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Licensing in the Era of Convergence - Transitioning Regulation from Old to New

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Introduction

- The rapid development of the (tele-) communications sector and recent technological advances have brought about new challenges for regulators globally
 - No one solution exists as the ultimate regulatory response to convergence, just as no one definition of convergence exists
 - The crucial policy decisions facing countries around the world relate to ensuring efficient markets and an optimal use of resources given the administrative, legal, cultural and social framework of the country
 - Regulators around the world are looking at creating dynamic and responsive policies and regulatory frameworks that address the issues raised by convergence in a proactive and flexible manner



Factors Determining Future Licensing (1)

- **Degree of Evolution of the Market**
 - Status of the Incumbent
 - Level of Competition already in the Market
 - Accommodation (or not) of Convergence and of New Services and Technologies

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Factors Determining Future Licensing (2)

- **Vision of the Market**
 - Government Policy
 - International and Regional Trends and Commitments
- **Legal, Institutional and Administrative Framework**
 - Stakeholder Interests
 - General Acceptance of Proposals

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Key Transitional Issues (1)

■ **Licensing issues**

■ **Licensing Approach**

- Licensing Model
- Mapping of Existing License Categories
- Form of License

■ **Speed of Transition**

■ **Treatment of New and Existing Licensees**

■ **Public Policy Objectives (Universal Access/Service)**

■ **Accommodating Technological Development**

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Key Transitional Issues (2)

■ **Regulatory Issues**

■ **Quality of Service**

■ **Interconnection Issues**

- Who may/must interconnect?
- Nature of Interconnection
- Market Segments
- Access to Infrastructure

■ **Scarce Resources**

- Spectrum
- Numbering

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Key Transitional Issues (3)

■ Institutional Issues

- Convergence (or not) of Regulator
- Need for Capacity Building
- Decision Making Process and Stakeholder Consultation
- Sanctions and Enforcement Issues

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Thank you for your attention!!

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