



Federal Republic of Somalia
Ministry of Communications and Technology (MoCT)

Terms of Reference (ToR)

For the Position of

Pricing and Interconnection Specialist

in Support of The National Communications Authority (NCA), FGS

Eastern Africa Regional Digital Integration Project (EARDIP)

Project ID: P176181

1. BACKGROUND

The Federal Government of Somalia has received a grant from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank toward the cost of the Eastern Africa Regional Digital Integration Project (EA-RDIP), with the Ministry of Communications and Technology (MoCT) serving as the implementing agency. EA-RDIP addresses the connectivity needs of the Horn of Africa region and aims to advance the integration of digital markets in Eastern Africa supporting cross-border connectivity, harmonizing data and e-commerce regulations, and removing trade barriers toward the vision of a Single Digital Market (SDM). Delivered through a regional Series of Projects (SOP) approach involving both countries and regional economic communities, the first phase (SOP-I) covers the East African Community (EAC) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), together with Somalia and South Sudan, enabling these countries to catch up with their regional peers. Under SOP-I, EA-RDIP supports the Federal Government of Somalia through a USD 80 million operation, structured around four components: (1) Connectivity Market Development and Integration; (2) Data Market Development and Integration, including cybersecurity; (3) Online Market Development and Integration; and (4) Project Management and Implementation.

As a key institution in delivering EA-RDIP, the National Communications Authority (NCA) the independent regulator of Somalia's communications sector, established under the National Communications Act of 2017 licenses operators and regulates telecommunications, Internet, broadcasting, ICT and eCommerce services; manages radio-frequency spectrum and the national numbering plan; promotes fair competition; and protects consumer rights. As part of

NCA's mandate to promote fair competition, consumer protection, investment, and sustainable growth in the telecommunications sector, the NCA is implementing various initiatives related to interconnection, pricing regulation, infrastructure sharing, roaming, licensing, and universal access. To support the effective implementation of these activities, the NCA requires a dedicated Interconnection and Pricing Specialist to provide technical, analytical, administrative, and operational support to the NCA. The Specialist will contribute to the day-to-day implementation of regulatory activities related to interconnection, pricing, roaming, infrastructure sharing, licensing, and market analysis, while assisting in stakeholder engagement, monitoring compliance, maintaining regulatory records, and preparing technical reports. Also, The Specialist shall assist in collecting and analyzing market data, monitoring compliance, coordinating with operators, preparing reports, maintaining regulatory databases, and supporting the implementation of regulatory decisions under the guidance of the Interconnection and Pricing Advisor.

2. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Interconnection and Pricing Specialist shall undertake, but not be limited to, the following tasks:

- Support the implementation and monitoring of interconnection arrangements among licensed telecommunications operators.
- Assist in collecting, reviewing, and maintaining interconnection agreements, traffic data, billing records, and settlement reports submitted by operators.
- Monitor compliance with approved interconnection, pricing, roaming, and infrastructure-sharing regulations and prepare periodic compliance reports.
- Support the collection, validation, and analysis of telecommunications market data, including tariffs, subscriber statistics, traffic volumes, and service utilization trends.
- Assist in conducting market research, benchmarking studies, and comparative analyses of pricing, interconnection, roaming, and infrastructure-sharing practices in regional and international markets.
- Support the implementation of the One Network Area (ONA) and roaming initiatives by coordinating information requests and stakeholder consultations.
- Assist in monitoring the implementation of interconnection billing and settlement arrangements among operators.
- Prepare technical briefs, reports, presentations, meeting minutes, and stakeholder consultation documents related to pricing and interconnection matters.
- Support the organization of stakeholder meetings, workshops, consultations, and dispute-resolution sessions involving telecommunications operators.
- Assist in reviewing operator submissions relating to tariffs, pricing proposals, infrastructure sharing requests, and licensing matters.
- Maintain and update regulatory databases, records, and documentation relating to pricing, interconnection, roaming, and infrastructure-sharing activities.
- Support the implementation of universal access and service initiatives through data collection, stakeholder engagement, and reporting activities.
- Assist in monitoring key market indicators and preparing periodic market intelligence and sector performance reports.
- Perform any other duties assigned by the Director General.

3. SCOPE OF THE WORK

- Support the implementation and monitoring of interconnection arrangements among licensed telecommunications operators.
- Support the implementation of national roaming and One Network Area (ONA) initiatives in Somalia.
- Monitor interconnection traffic, billing, and settlement arrangements among telecommunications operators.
- Collect and analyze telecommunications market data, including pricing, tariffs, subscriber growth, and traffic statistics.
- Conduct benchmarking studies on interconnection, pricing, roaming, and infrastructure-sharing practices within Africa and other comparable markets.
- Support stakeholder consultations on interconnection, pricing, roaming, infrastructure sharing, and market development initiatives.
- Assist in reviewing operator tariff submissions, pricing proposals, and interconnection agreements.
- Support compliance monitoring activities relating to interconnection, pricing, roaming, and infrastructure-sharing obligations.
- Support the implementation of Universal Access and Service initiatives through data collection and stakeholder engagement.
- Prepare market intelligence reports and sector performance assessments.
- Maintain regulatory databases and telecommunications market information systems.
- Provide technical support and advisory inputs on interconnection, pricing, roaming, and related regulatory matters.

4. DELIVERABLES

The primary deliverables (to be updated at different stages during the process) are:

- Periodic interconnection monitoring and implementation reports.
- Interconnection traffic, billing, and settlement monitoring reports.
- Telecommunications pricing and tariff analysis reports.
- Market intelligence reports and telecommunications sector performance assessments.
- Compliance monitoring reports relating to interconnection, pricing, roaming, and infrastructure-sharing regulations.
- Technical reviews of tariff submissions, interconnection agreements, and operator proposals.
- Stakeholder consultation reports and meeting documentation.
- Roaming and One Network Area (ONA) implementation support reports.
- Universal Access and Service implementation support reports.
- Updated telecommunications market statistics, databases, and operator records.
- Technical briefing notes, presentations, consultation papers, and regulatory documentation.
- Inputs to regulatory reviews, policy development processes, and market assessments.
- Periodic progress reports on assignment activities and achievements.
- Final Assignment Report including key achievements, lessons learned, recommendations, and future regulatory priorities.

5. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

5.1 Education

- A Bachelor's degree in Telecommunications Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Economics, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Business Administration.
- A Master's degree in Telecommunications, Economics, ICT, Business Administration will be an added advantage.

5.2 Professional Experience

- Minimum of three (3) years of professional experience in telecommunications regulation, telecommunications operations, interconnection, pricing, market analysis, licensing, infrastructure sharing, or related fields.
- Demonstrated experience in telecommunications market analysis, tariff monitoring, regulatory compliance, or telecommunications policy implementation.
- Experience working with telecommunications operators, regulatory authorities, government institutions, development partners, or ICT sector projects.
- Experience in collecting, analyzing, and interpreting telecommunications market data and industry statistics.
- Familiarity with telecommunications regulatory frameworks, interconnection arrangements, pricing principles, roaming frameworks, and infrastructure-sharing practices.
- Experience in preparing technical reports, market assessments, benchmarking studies, and regulatory documentation.
- Experience supporting stakeholder consultations, industry engagements, workshops, and regulatory coordination activities.
- Knowledge of regional and international telecommunications regulatory best practices will be an added advantage.

5.3 Skills and Competencies

- Good understanding of telecommunications networks, services, and regulatory frameworks.
- Knowledge of interconnection, pricing, roaming, infrastructure sharing, and telecommunications market dynamics.
- Strong analytical, research, and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to collect, validate, analyze, and interpret quantitative and qualitative data.
- Strong report writing, presentation, and documentation skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications, particularly Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.
- Ability to prepare technical reports, briefing notes, consultation papers, and regulatory documentation.
- Strong interpersonal and stakeholder engagement skills.
- Ability to work collaboratively with telecommunications operators, government institutions, development partners, and other stakeholders.
- Strong organizational and time-management skills.
- Ability to work independently and under pressure while meeting deadlines.

5.4 Language Requirements

- Proficiency in English and Somali.

6. REPORTING REQUIREMENT

The consultant will report to the client, the National Communications Authority (NCA), through its Director General as a supervisor; the consultant should submit written monthly and quarterly progressive reports with the review and satisfactory approval of the client.

7. DURATION AND LOCATION

The assignment is for a period of Twelve (12) months, renewable. The contract may be renewed based on satisfactory performance and availability of project funds. The consultant is expected to be based in Mogadishu, Somalia, with possible travel within Somalia and internationally as required by project activities.