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THE ELECTRONIC AND POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS ACT

(CAP. 306)

REGULATIONS

(Made under Section 165)

THE ELECTRONIC AND POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS (ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION NUMBERING AND ADDRESSING) REGULATIONS, 2011

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THE ELECTRONIC AND POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS ACT
(CAP.306)

REGULATIONS

(Made under Sections 165)

THE ELECTRONIC AND POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION
NUMBERING AND ADDRESSING) REGULATIONS, 2011

PART I
PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

- Citation 1. These Regulations may be cited as the Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communication Numbering and Address) Regulations, 2011.
- Application 2. These Regulations shall apply to all electronic communication operators and any service provider in relation to Telecommunication numbering resources and dot-tz Electronic Addresses.
- Interpretation 3. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-
- “Accredited Registrar” means an organisation accredited by tzNIC for its competence to undergo registration process of dot-tz electronic addresses and domain names;
- Cap.306 “Act” means the Electronic and Postal Communications Act ;
“assignee” means any electronic communication operator or entity assigned Electronic Communication Numbers by the Authority;
- Cap. 172 “Authority” means the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act;
“database manager” means an administrator of dot-tz database

- of electronic addresses and names;
- “director general” means the Director General of the Authority;
- “electronic address” means the address used for electronic communication and shall include addresses under dot-tz country code Top Level Domain;
- “electronic communication” means radio communication or, as appropriate, the communication of information in the form of the electronic speech or other sound, data, text or images, by means of guided and unguided electromagnetic energy;
- “electronic communication operator” means any person licensed by the Authority to provide radio communication or telecommunication services;
- “electronic communication number” means a number, sign or any other mark which an electronic communication operator in its delivery of electronic communication services uses for identification of electronic communications facilities in order to connect between the place of transmission and the place of reception, or for identification of the type of content of transmission the electronic communication facility is to deliver;
- “electronic communication facility” means any facility used or intended to be used for electronic communication;
- “national numbering plan” means the scheme of identification prescribed in these Regulations or other regulations made and maintained by the Authority for ensuring that electronic communications are correctly and efficiently directed to their intended points of reception;
- “national signalling point codes plan” means the plan for Signalling Point Codes as maintained by the Authority;
- “short code” means a number that is not a supplementary code and has a maximum of six (6) digits;

“Signalling Point Codes” “in its abbreviation SPC” means codes used in the networks to identify the exchanges national or international between which speech path connections are to be established;

“tzNIC” means the Tanzania Network Information Centre entrusted to serve both as the technical and administrative Manager of dot-tzccTLD;

“tzccTLD” means country code Top Level Domain for Tanzania;

“Unstructured Supplementary Service Data” in its abbreviation USSD means a Global System for Mobile (GSM) communication technology that is used to send text between a mobile phone (using a number that contains at least one occurrence of a star (*) or a hash (#)) and an application program in the network;

“utilised numbers” means numbers that are allocated to customers or kept for internal system and human communications or that have been distributed to a dealer on SIM cards;

“VAS short code” means an electronic communications number designated for Value Added Services;

“Value Added Services” in its abbreviation VAS means extra electronic communication services as provided by an assignee other than basic telecommunications services.

PART II

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION NUMBERING AND ADDRESSING

Power of the Authority

4. The Authority shall maintain control of all electronic communication numbers and addresses to ensure fair and efficient use by-

- (a) performing proper planning, allocations, assignment and monitoring;
- (b) maintaining the national electronic communication numbering register for all carriers and operators in respect of resources

- which have been assigned; and
- (c) maintaining registers of the national dot-tz electronic addresses and users.

National
Numbering Plan
Management

5.-(1) National numbering plan shall include electronic communication numbers used to identify-

- (a) electronic communication networks or various carriers;
- (b) terminal facilities for cellular phones;
- (c) signalling transmission equipment;
- (d) emergency, help, health and inquiry calls;
- (e) terminal transmission line facilities for data communication services;
- (f) Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) applications;
- (g) Value added services; and
- (h) terminal transmission line facilities for paging services, space for future technological developments

(2) The Authority shall maintain and update the National Numbering Plan as appropriate.

Procedure for
Assignment of
electronic
communications
numbers

6.-(1) The eligibility for assigning electronic communication numbers-

- (a) all telecommunications network operators and service providers licensed by the Authority to operate in the United Republic shall be eligible for assignment of electronic communications numbers;
- (b) unlicensed entities may apply for VAS short codes subject to the nature of Value Added Services to be provided;
- (c) unlicensed entities shall be assigned to one VAS short code; and where more than one VAS short code is required, the applicant shall be obliged to have the appropriate license as

- provided by the Authority;
- (d) political parties shall not be eligible for direct assignment of any numbering resources.
- (2) Any electronic communications licensee or unlicensed entity requiring electronic communication numbers shall submit to the Authority-
 - (a) the appropriate application form;
 - (b) documents and reasons for use of the said numbers;
 - (c) estimated demand as the grounds for said request; and
 - (d) plans for provision of telecommunication services for the numbers required.
- (3) Subject to sub regulation (2), the Authority may assign electronic numbers and issue a certificate of assignment based on the following conditions -
 - (a) it determines that the electronic communication numbers required for provision of electronic communications services are available; and
 - (b) payment of the relevant fees.
- (4) The Authority shall identify GOLD, SILVER, BRONZE and ORDINARY VAS short codes according to digit patterns for the most memorable to the least memorable codes.

Assignment criteria
of VAS Short
Codes

- 7.-(1) The following shall be assignment criteria for VAS short codes-
 - (a) GOLD, SILVER and BRONZE codes shall be assigned based on customer preference as well as code availability;
 - (b) ORDINARY codes shall be assigned serially with respect to categories and availability.
- (2) The following shall be the minimum requirements for VAS short codes applicants-
 - (a) duly filled application form;
 - (b) certified copy of certificate of incorporation or registration;
 - (c) certified copy of company's memorandum of

- (d) association;
 - (d) company profile;
 - (e) Taxpayer's Identification Number (TIN);
 - (f) physical and mailing address.
- Auditing of electronic communication numbers
8. An assignee shall submit in writing to the Authority on any date in the month of May of each year, the utilized electronic communication numbers for the purposes of auditing and billing.
- Assignee obligations
- 9.-(1) Any assignee shall use the electronic communication numbers as assigned by the Authority and in accordance with the national numbering plan and shall ensure that the resources are-
- (a) utilised efficiently;
 - (b) limited to provision of electronic communication services;
 - (c) utilised in a manner that electronic communication facilities or services may be identified; and
 - (d) utilised and paid for as designated by the Authority in accordance with the application guidelines and fees for numbering resources as may be provided and reviewed by the Authority from time to time.
- (2) An assignee shall not re-sell or trade any part of the assigned electronic communication numbers to a third party.
- (3) An assignee shall be responsible for discontinuation of traffic related to a numbering resource whose service has ended.
- Use, registration and management of dot-tz electronic addresses and names
10. Any public or business entity in Tanzania shall register and use domains with country's ccTLD, the dot-tz.
- (2) Dot-tz Electronic Communications shall be used for all official correspondences unless where proved technically not possible.
- (3) The Tanzania Network Information Centre

(tzNIC) shall serve both as the technical and administrative Manager of dot-tzccTLD.

(4) Any domain name with dot-tzccTLD shall be registered by tzNIC or Accredited Registrars;

(5) The Tanzania Network Information Centre (tzNIC) shall from time to time publish the list of accredited registrars on its website.

dot-tz electronic addresses and names data base manager and accredited registrars obligations

11.(1) -All entities assigned with internet resources by the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) shall submit to tzNIC on a monthly basis both assigned and in use Internet Protocol (IP) addresses.

(2) The tzNIC shall maintain an updated National Data Base of any IP addresses in use and registered domain names in the United Republic.

(3) The tzNIC shall after every three months starting January, 2012 submit to the Authority information on the assigned IP addresses and registered domain Names within that period.

Changes of electronic communication numbering

12. In the event that the numbering plan has to change, the Authority shall issue notice to the public and the assignees at least six (6) months prior to the date of change.

Cancellation of electronic communication numbers and addresses assignments

13.-(1) Where an assignee fails to use an electronic communication number assigned by the Authority or fails to pay annual fees, he shall be required to submit to the Authority reasons for such failure, of which the Authority may take regulatory measures including cancellation of the assignment.

(2) Where an Assignee fails to renew an electronic address registered by tzNIC, the domain name will automatically be deleted from the Registry.

PART III
SIGNALLING POINT CODES

National
Signalling Point
Codes Plan
Management

14.-(1) National Signalling Point Codes Plan shall include international and national Formats used to identify-

- (a) the world geographical zone where the network is located in
- (b) the geographical area or network within a specific world zone;
- (c) the signalling point (international exchange) within a specific geographical area or network;
- (d) a Signalling Area or Network Code (SANC);
- (e) the network (operator) in which the exchange is located in;
- (f) the hierarchical layer of the exchange in the operator's network;
- (g) the geographical area where the exchange is located in; and
- (h) space for future assignments.

(2) The Authority shall maintain and update the Signalling Point Codes Plan as appropriate.

Assignment of
Signalling Point
Codes

15. The Authority may assign Signalling Point Codes and issue a certificate of assignment with the conditions thereon-

- (a) if it determines that the Signalling Point Codes required for provision of electronic communications services are available; and
- (b) upon payment of the relevant fees.

Signalling Point
Codes (SPCs)
Assignee
obligations

16. Any Signalling Point Codes assignee shall use the code only as assigned by the Authority and in accordance with the national Signalling Point Codes Plan.

PART IV
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Compliance,
offences and
Penalty

17.-(1) A person shall not use any electronic communication number without a certificate of assignment issued by the Authority.

(2) Any electronic communications licensee shall not cause use of any short code either on direct dialing, SMS or Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) without an authorization by the Authority.

(3) A person shall not resell or trade any kind of Electronic communication Numbers or addresses.

(4) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with the provisions of these regulation commits an offence and shall upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than five million Tanzanian shillings or to imprisonment for a term of not less than twelve months or to both.

Compounding of
offences

18. Where a person commits an offence under these Regulations, the Director General may, at any time compound the offence by ordering the person to pay a sum of money specified but not exceeding the amount of fine prescribed for the offence.

Revocation
G.N.No.263
of 2005

19. The Tanzania Communications (Telecommunication Numbering and Electronic Address) Regulations are hereby revoked.

Dar es Salaam
29th November, 2011

MAKAME M. MBARAWA,
*Minister for Communication,
Science and Technology*