



# ECC Decision (11)07

The withdrawal of  
ECTRA/DEC(96)01 Regarding a European Telephony  
Numbering Space (ETNS)  
ECTRA/DEC(96)48 Regarding a European Telephony  
Numbering Space (ETNS)  
ECC/DEC/(04)07 on European Telephony Numbering  
Space (ETNS) Conventions

**Approved 09 December 2011**

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

### 1 INTRODUCTION

The 1992 Council Resolution invited the Member States to start work, in the context of ECTRA, on the establishment of a European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS) i.e. a numbering space for parallel implementation to the existing national numbering schemes. The objective of the ETNS was to promote pan-European services by making numbers available in circumstances where neither national nor global numbers were suitable or available. On 10 April 2000, the ITU assigned a distinctive code – 3883 – for the ETNS, from the global country code resource, to the twenty-four requesting countries from CEPT, including all (at that time) fifteen members of the EU and nine other European countries (COM 2-476/ZJT). These 24 countries are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Croatia, Republic of Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom.

Although several possible ETNS services were identified, the operational use of the concept never took off. It became clear that the time passed since the 1990's have decreased the interest of ETNS. The ETNS concept might be out of date today, as the ETNS seems to be an institution in itself, founded on old technology and yesterday's objectives. The main identified problem in making ETNS operational seems not to be of a technical character. In fact the field trial showed that an operational ETNS was possible.

With the revised Universal Service Directive, the implementation dead-line of which is 25 May 2011, there is not a specific predetermined role for the CEPT/ECC as regards the administration of the ETNS.

The ITU TSB Director reclaimed the ETNS code 3883 as of 31 December 2010 (COM 2-1035-01/MJ – 9 June 2008).

As the ETNS code 3883 is not available anymore, the relevant Decisions need to be withdrawn.

### 2 REQUIREMENT FOR AN ECC DECISION

The ECC Rules of Procedure foresee that the withdrawal of a Decision is subject to the same procedure as the development and adoption of a new Decision. This Decision therefore dictates the withdrawal of

ECTRA/DEC(96)01 Regarding a European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS);

ECTRA/DEC(96)48 Regarding a European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS); and

ECC/DEC/(04)07 on European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS) Conventions.

**ECC DECISION OF 9 DECEMBER 2011 ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF  
ECTRA/DEC(96)01 REGARDING A EUROPEAN TELEPHONY NUMBERING SPACE (ETNS)  
ECTRA/DEC(96)48 REGARDING A EUROPEAN TELEPHONY NUMBERING SPACE (ETNS)  
ECC/DEC/(04)07 ON EUROPEAN TELEPHONY NUMBERING SPACE (ETNS) CONVENTIONS  
(ECC/DEC/(11)07)**

“The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

*considering*

- a) that the ITU TSB Director has reclaimed the ETNS code 3883 as of 31 December 2010 (COM 2-1035-01/MJ – 9 June 2008);
- b) that the revised Universal Service Directive does not state any specific predetermined role for the CEPT/ECC as regards the administration of the ETNS;

***DECIDES***

1. to withdraw the ECTRA/DEC(96)01 Regarding a European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS);
2. to withdraw the ECTRA/DEC(96)48 Regarding a European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS);
3. to withdraw the ECC/DEC/(04)07 on European Telephony Numbering Space (ETNS) Conventions;
4. that this Decision enters into force on 9 December 2011.”

*Note:*

*Please check the Office documentation database <http://www.ecodocdb.dk> for the up to date position on the implementation of this and other ECC Decisions.*