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Policy and Regulatory Update – Viet Nam

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Vietnam Telecommunications Policy and Market Update

1. Vietnam's market update to August, 2014

Vietnam's telecommunication services have grown a lot in pass time. Up to August 2014. We have three network giants are account for 92.71% including Viettel mobile (the largest with 43.48%), Mobifone with 31.78 % and Vinaphone with 17.45%. HTC, GTEL Mobile and SPT on the rest are 7.29%. Total telecommunication revenue in 2013 is 7 billions USD.

2. Key telecommunication indicators:

- ✓ Up to 8/2014, total subscriber on both mobile and fixed phone is 128 millions.
- ✓ Number of fixed broadband internet subscribers is 5,481,854.
- ✓ Number of mobile broadband internet subscribers via 3G network is 17,214,781.
- ✓ Number of Vietnamese domain names is 453.784.
- ✓ Number of allocated IPv4 addresses is 15,587,072.
- ✓ International Internet bandwidth is 770,153 Mbps.

3. Competition and Market share:

Currently, Vietnam market is well liberalized and competitions. Up to now, Vietnam licensed 9 telecommunication operators, 6 mobile telecom operators, 4 3G operators and 91 internet service operators.

The restructure of State-owned Groups have been at the core the policy in telecommunications sector. Mobifone split from the Vietnam Post and Telecommunication Group (VNPT) in June, 2014 and will be under the direct management of the Ministry of Information and Communications. This is part of a plan to restructure VNPT. The Mobifone equitization will boost the telecommunication market more competitive. In the long term, investors can buy Mobifone shares.

4. Legal framework

- Decision No 38/2014 of Prime Minister on auction of numbering and domain name.
 - ✓ Specify the procedures, conditions and process regulation in implementation of numbering and domain name auction
- Decision No 1178 of Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC) on approval of Mobile Number Portability (MNP) development plan in Vietnam.
 - ✓ Approve the plan to deploy MNP in Vietnam
- Circular No 08/2014 of MIC on national technical regulation on quality of IPTV service in fixed public telecommunication networks.
 - ✓ Specify the technical regulation and quality management of IPTV service in fixed public telecommunication networks.
- Circular No 07/2014 of MIC on national technical regulation on quality of SMS on Public land mobile network.
 - ✓ Specify the technical regulation and quality management of SMS on Public land mobile network.
- Circular No 26/2013 of MIC on frequency channel programming for terrestrial television band UHF (470-806 MHz) until the year 2020.
 - ✓ Specify the distribution regulation and programming of frequency channel for digital terrestrial television band UHF until the year 2020.
- Circular No 21/2013 of MIC on regulation of telecommunication service revenue.
 - ✓ Specify the regulation and determination of telecommunication service revenue.
- Decision No 11 of Prime Minister on restructuring the Public Utility Telecommunication Services Fund (VTF).

- ✓ Specify the regulation on rights and obligation of VTF and using public telecommunication service fund for implementing universal service program until the year 2020.

5. Main regulatory development and Orientation towards 2015

- Restructuring the market toward fair competition and sustainable development.
- Promoting the implementation of MNP development plan.
- Completing the national broadband plan and universal service program until the year 2020.
- Strengthening the service quality inspection and passive infrastructure programming in provinces.
- Promoting analogue switching-off plan in accordance to Decision No 2451 of Prime Minister on proposal for transmitting and broadcasting terrestrial television, completing the conditions for pay TV licensing.
- Considering new policies to manage over-the-top (OTT) services for guaranteeing the interests of users and balancing the benefits of both operators and OTT suppliers.
- Improving the regulation of price, quality and infrastructure for telecommunications services.