

TERMINATION OF ANONYMOUS LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CALLS IN UGANDA

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Background
- Relevant Information
- UCC Directives
- Operator Implementation status
- Conclusion

BACKGROUND

The Telecom operators in Uganda were originating and terminating calls without proper data thus unable to identify a caller;

1. ***Calling Party Number (CPN),***
2. ***Call Line Identity (CLI) and***
3. ***Origin Identification (OI).***

Such practices have unfavourable effects on security, economic issues and user privacy. Users' Right: A subscriber has the right to know who is calling and identify the Origin (from where the call is!),

In Uganda, criminals took advantage of this loophole and decided to perpetrate crimes through originating calls without CPN, CLI and OI

BACKGROUND

Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) decided to invoke its mandate under Section 5 of the Uganda Communications Act of 2013 to promote and safeguard the interests of consumers and operators as regards the quality of communications services and equipment;

Uganda as a Member State of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) decided to follow Recommendation ITU-T E.157 on *Calling Party Number Delivery*. Recommendation ITU-T E.157 provides guidance for international calling party number delivery which is technology neutral.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

- Resolution 65: Calling party number delivery, calling line identification and origin identification information
- ITU-T E.157: International calling party number delivery
- ITU-T I.251.3: Number identification supplementary services: Calling Line Identification Presentation
- ITU-T I.251.4: Number identification supplementary services: Calling Line Identification Restriction;
- ITU-T I.251.7: Number identification supplementary services: Malicious call identification

UCC DIRECTIVES

Uganda Communications Commission decided to step in and directed all operators in Uganda effective 1st August 2018 to;

1. Provide CLI facilities,
2. Ensure that any CLI data provided with and/or associated with a call (local and international) includes valid dialable telephone number which uniquely identifies the caller and is in line with Recommendations ITU-T E.157 and ITU-T E.164,
3. Ensure that all local and international calls originated and terminated on their networks in Uganda are identifiable with a registered customer,
4. Ensure that calls which have invalid or non dialable CLI data are not connected to the called party.
5. Notify their international partners of this change in the Uganda national regulatory framework

UCC DIRECTIVES

UCC notified the operators about this and requested them to act as indicated in section 1(bullets 1 to 5). Each operator was notified that they shall be held liable for non-compliance with the above directives.

Uganda Communications Commission further notified ITU about the directive to operators in Uganda to establish call line identification facilities in line with the provisions of the Recommendations ITU-T E.157 and ITU-T E.164 and requested them to include an announcement in the ITU Operational bulletin.

OPERATOR IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

- Notified all international partners,
- Handset activated CLI restrictions removed,
- Cleaned up HLR databases to ensure that customers could not hide and or originate calls without CLI,
- Introduced a process of A- number analysis on all our local interconnect partner routes to ensure that only calls with a valid operator CLI range validated against the Ugandan Numbering plan were allowed to terminate on our network.
- For the international incoming route, blocked any terminating call with no CLI

CONCLUSION

Uganda would like to;

1. Share this with Member States,
2. Invite Member States to share their experiences regarding CLI,
3. Urge Member States try and enforce recommendation ITU-T E.157,
4. Urge Member States consider developing within their national regulatory and legal frameworks, guidelines or other methods for implementing resolution 65
5. Propose that a best practice document on implementation of Resolution 65 and ITU-T E.157 is developed based on member states experience

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THANK YOU

