

LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

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Patricia
1:11 pm

Liberia
Telecommunications
Authority

LTA- ORDER -0005-10-04-11

PURSUANT TO SECTION 11(1) (r) (u) and (v) OF THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 2007, THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY (LTA) HEREBY ISSUES AND PUBLISHES THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

WHEREAS, the LTA has received several complaints, counter complaints and requests from both Lonestar and Cellcom to intervene in a dispute regarding interconnection charges owed and a denial to increase the number of EIs between the networks of Lonestar and Cellcom, and;

WHEREAS, the LTA in an attempt to resolve the issues raised in the complaints and to accommodate the request for additional EIs, issued LTA -Order -0003-05-23-11 and;

WHEREAS, the LTA has observed and resolved that separate from the prevailing dispute between Cellcom and Lonestar, that there is an unacceptable continued deplorable Quality of Service (QoS) such as "Denial of Service" to Consumers; which has the potential to increase security concerns amongst citizens especially during these months of high political tensions and;

WHEREAS, the LTA has resolved to address this QoS issue immediately without delays and separate from but in parallel with the prevailing dispute being investigated by an independent consultant hired by the LTA and;

WHEREAS, the LTA hereby clarifies that each order listed herein below stands alone and does not serve as a precondition for another order listed below nor can any of the order listed below rely on another order's effectiveness to become effective and;

WHEREAS, the LTA, having reviewed previous orders and taking into account the prevailing circumstances obtaining in the sector since the issuance of the LTA-ORDER-0003-05-23-11, hereby revokes and rescinds LTA-Order-0003-05-11 and hereby issues LTA-ORDER-0005-10-04-11 as follows:

Regarding Quality of Service (QoS), the LTA orders that:

- a. Lonestar expands its inter-connection trunk with Cellcom by additional 16 EIs within 3 working days as of the date of this order and must remain in place until otherwise ordered by the LTA;
- b. Cellcom expands its inter-connection trunk with Lonestar by additional 16 EIs within 3 working days as of the date of this order and must remain in place until otherwise ordered by the LTA;

Regarding commercial issues relating to interconnection agreement, payments and bonds:

- a. That Cellcom will continue to ensure that it has a prepaid credit for interconnection fees in the agreed amount of US\$150,000.00 (ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND UNITED STATES DOLLARS) monthly in favor of Lonestar Communications until an interconnection agreement as required by LTA's Interconnection Regulations is signed and executed by Cellcom and Lonestar.
- b. That Lonestar issue an indemnity bond monthly in the amount of US\$150,000.00 to indemnify Cellcom against its monthly prepayment of US\$150,000.00 (ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND UNITED STATES DOLLARS) for interconnection charges as agreed by the Parties, within 5 business days until an interconnection agreement as required by LTA's Interconnection Regulations is signed and executed by Cellcom and Lonestar.
- c. That Cellcom and Lonestar negotiate and conclude an interconnection agreement within fourteen (14) business days following the publication of this Order.

The LTA further orders that the Parties remain and stay interconnected in keeping with provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 2007.

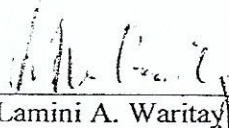
Failure of any party to follow and or abide by the orders stipulated above shall be liable to a penalty of US\$15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand United States Dollars) for each violation for each calendar day up to 5 days after which time the LTA shall commence proceedings to suspend and eventually revoke all the telecommunications licenses granted to that party by the LTA. Violators of any of the above orders shall pay all effective penalties immediately on the day of the violation.

THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE IMMEDIATE EFFECT UPON PUBLICATION AND SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE UNTIL OTHERWISE ALTERED AND OR RESCINDED BY THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY.

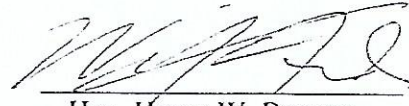
ISSUED THIS 7th DAY OF OCTOBER A.D. 2011 IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

SIGNED

Hon. Angelique Weeks
Chairperson

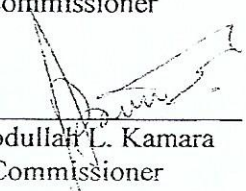


Hon. Lamini A. Waritay
Commissioner



Hon. Henry W. Benson
Commissioner

Hon. Harry T. Yuan, Sr.
Commissioner



Hon. Abdullah L. Kamara
Commissioner