



**Pricing Rules and Principles  
for the Termination of International  
Incoming Traffic  
on Domestic Networks in Trinidad and  
Tobago**

**as set out in Determination 2010/01 and amended pursuant to Notice 2013/01**

These rules apply to any person who has been granted a concession for the operation of an international telecommunications network or a concession for the provision of international telecommunications services (hereinafter referred to as a “concessionaire”).

These rules shall apply to any telecommunications traffic which originates at a location outside of Trinidad and Tobago, and which is terminated on a domestic network in Trinidad and Tobago.

Pursuant to Section 29(3) of the Act, the Authority hereby establishes the following pricing rules and principles for the termination of international incoming telecommunications traffic on any domestic telecommunications network in Trinidad and Tobago:

1. The rate charged by a concessionaire for the termination of incoming international telecommunications traffic on a domestic telecommunications network shall not be less than the sum of:
  - a. the cost of termination of the international traffic on the relevant domestic network (herein referred to as the domestic termination rate); and
  - b. any relevant cost incurred in terminating the international traffic.
2. The relevant costs incurred in terminating the international telecommunications traffic, referred to in 1b above, are the same as those associated with the operation of an efficient international network. Thus, this cost shall include:
  - a. the efficient port charges or its equivalent (if applicable) at the relevant international Network Access Point (NAP);
  - b. the efficient backhaul cost from the relevant international NAP to the relevant international Cable Head;
  - c. the efficient international connectivity cost from the international Cable Head to the Cable Head in Trinidad and Tobago;
  - d. the efficient backhaul cost from the Cable Head in Trinidad and Tobago, to the point of interconnection on the relevant domestic network in Trinidad and Tobago;
  - e. the efficient domestic switching and aggregation cost;
  - f. the relevant interconnect facilities cost to access the domestic networks; and,

- g. the relevant Administrative costs to operate an efficient international telecommunications network.
3. These rules and principles shall be applied in a fair, equitable and nondiscriminatory basis, and in particular, any assessment of the minimum rates shall be based on assumptions and data which represent efficiencies reasonably available to all concessionaires operating in the relevant market.
  4. Each concessionaire shall provide to the Authority for each three month period ending on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 30<sup>th</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> December in each year, a statement in the form set out in the Annex to these Rules, containing:
    - all rates charged by the concessionaire for the termination of incoming international traffic and the volume of such traffic carried/terminated in the preceding three calendar months;
    - all rates paid by the concessionaire for termination of outgoing international traffic and the volume of such traffic terminated in the preceding three calendar months.

The information shall be submitted to the Authority within fourteen (14) days of the end of the period to which the information relates.

5. Each concessionaire shall produce to the Authority such information as the Authority may reasonably require to assess the costs of those routes which the Authority selects as appropriate for assessment, applicable to the periods from 1 January to 31 December in each year. Such information shall be produced within 30 days of the end of the period to which the information relates, or of the receipt of details of the information required from the Authority, whichever is later.
6. Where the prevailing market conditions so require, the Authority may assess the minimum price for the termination of incoming international telecommunications traffic on a domestic networks on those routes which it considers appropriate having regard to traffic volumes and competition, based on the information provided under 4 and 5 above, applying the principles set out in 1 and 2 above, and it may publish such assessment on its website and by written notice to all concessionaires authorized to operate in the relevant market.

7. Where the Authority has conducted and published an assessment pursuant to 6 above, no concessionaire shall offer, negotiate on the basis of, or charge a rate which is less than the rate set out in the most recent assessment published by the Authority under 6 above, unless it has first justified to the Authority's reasonable satisfaction that the rate does not breach the rules and principles set out in this determination, as applied on a fair, equitable and non-discriminatory basis.
  
8. Where the Authority has not conducted and published an assessment pursuant to 6 above, or where the effective term of the most recent assessment has expired, no concessionaire shall offer, negotiate on the basis of, or charge a rate which is less than the sum of the cost components defined in 2 above in relation to its own network, unless it has first justified to the Authority's reasonable satisfaction that the rate does not breach the rules and principles set out in this determination, as applied on a fair, equitable and non-discriminatory basis.