



Draft Summary Regulation on National Numbering Plan



LTA Reg-007

Part I: Preliminary

1.1 Title

These regulations shall be cited as the Summary Regulations for Numbering for the Republic of Liberia pursuant to PART XII SECTIONS 62 , 63 and 64 of the Liberia Telecommunications Act of 2007 (the "Act") referred to as **LTA REG-007**.

1.2: Purpose

Objectives of this regulation is to manage a National Numbering Plan and to assign numbers and number ranges to service providers and customers in accordance with the National Number Plan as provided for under the Act. Provide for the efficient use and allocation of numbers

Part II: General Principles for managing the National Numbering Plan

1.1 The LTA shall have the sole control over the assignment of all the national numbering resources and the management of the National Numbering Plan.

2.1 Service providers and customers shall not have any property rights in assigned numbers.

3.1 The LTA may decide to delegate administrative responsibility for the numbering plan if it deems it necessary. In that case, it will ensure that the rules for allocating, reserving and using numbers are strictly adhered to, and it shall ensure that it conducts an annual audit of the party delegated the administrative responsibility for the management of the numbering plan.

4.1 In order to ensure proper utilization of the prefixes, numbers, number blocks and codes that are allocated, these shall not be protected by industrial or intellectual property rights, nor shall they be transferred without the written agreement of the LTA.

Part III: General method for managing the numbering plan

1.1 The numbers and blocks of numbers are allocated following reservation by the LTA for a limited duration of time, corresponding to the operational lifetime of the service or application. When an applicant ceases operation of its telecommunication service, for which numbering capacity has been allocated, that capacity can be allocated to a new assignee on condition that the latter is authorized to operate the service and that a declaration to this effect has previously been submitted to the LTA.

1. For the purpose of harmonization of the management of the numbering plan at regional level, the LTA may, in the long term, adopt the following methods:

- Adoption of harmonized emergency codes for the region
- Promotion of number portability in accordance with section 64 of the Act.

- Assign lower initial digits to fixed lines, and reserving the higher ones to mobile
- Allocation of number blocks for a fee

2.2 Service providers shall implement and maintain emergency service access and location identification services in accordance with any regulation, rules, orders or notices issued by the LTA.

Part IV:

Number portability

1.1 The LTA shall, in accordance with section 64 of the Act, conduct market studies to access consumers' portability needs and identify what categories of consumers are likely to request such service.

2.1 Where a need has been clearly identified, the LTA shall, through a regulation, ensure that consumers are allowed to keep their telephone numbers when they change operators. Pursuant to this objective, the LTA may, depending on the level of difficulties involved in the implementation of this goal, dialogue with market players to implement number portability, particularly its technical and tariff aspects, and to also ensure that the numbering plan is revised to the requirements of number portability

2.2 The cost of introducing number portability systems and the ongoing costs of administering number portability shall be recovered from service providers in accordance with applicable rules or order of the LTA.

2.3 No service provider, whether acting unilaterally or in collaboration with other service provider(s), shall offer number portability to any customer except in accordance with an implementation plan approved by the LTA, or as otherwise specifically approved by the LTA.

Part V:

Allocation Mechanism

1.1 The LTA shall, under objective, transparent and non-discriminatory conditions, assign prefixes and numbers, or number blocks to operators who have made an application and who shall pay a fee to cover the costs of managing the numbering plan and controlling its utilization.

1. The LTA may, for transparency, objectivity and non-discrimination:

- Make a resource allocation;
- Make a temporary resource allocation;
- Make an allocation covering only a portion of the resources requested;
- Refuse to make a resource allocation.

3.1 A service provider shall only change a customer's number:

- (a) On request of the customer
- (b) If a fixed service customer's location changes; or
- (c) If it has reasonable grounds for doing so and if it has given reasonable advance written notice to the customer in question, stating the reason and anticipated date of change. In cases of emergency, oral notice with subsequent written confirmation shall be sufficient.

Part VI:

Revocation and withdrawal of an allocation decision

The LTA may revoke number block and or allocation:

1. If the number resources are not used in a manner that conforms to the conditions of their allocation and utilization, or if a significant part of the resource remains unused, the LTA may withdraw the numbers.
2. If revocation takes place at the request of the holder, the latter must inform the LTA by A/R registered letter, accompanied by a copy of the request for cancellation of the resource in the networks of other operators, of the fact that the service will be discontinued and the holder wishes to free the corresponding numbering resource. The resource will stop being subject to fees as of the day this letter is received. At that time, the holder is to be notified of the revocation of the decision to allocate the resource in question.
3. If the service provider is dissolved or otherwise ceases to provide the license service.
4. If the service provide is in violation of the Telecommunications Act, these Regulations and/ or an Order of the LTA that has to do with the National Numbering Plan.
5. All service providers shall be required to use numbers assigned to them by the LTA in accordance with the National Numbering Plan and shall ensure that these numbers are used efficiently and in accordance with the National Numbering Plan.

Part VII:

Delegation to outside operators

1. The holder of a numbering resource may entrust an outside operator with the distribution of that resource to the final customer or customers. In such cases, a distinction shall be made between the operator holding the allocation for the

resource and the delegated outside operator who distributes the resource to the end-clients. Conditions for the involvement of an outside operator will be decided by the LTA in subsequent regulation.

Part VIII: ENTRY INTO FORCE

1.1 Short Title and Date of Entry Into Force

This Regulation shall be known as the Regulation for the National Numbering Plan, LTA Reg 007_ 2011 and shall come into effect on the day which they are adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the LTA.