copying and mailing of the RIO.

9. Interconnection Agreements must be filed with the Commission within 30 days of the agreement between the Interconnection seeker and the Interconnection provider in accordance with the Act.

10. The obligations imposed by section 30 of the Act shall apply to the Commission in relation to the keeping of a Register of Interconnection Agreements.

11. Interconnection disputes shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Act and guidelines issued by the Commission.

12. Accounting, costing and pricing principles applicable to a dominant operator shall be set out in guidelines issued by the Commission.

13. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), all charges imposed by non-dominant operators for interconnection services shall be unregulated. ^{2004/17.}

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), termination charges payable for the termination of calls in respect of interconnection shall be regulated by the Commission.

14. Every Interconnection seeker and Interconnection provider shall provide, upon request, the Calling Line Identity and all necessary signalling data in accordance with accepted international standards and any codes which may be issued by the Minister or the Commission.