



**CEPT/ECTRA**

**ECTRA/REC(97)02 - E**

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**CEPT - European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations**  
**ECTRA - European Committee for Telecommunications Regulatory Affairs**

**CEPT / ECTRA Recommendation of 4 December 1997**

**on Registration, Recognition and Supervision  
of Maritime Accounting Authorities**

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As Chairman of the European Committee for Telecommunications Regulatory Affairs (ECTRA), I hereby confirm that this recommendation was approved in Brugge on 4 December 1997 at the XXIVth ECTRA Plenary Meeting.

Frédéric Riehl  
ECTRA Chairman  
10.01.1998

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Mr. Frédéric Riehl (Chairman of ECTRA)  
OFCOM - Federal Office for communications  
International Relations  
Rue de l'Avenir 44, P.O. Box  
CH – 2501 Bienne

Phone + 41 32 327 55 95  
Fax + 41 32 327 54 66  
E-mail frederic.riehl@bakom.admin.ch



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**CEPT - European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations**  
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**CEPT / ECTRA Recommendation of 4 December 1997**

**on Registration, Recognition and Supervision  
of Maritime Accounting Authorities**

**(ECTRA/REC(97)02)**

The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

**CONSIDERING**

- a) that there is a need to maintain and improve faith in the system of maritime accounting authorities,
- b) the existence of ITU-T Recommendation D.90 on charging, billing, international accounting and settlement in the maritime mobile service, which was revised in 1995,
- c) that there is no common formal procedure for implementing ITU-T Recommendation D.90,
- d) that the purpose of this Recommendation is to define a common minimum set of principles for national administrations of CEPT member states regarding registration, recognition and supervision of maritime accounting authorities,

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT**

- i) that this Recommendation shall apply to national administrations which, subject to national law and practice, register, recognise and supervise maritime accounting authorities,

ii) that the term *National administration* shall mean the relevant authority within a CEPT member state which is responsible for the licensing of maritime mobile stations,

iii) that the term *Accounting Authority* shall mean any organisation acting as billing intermediary between maritime mobile stations and service providers,

iv) that the term *Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC)* shall mean the code allocated to accounting authorities by the national administration, consisting of two parts. The first part is two letters denoting the country in which the accounting authority is based, in line with the letters given in the official service document which is published in accordance with ITU-T Recommendation F.96. The second part is numeric, denoting the particular accounting authority,

v) that this Recommendation also refers to the definitions laid down in ITU-T Recommendation D.90,

## **RECOMMENDS**

### **Regarding registration**

- 1) that national administration may, in accordance with ITU-T Recommendation D.90, accept applications only from companies based in the territory of that administration and which have been registered according to national legislation in such a manner that they are clearly defined as legal entities against which sanctions may be taken,
- 2) that the national administration shall request, in particular, the following information in writing:
  - the name and address of the applicant, as well as the company number (where relevant);
  - a financial statement, including statement from the company's auditor;
  - a guarantee or insurance covering any liability that might originate from the accounting activities. The administration may fix the amount of the guarantee or insurance relative to the scope of the accounting activities;
  - an outline of the proposed business activities,
- 3) that, for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of an applicant, the national administration may take into account the applicant's experience in the field of maritime accounting or related fields,
- 4) that the national administration may make applications conditional upon the payment of a fee, which should be cost oriented,
- 5) that the national administration may register the number of accounting authorities that it deems appropriate,
- 6) that, based on objective criteria, the national administration may refuse applications,

- 7) that, upon registration, the national administration shall ensure that a responsible officer or partner of the accounting authority signs a statement to the effect that the company is familiar with and will abide by the provisions of ITU-T Recommendation D.90, the International Telecommunications Regulations (ITR), as well as the provisions laid down in this Recommendation and any relevant national regulations,
- 8) that, when an accounting authority has been registered, it shall be allocated an Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC), according to ITU-T Recommendation D.90,
- 9) that a national administration may not allocate more than one Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC) to a company,
- 10) that the national administration shall inform the ITU and ECTRA of the registration,
- 11) that registration shall not be construed as to imply any financial liability on the part of the national administration in case of default in payment by accounting authorities,

#### **Regarding supervision**

- 12) that the national administration shall regularly supervise the activities of accounting authorities which have been registered by that administration,
- 13) that the national administration shall request from the accounting authorities:
  - annual financial report and auditors report
  - immediate notification in case of merger or any major change in ownership
  - immediate notification in case of significant change of, or cessation of activity,
- 14) that the national administration shall require that the accounting authority keep a separate client account,
- 15) that, if supervision should entail costs on the part of the national administration, the administration may request an annual fee from the accounting authorities to recover these costs,
- 16) that, if the national administration does not wish to carry out the supervision itself, it may engage a competent representative to carry it out on its behalf, even though ultimate responsibility still lies with the national administration,
- 17) that the national administration shall make sure that the accounting authority's liability insurance or guarantee remains valid, and that the administration may request that the company responsible for the insurance or guarantee inform it of any change in the insurance or non-payment of premium,
- 18) that the national administration may revoke a registration in case of non-compliance with provisions of ITU-T Recommendation D.90 or relevant national legislation,

### **Regarding recognition**

- 19) that the national administration may accept applications for recognition from companies which have already been registered in another country,
- 20) that the national administration shall request, in particular, the following information in writing:
  - name, address and company number (where relevant) of the company
  - country of origin
  - Accounting Authority Identification Code
  - copy of the insurance certificate or guarantee
  - scope of present activities and an outline of planned activities in the recognising country,
- 21) that the national administration may make applications conditional upon the payment of a fee, which should be cost oriented,
- 22) that the national administration shall inform the ITU and ECTRA of the recognition,
- 23) that, based on objective criteria, the national administration may refuse applications, and may limit the number of accounting authorities that it chooses to recognise, in accordance with ITU-T Recommendation D.90,
- 24) that the national administration may revoke a recognition in case of non-compliance with provisions of ITU-T Recommendation D.90 or relevant national legislation, or the accounting authority ceases its activities,
- 25) that recognition does not entail any obligation to supervise accounting authorities. It shall not be construed as to imply any financial liability on the part of the national administration in case of default in payment by accounting authorities,

### **Regarding exchange of information**

- 26) that the national administration shall inform the ITU and ECTRA of the registration and of the recognition of an accounting authority, and of the revocation or rescission of either,
- 27) that the national administration shall submit all information which it deems to be of interest concerning an accounting authority, to ECTRA and to all CEPT member states having registered or recognised the accounting authority concerned. All information concerning investigations into the affairs of an accounting authority, and any sanctions or remedial action taken against it, should be reported immediately,
- 28) that the national administration of any CEPT member state whose national legislation and practice are in accordance with the minimum set of principles contained within this Recommendation shall inform ECTRA thereof.