



## LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

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Liberia
Telecommunications
Authority

## LTA EXEMPTION ORDER-0004/EXO-01/09-16-11

PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 12(3)(4) AND 17(1)(2) OF PART IV OF THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 2007, THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY HEREBY ISSUES AND PUBLISHES THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTION ORDER:

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications Act of 2007 designated the Liberia Telecommunications Corporation, (which is doing business and hereinafter referred to as "LIBTELCO"), as the National Operator, and empowered the Ministry of Posts & Telecommunications (the Ministry) and the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA) to define the "particular rights, responsibilities and consequences of being lesignated as the National Operator"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 12(3) and 12(4) of the Act, the LTA is authorized to grant a license to the designated National Operator, identifying the telecommunications policy or telecommunications service obligations required to be performed in the national or public interest, such as the provision of secure telecommunications networks and services to Government entities in furtherance of sector policies; and

WHEREAS, the Ministry and the LTA have determined that services being provided by other service providers are insufficient to meet the identified national security or public safety interests of Government, and following consultations with the relevant stakeholders, service providers and operators, have resolved to define the rights and responsibilities of LIBTELCO as the National Operator.

NOW THEREFORE, in furtherance of the foregoing premises, the LTA, pursuant to Part IV, Section 17(1) (2) of the Telecommunications Act of 2007, hereby issues this Exemption Order to license, without payment of License fee, the Liberia Telecommunications Corporation (doing business as LIBTELCO) as the National Operator and in consideration thereof, requires LIBTELCO to do, inter alia, the following:

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- Support the attainment of the Government of Liberia's telecommunications objectives as is reasonably possible, when called upon to do so by the Ministry and /or the LTA;
- Assist in the provision of secure telecommunications networks, facilities and services to Government agencies and entities at competitive prices;
- 3. Play a leading role in the implementation of the National Telecommunications and ICT Policy, especially in the areas prioritized by Government;
- 4. Make available to the Ministry and the LTA, its technological infrastructure and related capacities to help achieve the strategic objectives of the country's Universal Access Program pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 2007, including the provision of affordable telecommunications services to underserved and/or unserved areas of the country, especially in the rural communities. Specifically, the National Operator shall work with the Universal Service Board and Secretariat, to assist with establishing multi-purpose tele-centers for use by the public in designated communities across the country in order to minimize in-country digital divide;

In addition, and in furtherance of LIBTELCO's role, as the National Operator, LIBTELCO is hereby charged with the following additional responsibilities:

- Lead the task of terrestrial build out of fiber optic cable infrastructure so as to make
  this telecommunications innovation affordable and accessible to the generality of the
  Liberian people;
- Lead, or when necessary after due consultation with and advice of/from the relevant security agencies, take exclusive control of communications during national emergencies;
- Serve as the conduit for encouraging Liberian participation in and development of the telecommunications industry in Liberia;
- Contribute towards telecommunications capacity-building of Liberians for use in the telecommunications industry in Liberia;
- Pay all regulatory/spectrum fees as are imposed by the LTA and required of all licensed telecommunications operators and service providers in the sector

THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE IMMEDIATE EFFECT UPON PUBLICATION AND SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE UNTIL OTHERWISE ALTERED AND OR RESCINDED BY THE LIBERIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY.

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ISSUED THIS LEDAY OF SEPTEMBER A.D. 2011 IN THE CITY OF MONROVIA, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

SIGNED:

Hon. Angelique Weeks Chairperson

Hon. Lamini A. Waritay Commissioner

Hon. Henry W. Benson Commissioner rion/fiarry T. Yuan, S Commissioner

Hon. Abdullah L. Kamara Commissioner