

TELECOMMUNICATIONS' STANDARDIZATION IN ZAMBIA



Communications Authority - Regulator

26th OCTOBER 2006



PREAMBLE

- Telecommunication services were generally Monopolistic, offered by Incumbent Telco.
- Liberalization commenced in 1993. This saw the entry of new players, and creation of the Regulator.
- Competition growing, still need to reach “Full Competition”.



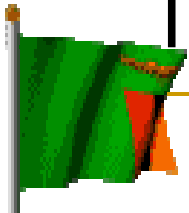
CURRENT MARKET

- One fixed-line operator: Incumbent Telco
90, 000 lines
- Three mobile operators > 2 million subscribers
- Seven ISPs...+ other Data networks.
- 4 national TV broadcasting stations,& others like MNET
- 13 radio stations in capital city, plus others in other towns.



STANDARDIZATION PROCESS

- A Committee was set up-December 2002
- Invitation for Expression of Interest – Jan '03
- Two short-listed consultants, both submitted bids late.
- The Regulator is authorized to undertake the task of developing and/or adopting technical and service standards for the Telecommunications sector under the current Telecoms Act.



TERMS OF REFERENCE

- To develop or adopt internationally acceptable technical stds for all aspects of telecommunication networks, services and equipment...
- Publication of the approval and certification process.
- Ensure that the adopted stds don't disadvantage the Zambian Telecoms sector.



EXPECTATIONS

- Adopted Standards should:
 - ❑ Facilitate competition
 - ❑ Create avenue for increasing access to telecommunications services
 - ❑ Enhance interoperability
 - ❑ Provide reference for regulation.
 - ❑ Play a key role in growing the market!



GUIDELINES

- Standards adopted primarily from:
 - ❑ ITU
 - ❑ ETSI
 - ❑ IEC
 - ❑ ISO
- Standards are addressed from license-application to service-provision, and is an ongoing process...
- Standards encompass Type Approval of equipment as well.



ADOPTED STANDARDS

- Some Standards adopted include;
 - Telecommunications and radio equipment:
 - EN 300 386: EMC requirements for non-radio equipment
 - EN 301 489-1: R&TTE covers all radio equipment with exception of antennas.
 - Others include EN 61 000 3-2 and 3-3, CISPR 22, 11, 24,



CHALLENGES

- Rate of Technological advancement
- Regulator capacity – both financial and human
- Standards may have clauses/sections not applicable/favourable for the Zambian telecommunications sector.



WAY FORWARD

- Several other standards are being considered for adoption e.g. radiocommunications stds
- Increase in awareness of international standards.
- Participation in international fora such as ITU Study groups and regional groupings.



OBRIGADO!

