

GENERAL NOTICE

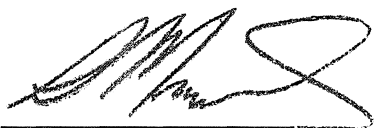
NOTICE 650 OF 2015

INDEPENDENT COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AFRICA

DRAFT NUMBERING PLAN REGULATIONS

IN TERMS OF SECTION 68 OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 2005 (ACT NO 36 OF 2005), AS AMENDED.

I, Stephen Mncube, Chairperson of the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa ("ICASA"), hereby confirm that these draft regulations were approved by ICASA, in terms of sections 68 of the Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act 36 of 2005), as amended, to become effective upon publication.



Dr. Stephen Mncube
Chairperson

Date: 18/06/2015

A copy of the draft Numbering Plan Regulations is available on the Authority's website (www.icasa.org.za) and in the ICASA Library at 164 Katherine Street, Pin Mill Farm, First Floor, Block D between 10h00 and 16h30, on working days only.

Interested persons are hereby invited to submit written representations on these draft Regulations **by no later than 16h30 on 07 August 2015** by post, hand delivery, facsimile transmission or electronic mail (in Microsoft Word) for the attention of:

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1. DEFINITIONS

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates, a word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have the meaning so assigned-

"Act" means the Electronic Communications Act, 2005 (Act No. 36 of 2005) as amended.

"access code" means a short non-geographic number that is used as a prefix to other numbers to access telecommunication services.

"allocated" means the status of a number as stipulated in regulations 14, 16 and 17 of these Regulations immediately after an allocation of the number.

"allocation" means the issue of numbers by the Authority to a provider whereby the latter is able to assign the numbers.

"assigned number" means a number that is issued to a subscriber by a subscriber.

"assignment" means an:

- (a) issue of numbers under relevant terms and conditions by an Individual ECS or ECNS licensee; or
- (b) issue of short codes by the Authority to an Individual ECS or ECNS licensee.

"calling line identification" means a facility that permits any person or entity to transmit an inaccurate caller identification information. Caller identification information being the calling party's assigned Mobile Station Integrated Services Digital Network (MSISDN) number.

"communication" means the use of electronic communications services that is originated through the input of a number.

"country code" means the combination of one, two or three digits identifying a specific country or countries in an integrated numbering plan, or a specific geographic area assigned by the ITU-T in accordance with Recommendation E.164, Telephone network and ISDN Operation, Numbering, Routing and Mobile service.

"geographic number" means a national number that is used to provide a geographic service, where part of its digit structure contains geographic significance.

"geographic significance" means the geographically indicative numbers that indicate the geographic location.

"harmonised number" means a non-geographic number used to provide a service meeting a common description, as authorized by the Authority.

"Inbound services" means a service used only to receive communication and not to originate communication.

"international prefix" means a combination of digits to be dialled by a caller making a call to a recipient in another country.

"ITU TSB" means the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union.

"length" means the quantity of digits that constitutes a number.

"machine related number" means a non-geographic number that is used to provide a machine related service.

"machine related service" means any service that includes:

- (a) the transmission of communication in wireless and/or wired systems to communicate with other devices or machines with little or no intervention by a person; and
- (b) communication originating from a device or machine to a person and vice versa.

"mandated number" means a receiving number to which communications must be routed irrespective of the electronic communication network used in originating the communications.

"mass calling service" means the service whereby instantaneous, high volume traffic that is routed to one or more destinations.

"mobile number" means a non-geographic number used to provide a mobile service.

"mobile service" means a mobile service as defined by the National Radio Frequency Plan developed by the Authority in terms of section 34(2) of the ECA.

"national number" means a full number to be dialled including the national prefix.

“non-geographic number” means a number that is used to identify a type of a service and has no geographic significance.

“number” means a sequence of digits.

“numbering plan” means a scheme of identification by numbers prescribed in these Regulations or other regulations made by the Authority for ensuring that electronic communications are correctly and efficiently directed to their intended points of reception.

“premium rate number” means a non-geographic number that is used to provide a premium rate service.

“premium rate service” means a service accessible by means of premium rated numbers irrespective of the originating electronic communications network used, where the charge is higher than for normal services and in some instances, where a portion of the charge is passed to a premium rate service content provider.

“provider” means a person that has an individual electronic communications services (I-ECS) or individual electronic communications network services (I-ECNS) license using numbers from the numbering plan and is accountable to the Authority for any use of the allocated numbers.

“protected” means the status of a number that has not been released for allocation by the Authority.

“receiving number” means a number that identifies for the originator of a communication, through the input of the number, the point at which the communication could be terminated.

“recipient” means a person or device that can receive a communication.

“release” means an issue of numbers by the Authority to all providers that permits providers to-

- (a) request the allocation or reservation of the numbers, if the numbers are national numbers or access codes, or
- (b) request the assignment of the numbers, if the numbers are service codes.

“released” means the status of a number immediately after a release of the number by the Authority.

"reservation" means a temporary issue of numbers by the Authority to a provider. Numbers issued under this provision are not subject to sub-allocations.

"reserved" means the status of a number immediately after a reservation of the number.

"routing" means the conveyance of communications originated or received at points identified by numbers.

"service code" means a short code that may be a receiving number for a service.

"short code" means any non-geographic number less than 10 digits in length.

"status" means, 'protected', 'released', 'assigned', 'allocated' or 'reserved'.

"sub-allocation" means the issue of numbers by a provider to another provider, through a commercial arrangement, and the former permits the latter to assign the numbers on its behalf.

"supplementary code" means a number that begins with '*' or '#'.

"toll free number" means a non-geographic number that is designated to provide a toll free service.

"toll free service" means a service such that for every communication made available, no charge is incurred by the end user, irrespective of the electronic communication network used in originating the communication.

"usage condition" means a restriction in these Regulations or other regulations made by the Authority on the ways in which numbers may be used.

"VoIP number" means a non-geographic number used to provide a VoIP service.

"VoIP service" A value-added service used to provide communication through the internet protocol.

2. PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS

1. The purpose of these Regulations are to:
 - (a) provide for the efficient use and allocation of numbers;
 - (b) provide a scheme of identification to ensure that electronic communications are correctly and efficiently directed to the point of reception for which they are intended;
 - (c) accommodate the varied protocols used and services provided by providers under the Act;
 - (d) provide conditions and the process under which providers may surrender unused numbers to the Authority for reallocation.

3. RELEASING NUMBERS

1. Only numbers that have the status 'protected' in terms of regulation 14, 16 and 17 may be released.
2. When releasing numbers, the Authority shall give regard to:
 - (a) the need to satisfy constraints on network systems;
 - (b) avoidance of conflicts with past usage of numbers; and
 - (c) retention of the numbers for possible future uses.
3. The Authority will publish numbers intended for release in a notice.
4. Numbers will have the status 'released' immediately after the Authority releases such numbers via a notification in the Government Gazette.

4. HARMONISING AND MANDATING NUMBERS

1. Only numbers that have the status 'protected' or 'released' may be harmonised or mandated.
2. When harmonising or mandating numbers, due regard may be given to the following:
 - (a) avoidance of discrimination in favour of or against particular providers; and
 - (b) avoidance of duplication with other harmonised or mandated numbers.

3. When harmonising or mandating numbers, the Authority will publish a notice:
 - (a) notifying affected providers of changes; and
 - (b) specifying the numbers that are harmonised or mandated and describing the services for which the numbers may be receiving numbers.

5. ALLOCATING, ASSIGNING AND RESERVING NUMBERS

1. A provider must apply to the Authority for an allocation, assignment or reservation of numbers that have status 'released'. The application must include:
 - (a) the name and contact details of the provider;
 - (b) the name and expiry date of the licence under which the provider is making the application;
 - (c) the intended use of the numbers;
 - (d) any particular numbers requested;
 - (e) the utilisation of numbers already allocated to the provider; and
 - (f) the expiry date requested for the reservation if that date is not the earlier of-
 - (i) the expiry date of the licence, and
 - (ii) six (6) months after the granting of the application.
2. The application set out in sub-regulation (1) must be furnished in the format as set out in **annexure "C"**.
3. Additional information may be requested by the Authority in processing an application in terms of sub-regulation (1).
4. Within twenty (20) days of receipt of an application by the Authority, an application may be:
 - (a) granted as submitted or it may be granted with such variations as the Authority deems necessary; or
 - (b) declined and in such an instance, the Authority shall provide reasons in writing for declining the application; or

- (c) Be dealt with in terms of sub-regulation 5.
- 5. The Authority may consult with the relevant provider on details of its application for numbers, an application for an expansion of an existing allocation or for a change of use of an existing allocation.
- 6. Should the Authority consult with the relevant provider as contemplated in sub-regulation (5), 20 days contemplated in sub-regulation (4) shall be extended on condition that:
 - (a) additional information is required from the applicant; or
 - (b) there are significant issues relating to the application that cannot be reasonably handled within a 20 days consultation period; or
 - (c) the applicant or interested party has requested an extension with reasons.
- 7. Variations may be recommended by the Authority in the granting of an allocation, assignment or reservation of numbers after consultations contemplated in sub-regulation (6), in relation to amongst other:
 - (a) the quantity of numbers allocated, assigned or reserved;
 - (b) the particular numbers allocated, assigned or reserved; and
 - (c) the expiry date of the reservation, which will take into account the expiry date of the licence under which the provider is making the application.
- 8. Applications may be declined, notwithstanding any variations feasible pursuant to sub-regulation (7) where:
 - (a) the provider has not supplied information required pursuant to sub-regulation 5(1) and 5(3);
 - (b) the intended use of the numbers is contrary to the usage conditions of the numbers requested;
 - (c) the numbers are prohibited from being allocated or reserved for the licence under which the provider is making the application;
 - (d) the numbers have status protected;
 - (e) the numbers are:

- (i) supplementary codes,
 - (ii) national numbers already allocated to or reserved for another provider,
 - (iii) access codes identical in their first four (4) digits with an access code already allocated to or reserved for another provider; or
9. the Authority considers that the utilisation of the numbers already allocated to the provider and subject to the same usage conditions as the numbers requested is less than 80% for mobile and machine related numbers and less than 60% for other numbers, calculated as follows:

- (a) For geographic numbers, the degree of usage shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Degree of usage} = \frac{\text{total numbers assigned to customers within an NDC}}{\text{Total numbers allocated Within an NDC}} \times 100$$

- (b) For mobile numbers, the degree of usage shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Degree of usage} = \frac{\text{total numbers assigned to customers and used for internal network purposes.}}{\text{Total numbers allocated to a provider}} \times 100$$

- (c) For non-geographic numbers other than mobile numbers, the degree of usage shall be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Degree of usage} = \frac{\text{total numbers assigned to customers}}{\text{Total numbers allocated to a provider}} \times 100$$

**Total numbers allocated
to a provider**

10. Numbers have status 'allocated', 'assigned', or 'reserved', as appropriate, immediately after the granting of an application for an allocation, assignment or reservation.
11. A provider that wants to assign numbers must apply for the allocation of the numbers even if the numbers are already reserved for the provider.
12. The following number ranges are subject to individual number allocation or reservation: 086 0; 086 1 and 080.
13. The Authority reserves the right to declare certain non-geographic number ranges or sub-ranges for individual number allocations. The Authority shall publish the relevant ranges in a notice.

6. CONDITIONS OF USE OF AN ALLOCATION OF THE NUMBERING RESOURCE

1. Numbers are a national resource and are not owned by a provider to whom they are allocated nor by the subscriber to whom they are assigned.
2. A subscriber to whom a number has been legitimately assigned may enjoy the beneficial use of the number, freely and without hindrance.
3. The following general conditions relating to the use and management of the assignment of numbers apply to all allocations made by the Authority:
 - (a) the allocation must be used for the purpose specified in the application and within the designated range for use;
 - (b) the allocation must be controlled by the provider to whom the Authority has made the allocation to. This does not prevent the original applicant from making sub-allocations to others from within the numbering range: provided that the sub-allocation is used as specified in the application;
 - (c) the holder of the allocation shall maintain a record of the percentage of numbers in use and reserved;
 - (d) assigned numbers must not be traded;
 - (e) the allocation shall be used in accordance with any specific conditions made by the Authority;

- (f) a provider shall not make use of numbers that have not been allocated to them or which the Authority has not authorised them to use;
 - (g) a provider shall ensure that all numbers allocated to them are used efficiently and effectively;
 - (h) MSISDNless SIM starter packs shall apply to all allocated mobile numbers as well as recycled numbers; and
 - (i) a provider shall ensure that service providers and end users comply with these regulations, variations and conditions imposed on the allocation and the applicable sections in the Act.
4. Specific conditions may be imposed on the use of numbers, at the time of allocating the numbers or at any time thereafter, where the Authority considers that it is in the interest of the numbering plan to impose such conditions.

7. WITHDRAWING NUMBERS

1. Numbers that have status 'released', 'allocated' or 'reserved' may be withdrawn by the Authority if -
 - (a) the numbers have been used in ways contrary to their usage conditions; or
 - (b) the numbers have not been assigned one (1) year after being allocated.
2. When withdrawing numbers, the Authority shall have due regard to the following factors -
 - (a) the need to avoid inconvenience and disproportionate cost effects vis-à-vis the benefits of the withdrawal;
 - (b) the requirement to ensure non-discrimination between providers; and
 - (c) maintenance of consumer protection in relation to consumers' right to beneficial use of numbers.
3. Any withdrawal of numbers shall be subject to -
 - (a) notification to the provider(s) in the Government Gazette about the withdrawal; and

- (b) consultations with the affected provider to whom the numbers are allocated, about the intended withdrawal at least 3 months in advance.
- 4. In the case where the Authority notifies a provider in writing about the withdrawal of the numbers that are released or that are allocated to the provider, the provider must-
 - (a) refrain from assigning any of the numbers that are not already assigned and that are not to have replacements at least 3 months before the withdrawal;
 - (b) inform all persons to whom the numbers are already assigned about any replacements for the numbers-
 - (i) at least 3 months before the withdrawal if it affects numbers for business subscribers, and
 - (ii) at least 3 months before the withdrawal if it affects numbers for residential subscribers.
 - (c) introduce a period of 3 months parallel running, during which both those numbers and any migration for those numbers can be used, to the extent technically possible and compatible with the withdrawal; and
 - (d) supply audible or visible indications about any replacements for the numbers until the Authority withdraws the numbers, to the extent technically possible and compatible with the withdrawal.
- 5. Numbers have status 'protected' immediately after the Authority withdraws them.
- 6. The withdrawal of numbers does not necessarily require the withdrawal of all the numbers that were allocated or reserved at the same time.

8. AUDITING NUMBERING USES

- 1. Unless otherwise specified, every provider must submit its number audit data to the Authority, annually, on a date which must not be later than 31 March of each year.
- 2. The format in which the information set out in sub-regulation (1) must be supplied shall be in conformance with the notice: Number Audit Submission Format GG No. 36424 of 2013, as amended. Gazette No. 36424 of 2013 remains in force until formally repealed.

3. A provider may be required to submit further information needed by the Authority for the purposes of completing the number audit exercise.

9. BARRING NUMBERS

1. A provider is prohibited from routing communications from or to numbers if-
 - (a) the Authority considers that the numbers have been used in ways that could harm consumers.
2. In order to stop the routing of communications to or from barred numbers, the Authority shall-
 - (a) firstly notify a provider to whom the numbers are allocated about the requirement; and
 - (b) then notify all other providers that they must stop routing communications from or to the number(s), as the case may be.
3. Upon receipt of notification from the Authority to stop routing communications from or to barred numbers, a provider must comply with the notice within seven (7) days of receipt thereof.
4. Upon receipt of notification from the Authority to resume routing communications from or to previously barred numbers, a provider must do so within 7 days of receipt thereof.

10. RETURNING NUMBERS

1. A provider must return to the Authority numbers that are allocated to or reserved for it only if the numbers are not assigned 1 year after the date of allocation.
2. The return of numbers does not necessarily require the return of all the numbers that were previously allocated or reserved at the same time as those that are being returned.

11. TRANSFERRING NUMBERS

1. A provider that acquires a service license by means of a transfer shall:
 - (a) apply to the Authority for the transfer of numbers granted under the licence; or
 - (b) return the numbers granted under the licence to the Authority.

12. ASSIGNING NUMBERS

1. A provider may assign numbers only if
 - (a) numbers are-
 - (i) released service codes, or
 - (ii) released supplementary codes, or
 - (iii) national numbers allocated to the provider, or
 - (iv) access codes assigned to the provider.
 - (b) the provider has been given permission through a sub-allocation by another provider as contemplated in regulation 6(3)(b).
2. A provider that assigns or gives permission to assign a released service code, as per the schedule "Short code strategy", must apply to the Authority as contemplated in regulation 5.
3. A provider must state in the terms and conditions under which it assigns numbers that:
 - (a) numbers must not be used in ways contrary to their usage conditions; and
 - (b) numbers may be barred in the circumstances set out in regulation 9.

13. SUPPLYING INFORMATION ABOUT NUMBERS

1. A provider must:
 - (a) refrain from publishing directory information about the numbers assigned to a subscriber, if the provider concerned has not obtained prior written permission in which a subscriber consents to the publication of their assigned number;
 - (b) change the directory information about the numbers assigned to a subscriber if the subscriber has so requested in writing;
 - (c) change the numbers assigned to a subscriber if the subscriber has so requested in writing after receiving incorrectly or mischievously dialled communications and;

- (d) prohibit and monitor the manipulation of the calling line identification, in the event that it fails to correctly identify the point of origination of the communication.
2. In the event a provider observes the manipulation of the calling line identification as per sub-regulation 1(d), the provider must alert the Authority to the matter and submit conclusive evidence to that effect within three (3) days.
3. Numbers that are found by the Authority to be used for manipulation of the calling line identification, shall be barred as per regulation 9(2).

14. PREFIXES

1. The first two digits or characters of a number signifies that the number is either an international number, a national number, a short code or a supplementary code, as set out in Table 1.

Table 1: First characters of numbers

Character	Significance and/or status
0	International numbers (beginning with '00') and national numbers (beginning with '01', '02', '03', '04', '05', '06', '07', '08' and '09')
1	Short codes 'released'
2	'protected'
3	Premium rate services (Short codes) 'released'
4	
5	'Protected'
6	
7	
8	
9	
*	Supplementary codes 'released'
#	

2. The international prefix is '00'. It must precede an international number that is dialled inside the Republic to originate a communication with a destination outside the Republic.
3. The national prefix is '0'. It must precede a national number that is dialled inside the Republic to originate a communication with a destination inside the Republic.

4. The country code for the Republic issued by the ITU TSB is '27'. It must precede a national number without the national prefix that is dialled outside the Republic to originate a communication with a destination inside the Republic.
5. An access code may be allocated by the Authority to a provider subject to an application by the provider. It may precede a number that is dialled inside the Republic to originate a communication that is first conveyed to the provider and then treated as if it is originated using an electronic communications service of the provider.

15. INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL NUMBERS

1. The first and second digits of a number beginning with '0' signify that the number is either an international number, a geographic number or a non-geographic number, as set out in table 2.

Table 2: First and second digits of numbers beginning with '0'

Digits	Significance
00	International prefix
01	Geographic numbers
02	
03	
04	
05	
06	Non-geographic numbers
07	
08	
09	

16. GEOGRAPHIC NUMBERS

1. The first three digits of a geographic number correspond with a geographic area or specify that the status of the number is 'protected', as set out in Table 3.
2. A geographic number must be assigned to a subscriber only if the subscriber provides a business or postal address in the geographic area corresponding with its first three digits.
3. A geographic number must have length of ten (10) digits;

Table 3: Area codes of geographic numbers

Digits	Status	Area
010	Released	Johannesburg region
011	Released	
012	Released	Tshwane region (including Pretoria)
013	Released	Northern and western parts of Mpumalanga (including Middelburg, Witbank and Nelspruit)
014	Released	Northern part of North West and southern and western parts of Limpopo (including Rustenburg and Nylstroom)
015	Released	Northern and eastern parts of Limpopo (including Polokwane)
016	Released	Vaal Triangle (including Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark and Sasolburg)
017	Released	Southern part of Mpumalanga (including Ermelo)
018	Released	Southern part of North West (including Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp)
019	Released	'protected'
020	Released	Southern part of Northern Cape (including Fraserberg) and the North-Eastern part of the Western Cape (including Leeugamka and Merweville)
021	Released	Cape Town region (including Stellenbosch, Somerset West and Gordons Bay)
022	Released	Western coast of Western Cape and Boland (including Malmesbury)
023	Released	Karoo (including Worcester and Beaufort West)
024	Protected	Not assigned
025	Protected	
026	Protected	
027	Released	Namaqualand (including Vredendal, Calvinia, Clanwilliam, Springbok, Alexander Bay and Port Nolloth)
028	Released	Southern coast of Western Cape (including Swellendam, Caledon and Hermanus)
029	Protected	'Protected'
030	Protected	
031	Released	Durban region
032	Released	KwaZulu Natal central coast (including Stanger)
033	Released	KwaZulu Natal Midlands (including Pietermaritzburg)
034	Released	Northern KwaZulu Natal (including Vryheid and Newcastle)
035	Released	Zululand (including St. Lucia and Richards Bay)
036	Released	Drakensberg (including Ladysmith)
037	Protected	Not assigned
038	Protected	
039	Released	Eastern Pondoland and southern coast of KwaZulu Natal (including Port Shepstone)
040	Released	Bhisho region
041	Released	Port Elizabeth region (including Uitenhage)

Digits	Status	Area
042	Released	Southern and central parts of Eastern Cape (including Humansdorp)
043	Released	East London region
044	Released	Garden Route (including Oudtshoorn, Knysna, Plettenberg Bay, Mossel Bay and George)
045	Released	Northern and eastern parts of Eastern Cape (including Queenstown)
046	Released	Southern and eastern parts of Eastern Cape (including Grahamstown)
047	Released	Eastern part of Eastern Cape (including Mthatha)
048	Released	Northern part of Eastern Cape (including Steynsburg)
049	Released	Western part of Eastern Cape (including Graaff-Reinet)
050	Protected	Not assigned
051	Released	Southern and central parts of Free State (including Bloemfontein) and far eastern part of Eastern Cape (including Aliwal North)
052	Protected	Not assigned
053	Released	Eastern part of Northern Cape (including Kimberley) and far western part of North West
054	Released	Gordonia (including Upington)
055	Protected	Not assigned
056	Released	Northern part of Free State (including Kroonstad)
057	Released	Free State Goldfields (including Welkom)
058	Released	Eastern part of Free State (including Bethlehem)
059	Protected	Not assigned

4. The following geographic numbering ranges are reserved for testing purposes: 0XX 114; 0XX 115; 0XX 116 and 0XX 117. All providers with network testing requirements may utilize the numbers and need not apply to the Authority.

17. NON-GEOGRAPHIC NUMBERS

1. The first three digits of a non-geographic number signify its significance as set out in Table 4.
2. A non-geographic number other than a short code and machine related number must have a length of ten (10) digits.
3. A machine related number must have a length of fourteen (14) digits.
4. Immediately after these Regulations come into force, a non-geographic number that is in Table 4 is not shown as having status 'protected'-
 - (a) has status 'allocated', 'reserved' or 'released', if the Authority has made publicly available a decision to that effect;

Table 4: First, second and third digits of non-geographic numbers

Digits	Status	Significance
060	Released	Mobile services
061	Released	
062	Released	
063	Released	
064	Released	
065	Released	
066	Released	
067	Released	
068	Released	
069	Released	
070	Released	
071	Released	
072	Released	
073	Released	
074	Released	
075	Protected	Not assigned
076	Released	Mobile services
077	Released	
078	Released	
079	Released	
080	Released	Toll free services
081	Released	Mobile services
082	Released	
083	Released	
084	Released	
085	Protected	Not assigned
086	Released	Inbound services
087	Released	Voice over the internet services (VoIP)
088	Released	Future non-geographic services
089	Released	Mass calling services
090	Released	Premium rate services
091	Released	Premium rate services
092	Released	Premium rate services : Adult content services
093	Protected	Not assigned
094	Protected	
095	Protected	
096	Released	Machine related services
097	Released	
098	Released	
099	Protected	Not assigned

18. SHORT CODES BEGINNING WITH '1'

1. The first and second digits of a short code beginning with '1' signify that the short code is an access code or a service code, as set out in Table 5.
2. An access code beginning with '1' must have at least four (4) digits.
3. A service code beginning with '1' must have at least three (3) digits.
4. Immediately after these Regulations come into force-
 - (a) an access code beginning with '16', '18' and '19' has status 'released';
 - (b) an access code beginning with '15', and '17' has status 'protected';
 - (c) a service code beginning with '10', '11', '12', '14' and '17' has status 'released';
 - (d) a service code beginning with '13' or '15' has status 'protected';
 - (e) the service code '112' is a mandated number for an emergency call service;
 - (f) the service code '1020' is a mandated number for a government information directory service;
 - (g) the service code '10111' is a harmonised number for a police emergency call service;
 - (h) the service code '10177' is a harmonised number for an ambulance emergency call service;
 - (i) the service code '107' is a harmonised number for an emergency call service; and
 - (j) the service code '17737' is a mandated number for a presidential hot line service.

Table 5: First and second digits of short codes beginning with '1':

Digits	Significance
10	Service codes
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	Access codes (beginning with '152', '153', '154', '156', '157', '158' and '159') and service codes (beginning with '150', '151' and '155')
16	Access codes
17	Access codes (beginning with '170', '171', '172', '174', '175', '176', '178' and '179') and service codes (beginning with '173' and '177')
18	Access codes
19	

5. The assignment of service codes beginning with "1" shall be made in conformance with the "Short code strategy".

19. SHORT CODES BEGINNING WITH '3' OR '4'

1. A short code beginning with '3' or '4' is a service code.
2. A service code beginning with '3' or '4' must have at least five (5) digits.
3. Immediately after these Regulations come into force, a service code beginning with '3' or '4' has status 'released' as contemplated in regulation 14 Table1.

20. SUPPLEMENTARY CODES

1. Immediately after these Regulations come into force, a supplementary code will have the status 'released'.

21. TRANSITIONAL MEASURES

1. Every provider that, before these Regulations come into force, has assigned numbers that the provider is not permitted to assign pursuant to regulation 14(1) and regulation 14(2) must:
 - (a) inform the Authority about the date when the numbers are expected to be withdrawn; and
 - (b) inform the Authority when the numbers have been withdrawn.

22. TOLL FREE SERVICE IMPLEMENTATION

1. On a date to be determined by the Authority a service for which a toll free number has been assigned, must be such that no charge is incurred, irrespective of the electronic communication service used in originating the communication.

23. PREMIUM RATE NUMBER CHANGES AND MIGRATION

1. On a date to be determined by the Authority a number shall be a receiving number for a premium rate service if-
 - (a) the number is a premium rate number (10 digits) or a machine related number; or
 - (b) a short code that begins with '3' or '4'.
2. Premium rate services for voice calls shall be provided in conformance with the premium rate service Code of Conduct.

24. MACHINE RELATED NUMBER CHANGES AND MIGRATION

1. All machine related number changes must be migrated to the new number range on a date to be determined by the Authority.

25. PREFIXED NUMBER CHANGES

1. The Authority may withdraw allocated national numbers that have fewer than ten (10) digits, pursuant to regulation 7(1).
2. When considering withdrawing allocated national numbers that have fewer than ten (10) digits, the Authority may make reasonable endeavours to allocate access codes that resemble the first three digits of the numbers to be withdrawn.

26. FEES

1. Fees payable by providers for the allocation of numbers to recover the administration costs shall be subject to a separate public consultation process.

27. COMPLAINTS

1. The process and procedures for resolving subscriber complaints are provided for in the regulations developed in terms of section 69 (3) of the ECA.

28. CONTRAVENTIONS AND PENALTIES

1. A provider that contravenes these regulations is liable to a fine not less than R300 000 (three hundred thousand rands) but not exceeding R3 000 000 (three million rands).

29. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

1. These regulations are called the Numbering Plan Regulations, 2015, and will come into effect on the date of publication in the gazette.

30. AMENDMENT OF OTHER REGULATIONS

1. The Numbering Plan Regulations, 2012, published in the Government Gazette number 35737 dated 02 October 2012, are hereby amended.

SCHEDULE 1: DRAFT SHORT CODE STRATEGY

1. BACKGROUND

1. The aim of this strategy is to:
 - (a) cater for the demand of short codes; and
 - (b) provide a guidance on the future assignment of short codes; and
 - (c) provide support on the consistent foundation for the use of short codes.

2. USAGE OF SHORT CODES

1. Short Codes that have been assigned pre 31 March 2013 have been recorded and are not subject to the short code migration, with the exception of:
2. Codes that have been assigned within the levels that have the status protected;
3. Codes assigned to services that have been harmonized; and
4. Service codes that have been assigned within the levels classified as access codes.
5. Short codes that begin with "1", "3" and "4" have the status released.
6. Short codes that have the status "Protected" shall not be assigned.
7. The release of additional short codes shall be pursuant to regulation (3) of the Numbering Plan Regulations.
8. Short codes that begin with '1' shall be structured as either 3, 4, 5 or 6-digit codes.
9. Short codes that begin with "1" are classified as follows:
 - (a) **Carrier Pre-selection Codes (Access Codes)**
 - (i) These codes are used by the calling party of one ECS licensee to select the services of another ECS licensee on a call by call basis by adding an access code to the front of a recipient number.

(ii) The following short codes are designated for carrier pre-selection:

- 5-digit codes "16XXX", "18XXX" and "19XXX"

(iii) Providers shall make an application for the assignment of a carrier pre-selection code pursuant to regulation 5(1) of the Numbering Plan.

(b) Service Codes

(i) Calling parties use these codes to access the services of:

1. Designated network service providers, on-net or off-net; or
2. Harmonized services across all networks; or
3. Emergency services (24 hour response) and non-profit organizations.

(c) Service Codes (On-net services and Inter-network Routing Codes)

(i) These codes are used only within the network of the providers, to access services that are offered on that network and for internal routing purposes.

(ii) Providers need not make an application for these codes as they are restricted for on-net offerings.

(iii) The following short codes are designated for internal codes:

- **101 xxx** (except for the codes 10111 and 10177, total of 980 codes)
- **102 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **109 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **122 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **143 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)

(d) Service Codes (off-net)

(i) These codes are used to access services provided by licensees to whom the code is assigned. These services can be offered from either within or outside the licensee's network pursuant to regulation 13(2).

(ii) The following short codes are designated for external codes:

- **132 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **134 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **135 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **136 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **137 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **139 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)

(e) **Harmonized codes for common services across all networks**

(i) These codes are used to access services within the network of providers, and are common across all networks.

(ii) The following codes are harmonized:

Table 1: Harmonized Codes

Service	Code
Voicemail retrieval	1042
Voicemail deposit	1043
Customer care\service	1044
Prepaid recharge and balance enquiry	1040
Directory services	1023
Account Enquiries	1041

(f) **Codes for emergency services (24 hour response) and non-profit organizations**

(i) These codes are used to access emergency services with a 24 hour response function and non-profit organizations, pursuant to regulation 13(2). The following short codes are designated for such services:

Emergency services with a 24 hour response function and non-profit organizations

- **115 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **116 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **128 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)
- **129 xxx** (total of 1000 codes)

The release of short codes under section 9(d) and (f) essentially make provision for new services. Should then these short codes be subject to the Number portability Regulations?

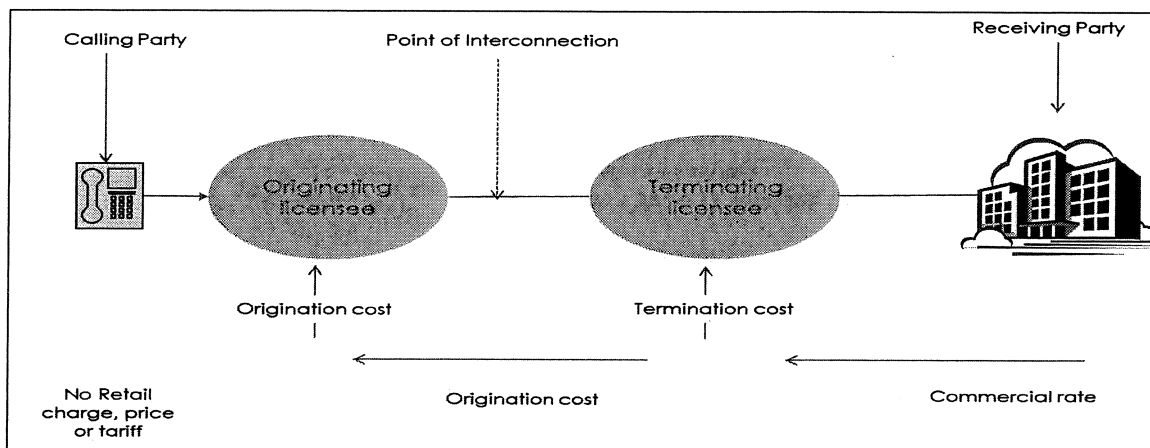
SCHEDULE 2: DRAFT TOLL-FREE FRAMEWORK**1. PURPOSE OF THE DRAFT 080 TOLL-FREE IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK**

- (a) The purpose of this framework is to ensure that:
- (i) in every communication made available to a toll-free number, no retail charge, price or tariff is incurred by the calling party irrespective of the electronic communication network used in originating the communication.
 - (ii) the retail charge, price or tariff for using a toll-free number shall be paid for by the receiving party.
 - (iii) the flow of funds between originating and terminating licensees is standardised.

2. DRAFT TOLL-FREE MODEL

- (a) The single direct connection model shall be used as the toll-free model to achieve the objectives of the Regulations.
- (b) The following principles shall apply to the single direct connection model:
- (i) the receiving party will have commercial and technical relationship with a licensee of their choice.
 - (ii) calls are free to all calling parties, irrespective of the electronic communication network used in originating the communication.
 - (iii) retail charge, price or tariff for calls will be paid by the receiving party, on behalf of the calling party to the terminating licensee.
 - (iv) the terminating licensee will in turn pay the originating licensee an origination cost.

Figure 1 shows the schematic diagram of flow of funds:



3. INTERCONNECTION CONSIDERATIONS

- (a) Licensees must file amended interconnection agreement, including 080 toll free services, with the Authority within two (2) months of this framework coming into force.