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ETHIOPIAN
COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS
NUMBERING DIRECTIVE
NO. 795/2021**

**JULY 2021
ADDIS ABABA**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS NUMBERING DIRECTIVE

WHEREAS, Telecommunications Numbers are scarce resources that needs effective allocation utilization, and management;

WHEREAS, ensuring that Telecommunications Numbers are assigned efficiently, quickly, transparently and fairly, without undue discrimination against particular customer classes, Licensee types and communications technologies are essential to make new telecommunications product and services accessible to customers;

WHEREAS, establishing administrative procedures for development and amendment of National Telecommunications Numbering Plan has been instrumental in predicting and preventing shortages of Telecommunications Numbers in a timely manner;

WHEREAS, it is found to be appropriate to monitor and control the use of Telecommunication Numbers so as not to limit the needs and rights of customers;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ethiopian Communications Authority hereby issues this Telecommunications Numbering Directive in accordance with Articles 6(11), 27,28, and 29 of the Communications Service Proclamation No. 1148/2019.

PART ONE GENERAL

1. Short Title

This Directive may be cited as the “Telecommunications Numbering Directive No. 795/2021.”

2. Definition

In this Directive, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1) “**Allocation Status**” means the status of a numbering Block defined pursuant to Article 6 of this Directive.
- 2) “**Assignment**” means an authorization given by the Authority for a Licensee to use a Telecommunications Number under specified conditions.
- 3) “**Authority**” means the Ethiopia Communications Authority established under Article 3 of the Proclamation.
- 4) “**Block**” means a set of consecutive Telecommunications Numbers.
- 5) “**Charge**” means fees applied to Telecommunications Numbers.
- 6) “**Code**” means a positive integer that forms the most significant digits of each of the Telecommunications Numbers in a Block.
- 7) “**Contravention**” means any failure to comply with the requirements identified in Article 49 of this Directive.
- 8) “**End User**” means a customer that is not an Interconnecting Licensee or a provider of an international route to or from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.
- 9) “**Interconnecting Licensee**” means a Licensee who has interconnected or has

requested to interconnect its telecommunications system to the telecommunications system of an interconnection provider.

- 10) “**Licensee**” means a person who has been issued a License by the Authority.
- 11) “**National Numbering Plan**” means the Telecommunications numbering plan of Ethiopia, to be issued by the Authority, as amended from time to time.
- 12) “**Network Termination Point**” means a point at which a customer has physical access through customer equipment to a Network of a Licensee.
- 13) “**Number**” means a sequence of digits that is used to identify customers and the Network Termination Points that are associated with a particular service or an End User.
- 14) “**Number Portability**” means the ability of users of Telecommunications Services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.
- 15) “**Proclamation**” means the Communications Service Proclamation No.1148/2019.
- 16) “**Usage Conditions**” means a restriction on the conditions in which Telecommunications numbers may be used.
- 17) “**Utilization**” means the proportion of Telecommunications Numbers that have “*In Service*” as their Utilization Status.
- 18) “**Utilization Status**” means the status of a Telecommunications Number defined pursuant to Article 16 of this Directive.
- 19) “**Working Days**” means business working days only and shall not include Saturday, Sunday and any day that has been declared to be a public holiday by the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

3. **Objective**

The objectives of this Directive are administering Numbers and supervising the efficient use thereof by ensuring that:

- 1) Numbers are understood to be national resources that are not owned by customers or Licensees;
- 2) Numbers can be assigned efficiently, quickly, transparently and fairly, without undue discrimination against particular customer classes, Licensee types and communications technologies;
- 3) Shortages of Numbers can be predicted and prevented in a timely way; and,
- 4) Uses of Numbers can be monitored and controlled to avoid detriment to the interests of customers.

4. **Scope**

- 1) This Directive shall apply to all Telecommunications Operators and Service Providers.
- 2) This Directive provides a regulatory framework for the control, planning, administration, management and assignment of Telecommunications Numbers, pursuant to Article 6, Sub-Article (11) of the Proclamation.
- 3) This Directive sets out the rules for the assignment, transfer, porting and use of Numbers under the National Numbering Plan.

- 4) For the purpose of this Directive, Numbers shall include conventional Telecommunications Numbers and short codes.

PART TWO THE NATIONAL NUMBERING PLAN

5. Publication of the National Numbering Plan

- 1) The Authority shall establish the National Telecommunications Numbering Plan.
- 2) The Authority shall maintain and publish in the National Numbering Plan up-to-date versions of the Allocation Status and Usage Conditions of Codes and Blocks of all the Numbers, as and when additional assignments to Licensees have been made, and on a quarterly basis as a minimum.

6. Allocation Status

The Allocation Status of a Block shall be:

- 1) “**Assigned**” if the Block has been included in an Assignment to a Licensee and has not been subsequently returned by or withdrawn from the Licensee;
- 2) “**Assignable**” if the Block is available for inclusion in an Assignment subject to the Usage Conditions;
- 3) “**Expected to become Assignable**” if the Block is expected to be available in the future for inclusion in an Assignment subject to the Usage Conditions; the Block does not include numbers having allocation status as “Reserved”.
- 4) “**Unusable**” if the Block is excluded from Assignments to avoid possible human errors or system constraints; or
- 5) “**Reserved**” if the Block is excluded from Assignments to keep number resources for unknown future developments.

7. Limitations on Providing Services

- 1) A Licensee shall not use a Number to provide a service unless the service satisfies the applicable Usage Conditions at the time of use.
- 2) A Licensee shall not make use of numbers that have not been allocated to it or which the Authority has not authorized it to use.

PART THREE AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL NUMBERING PLAN

8. Amendments to the National Numbering Plan

- 1) The Authority shall review and if necessary, amend the National Numbering Plan.
- 2) Under any such review to be carried out pursuant to Sub-Article (1) of this Article, the Authority shall undertake consultations with all stakeholders pursuant to Articles 35-38 of the Proclamation.

9. Factors in Amending the National Numbering Plan

- 1) In reviewing or amending the National Numbering Plan, the Authority shall take into account factors that include, but not limited to:
 - a) The need to meet demand in a rapidly developing market, for both existing and expected services and for both short and long terms;

- b) Changes and advancement in technology; and,
 - c) Compatibility with agreements, standards and recommendations by the International Telecommunication Union.
- 2) When proposing National Numbering Plan amendments, the Authority shall conduct a Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA) that includes, but not limited to, the following factors:
- a) The material impact caused by the amendment to the sector and to the Licensees;
 - b) The advantages to End Users in not changing the Numbers through which services are provided;
 - c) The undue impact to End Users who are using the numbers already;
 - d) The benefits and costs of a change to the National Numbering Plan; and,
 - e) The costs of alternatives to a change to the National Numbering Plan that provide similar benefits.

10. Scope of Amendments to the National Numbering Plan

- 1) In amending the National Numbering Plan, the Authority shall do only some or all of the following:
 - a) Change the Allocation Status;
 - b) Change the Usage Conditions; and,
 - c) Change Numbers by replacing, inserting, or deleting digits.
- 2) The creation of Assignments, the return of Blocks and the withdrawal of Blocks are not amendments to the National Numbering Plan but are changes in the Allocation Status of Blocks that are maintained and published in the National Numbering Plan.

11. Timing of Amendments to the National Numbering Plan

If the Authority amends the National Numbering Plan by replacing, inserting or deleting digits in Numbers:

- 1) The Authority shall ensure that advertising or advisory material, explaining the practical consequences of the amendment to customers, is made publicly available at least six (6) months before the modification occurs;
- 2) The Authority shall inform Licensees about the amendment at least two (2) years before the amendment occurs; and,
- 3) The Authority shall inform the International Telecommunication Union and any necessary foreign telecommunication administrations about the amendment at least two (2) years before the modification occurs.

12. Implementation of Amendments

Every Licensee shall implement an amendment to the National Numbering Plan at the time and in the manner that the Authority determines for the Licensee.

**PART FOUR
UTILIZATION OF NUMBERS**

13. Monitoring Utilizations of Numbers

- 1) Every Licensee shall at the end of each year submit to the Authority information

required by the Authority for auditing utilizations.

- 2) When submitting information required in Sub-Article (1) of this Article, the Licensee shall adopt the format prescribed by the Authority and state for each Assignment:
 - a) The quantity of Numbers having each Utilization Status;
 - b) The services that use the Assignment; and,
 - c) Any other information that the Authority may from time to time require to assess utilizations.

14. Publications of Number Utilization

The Authority shall at the end of each year summarize and publish the information submitted by Licensees pursuant to provisions of Article 13 of this Directive.

15. Utilization Status

A Licensee shall indicate the following utilization status for the Numbers assigned to it:

- 1) “**In Service**” if an End User is taking service through the number from the Licensee;
- 2) “**Withdrawn**” if the Number is withdrawn pursuant to Part Seven of this Directive.
- 3) “**In Quarantine**” if the number has been idle for a period more than ninety (90) days, and has been deactivated and is given ninety (90) days pending withdrawal;
- 4) “**Not In Service**” if a Number that has been assigned to an End User has not been in use for a period of more than ninety (90) days; and,
- 5) “**Available**” if the Number can be assigned for an End User.

PART FIVE ASSIGNING NUMBERS

16. Applications for Assignments

- 1) A Licensee shall apply to the Authority for an Assignment of Numbers.
- 2) When submitting the application stated in Sub-Article (1) of this Article the Licensee shall use the forms made available by the Authority stating:
 - a) The name and contact details of the applicant;
 - b) The License under which the application is made;
 - c) The services intended to use the Assignment;
 - d) The geographic areas for completing calls or transmitting messages to the Numbers to be included in the Assignment;
 - e) The quantity of Numbers requested for inclusion in the Assignment;
 - f) Any particular Blocks requested for inclusion in the Assignment;
 - g) The Utilization of the Assignment predicted for next three (3) years after the grant of the Assignment;
 - h) The current Utilizations of existing Assignments (if any) to the applicant for the intended services;
 - i) An indication of information in the application which shall be kept confidential by the Authority;
 - j) Any other information that the applicant considers necessary or appropriate to

justify the application; and,

- k) Any other information that the Authority may, from time to time, require to assess the application.
- 3) For purposes of assessing the usage conditions of existing assignments referred in Sub-Article (2)(h) of this Article, the Authority shall ensure:
 - a) That the utilisation of the numbers already allocated to the Licensee are subject to the same usage conditions; and
 - b) The utilization rate of numbers requested is not less than eighty percent (80%) for mobile and machine related numbers and less than sixty (60%) for geographic and other non-geographic numbers.

17. Content of Decisions on Applications for Assignments

The Authority may refuse or grant an application for an Assignment and in granting of an Assignment it may be subject to variations in:

- 1) The quantity of Numbers included in the Assignment; and,
- 2) The particular Blocks included in the Assignment.

18. Factors in Evaluating Applications for Assignments

In making a decision on an application for an Assignment, the Authority shall take into account the following facts:

- 1) Any earlier decisions about Assignments to the applicant or other Licensees for service similar to the intended services;
- 2) Any statements in the License of the applicant about eligibility for providing services or being assigned Numbers;
- 3) The Usage Conditions;
- 4) The digit analysis capabilities of communications networks that are operated in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
- 5) The Utilization of the Assignment predicted over the next three (3) years after the grant of the Assignment;
- 6) The current Utilizations of existing Assignments to the applicant for the intended services as specified in the National Numbering Plan;
- 7) The quantity and fragmentation of Blocks that do not have “Assigned” as their Allocation Status; and,
- 8) Any Contraventions by the Licensee pursuant to Article 49 of this Directive.

19. Timing of Decisions on Applications for Assignments

- 1) The Authority shall review and make decisions regarding applications for Assignments in the order in which the applications are received by the Authority.
- 2) The Authority shall communicate its decision on an application to the applicant, including reasons for any refusal of an application, within twenty (20) working days of receiving the application.

20. Assignments Conditions

- 1) The Authority shall require for each Assignment:

- a) Each Block in the Assignment has Assignable as its Allocation Status immediately before the Assignment is created;
 - b) Each Block in the Assignment has the same Usage Conditions;
 - c) The services intended to use the Assignment satisfy the applicable Usage Conditions; and,
 - d) Each Block in the Assignment adjoins another Block or another Assignment that has the same Usage Conditions, unless there is no such other Block or particular Blocks being requested in the application for the Assignment.
- 2) The creation of Assignments, the return of Blocks, and the withdrawal of Blocks may split or combine Blocks that would otherwise be identified separately in the National Numbering Plan.

PART SIX RETURNING NUMBERS

21. Returning Number Blocks

- 1) A Licensee may return Numbers to the Authority providing the reason for not assigning the numbers, and propose new timelines for Assignment.
- 2) A Licensee may apply to the Authority for approval to return a Block and in doing so, the Licensee shall use the forms made available by the Authority to provide the following:
 - a) The name and contact details of the applicant;
 - b) The particular Block to be returned to the Authority; and,
 - c) An affirmation that every Number in the Block has “*Available*” as its Utilization Status.

22. Decisions on Applications for Returning Blocks

The Authority shall grant an application for approval to return a Block and the granting approval to return a Block may be subject to variations in:

- 1) The quantity of Numbers to be returned to the Authority; and,
- 2) The particular Block to be returned to the Authority.

23. Factors in Evaluating Applications for Returning Blocks

In making a decision about an application for approval to return a Block, the Authority shall take into account factors including, but not limited to:

- 1) The digit analysis capabilities of telecommunications networks that are operated in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; and,
- 2) The quantity and fragmentation of Blocks that do not have “*Assigned*” as their Allocation Status.

24. Timing of Decisions on Applications for Returning Blocks

- 1) The Authority shall review and make decisions regarding applications for approval to return Blocks in the order in which the applications are received by the Authority.
- 2) The Authority shall communicate its decision on an application to the applicant, including reasons for any refusal of an application, within fifteen (15) working days of receiving the application.

**PART SEVEN
WITHDRAWING NUMBERS**

25. Conditions for Withdrawing Numbers

The Authority may withdraw a Block from an Assignment only if:

- 1) A Number in the Block is used for a service that does not satisfy the applicable Usage Conditions;
- 2) The Licensee uses the number range in a different manner than for which it was otherwise assigned;
- 3) The Block is needed for advancing a clearly identified national interest; or,
- 4) National Numbering Plan is amended.

26. Timing for Withdrawal of Numbers

The Authority shall notify a Licensee about the nature of and the reasons for, a proposal to withdraw a Block from an Assignment to the Licensee at least one (1) year before the Authority withdraws the Block.

27. Implementation of Withdrawal of Numbers

Where the Authority notifies a Licensee about a proposal to withdraw a Block from an Assignment to the Licensee:

- 1) The Licensee shall not thereafter bring into service any Numbers in the Block unless the Authority informs the Licensee that it has decided not to withdraw the Block;
- 2) The Licensee shall inform any affected customer about the reasons for the proposal to withdraw the Block and about replacements for the Numbers in the Block at least two (2) months before the Authority withdraws the Block; and,
- 3) The Licensee shall remove from service all of the Numbers in the Block at least one (1) month before the Authority withdraws the Block.

**PART EIGHT
BRINGING NUMBERS INTO SERVICE**

28. Appointment of Contact Person

A Licensee shall identify and submit to the Authority details of a contact person intended to receive notifications about numbering and associated routing and traffic requirements.

29. Forwarding of Information About Contact Persons

The Authority shall forward information about the contact details of persons who are provided by the Licensees under Article 28 of this Directive in response to requests for those details.

30. Timing of Bringing Numbers into Service

- 1) Every Licensee shall notify other Licensees and any relevant foreign Telecommunications Operators that traffic is to be routed to and from a Number at least thirty (30) working days before the Licensee brings the Number into service.
- 2) The Authority shall not be responsible for notifying any party that Numbers are to be brought into service.

31. Conditions for Bringing Numbers into service

A Licensee may bring a Number into service if:

- 1) The Licensee has been assigned the Number;
- 2) The Number is to be used for a service that satisfies the applicable Usage Conditions; and,
- 3) The Number has “*Available*” as its Utilization Status.

32. Conditions for Barring Numbers

The Authority may notify Licensees that traffic is not to be routed to and from a Number if:

- 1) The Number is in a Block that does not have “*Assigned*” as its Allocation Status; or,
- 2) The Number is used for a service that does not satisfy the applicable Usage Conditions.

33. Limitations on Routing Traffic to and from Numbers

Every Licensee shall route traffic to and from a Number to which another Licensee is providing service unless:

- 1) The Authority, pursuant to Article 32 of this Directive, has notified the Licensee to the contrary; or,
- 2) The Number is in a Block that has Usage Conditions which clearly provide otherwise.

**PART NINE
PORTING NUMBERS**

34. Factors in implementing Number Portability

In developing or in the ongoing management of the National Numbering Plan and pursuant to Article 28 (4) of the Proclamation, the Authority may issue one or more decisions or directions or Directives regarding the introduction of Number Portability. In issuing such decisions or directions or Directives, the Authority shall consult with Licensees regarding implementation factors including but not limited to:

- 1) Helping customers to understand the relation between Numbers and charges for calls and messages, and how charges may change if there is Number Portability;
- 2) Facilitating the use of Number Portability, once implemented; and,
- 3) The benefits and costs of Number Portability.

35. Conditions for Exporting Numbers

Every Licensee that is providing service to a Number shall facilitate the provision of service through the Number by another Licensee if:

- 1) The Authority, pursuant to Article 32 of this Directive, has not notified the Licensee to the contrary;
- 2) The other Licensee has undertaken to provide service to the Number; and,
- 3) The Number is in a Block for which Number Portability has been introduced pursuant to Article 34 of this Directive.

36. Conditions for Importing Numbers

A Licensee shall not undertake to provide service to a Number assigned to another Licensee unless:

- 1) The Licensee that is making the undertaking can provide the service under its License;
- 2) An End User is taking service through the Number at the time of the undertaking;
- 3) The End User was asked to take service through the number from the Licensee that is making the undertaking; and,
- 4) The Number is to be used for a service that satisfies the applicable Usage Conditions.

37. Conditions for Returning Imported Numbers

Every Licensee that has provided service to a Number imported from another Licensee shall return the number to the original Licensee if the number is removed from service.

**PART TEN
TRANSFERRING NUMBERS AND CONDITIONS ON
RIGHTS OF LICENSEES TO USE NUMBERS**

38. Conditions For Transferring Assignments

- 1) A Licensee, upon notification and approval by the Authority, may transfer a numbering Assignment to another party if the Licensee transfers the License under which the application for the Assignment was made.
- 2) Upon transferring a numbering Assignment:
 - a) The rights and obligations of the Assignment shall automatically transfer to the transferee of the Assignment; and,
 - b) The Licensee shall cease to exercise rights over the assigned numbers.

39. Limitations on Rights to Numbers

A Licensee shall not claim that it has exclusive, perpetual or other proprietary rights in particular Codes or Numbers including, but not limited to, rights in Codes or Numbers that represent a business name or brand.

**PART ELEVEN
RIGHTS OF END USERS RELATING TO NUMBERS**

40. Conditions for Changing End Users of Numbers

Every Licensee shall change the End User taking service through a Number, or the Number through which an End User takes service, if:

- 1) The End User taking service through the Number used before the change has requested the change;
- 2) The End User intending to take service through the Number used after the change has requested the change;
- 3) The Number used after the change identifies the same Network Termination Point as the Number used before the change; and,
- 4) The Number used after the change is used for a service that satisfies the applicable Usage Conditions.

41. Limitations on Changing Network Termination Points

A Licensee shall not change the Network Termination Points that are identified by a Number through which an End User is taking service unless:

- 1) The end User taking service through the Number has requested the change;

- 2) The Number is to be used for a service that satisfies the applicable Usage Conditions; and,
- 3) The Licensee notifies customers and receives their informed consent.

42. Compensation to End Users

Every Licensee shall state in the terms and conditions for services provided to End Users through Numbers, that:

- 1) The End Users do not own the Numbers;
- 2) The minimum time period over which the Licensee will continue to provide the service through the Number even though there are no calls or messages to or from the Numbers;
- 3) Any compensation that the end Users may claim from the Licensee if the Licensee is no longer providing services through the Numbers, unless the Licensee has issued reasonable notice of discontinuation of service through the Numbers; and,
- 4) The Licensee shall not stop providing a service through the Numbers except for cases of force majeure including impositions by the Authority on matters of national interest.

43. Conditions for Supplying Information About Holders of Numbers

Every Licensee shall supply information for public access on a Number through which an End User is taking service, if:

- 1) The Authority or a person authorized by the Authority has requested the information for public access;
- 2) The Licensee has stated in the terms and conditions for the service that the information may be supplied; and,
- 3) The End User has explicitly given permission for the information to be publicly available.

44. Limitations on Presentation of Calling Line Identities

- 1) A Licensee shall supply mandatory calling line identity for all subscribers of its services unless the calling party has requested for its suppression, and such suppression is within the limits of technology.
- 2) Notwithstanding Sub-Article (1) of this Article, any person who receives a malicious, threatening, offensive or other improper call from a suppressed identity may request the Licensee to provide the identity of the calling party.
- 3) Any suppression request pursuant to Sub-Article (1) of this Article, shall be approved by the Authority on the following conditions:
 - a) The requesting party carries out duties of national security;
 - b) The requesting party is subject to high risk in having their identity presented; or,
 - c) Any other reason considered appropriate by the Authority.
- 4) A Licensee shall make Calling Line Identity (CLID) available to emergency services, superseding any request by an end user to withhold the identity of the calling party, and within the limits of technology.
- 5) The Authority shall, upon request, provide a response to the application to suppress the calling line identity within a period of seven (7) working days.
- 6) All suppression requests granted by the Authority shall be valid for a period of twelve

(12) months and the Authority may renew the request upon application.

45. Limitations on Presentation of Called Line Identities

For purposes of call forwarding, a Licensee shall not supply a called line identity for presentation if the called End User has requested its suppression.

**PART TWELVE
FEES FOR NUMBER RESOURCE ASSIGNMENTS**

46. Publication of the Schedule of Fees for Assignments

- 1) In accordance with Article 29 of the Proclamation, the Authority shall, from time to time, determine and publish the schedule of fees for numbering resource Assignments and shall supply the schedule of fees for Assignments in response to requests for that information.
- 2) The Authority shall establish the appropriate levels of fees that Resource Users shall be required to pay to be assigned special commercially valuable codes and Number Blocks.
- 3) The fees to be determined pursuant to Sub-Article (2) of this Article shall be consistent with the market value of the resources, recognizing the scarce and public nature of such resources. However, fees should not exceed a level that is reasonable to encourage development of competitive and innovative Telecommunications services in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

47. Factors in Determining the Schedule of Fees for Assignments

- 1) In determining the schedule of fees for Assignments, the Authority shall consider some or all of the following factors:
 - a) The administrative and operational expenses incurred by the Authority in maintaining the National Numbering Plan;
 - b) The Usage Conditions;
 - c) The distinction between initial fees that are payable on the grant of Assignments and renewal fees that are payable on anniversaries of those grants;
 - d) Encourage the efficient use of existing Assignments (if any);
 - e) Encourage the use of Number Blocks that are not larger than necessary;
 - f) Encourage the use of Blocks that adjoin other Blocks that have Assigned as their Allocation Status; and,
 - g) Encourage the return of Blocks from existing Assignments.
- 2) Every Licensee shall pay the initial and renewal fees for Assignments as specified in the Telecommunications fees Directive issued by the Authority.

**PART THIRTEEN
COMPLIANCE, CONTRAVENTION, AND ENFORCEMENT**

48. Compliance

The Authority shall monitor a Licensee's compliance with the provisions of the Proclamation and this Directive.

49. Contraventions

Every Licensee that fails to fulfill an obligation in this Directive or the National Numbering Plan, or any other numbering related obligation under the Proclamation, has committed a Contravention.

50. Enforcement

1) Where the Authority, consistent with the provisions of this Directive, the Proclamation, and other instruments that the Authority may issue, determines that a Licensee has violated the provisions of this Directive, it shall impose remedies pursuant to Article 52 of the Proclamation, that shall include:

- a) Fines or restitution; and/or,
- b) Refusing applications for Assignments.

2) Without prejudice to Sub-Article (1) of this Article, the Authority's remedies and sanctions shall be guided by the Council of Ministers Regulation issued pursuant to Article 52(6) of the Proclamation that determines the types of infractions that would result in license revocation, suspension and other administrative measures and stipulate the penalties and the amount of fines to be paid.

51. Factors in Applying Enforcement

In considering the application of enforcement measures under Article 50 of this Directive, the Authority may take into account any failure to fulfill obligations that arise partly or wholly from the failure of another Licensee.

52. Amendment

The Authority may, at any time, when it deems it necessary, amend this Directive by notifying all Licensees in advance and conducting a stakeholder consultation process in line with the provisions of the Proclamation.

53. Effective Date

This Directive comes into force as of the 9th day of July 2021.

DONE AT ADDIS ABABA ON THE 9TH DAY OF JULY 2021

**ENGINEER BALCHA REBA
DIRECTOR GENERAL
ETHIOPIAN COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY**