

Kenya to License More Local Loop Operators and Define Universal Access Policy

On 25 February 2004, the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) launched a strategy to license more Local Loop Operators (LLO) in an effort aimed at increasing access to fixed telephone lines. The Director General of CCK recently announced that the Commission had reduced barriers to the granting of local loop licenses.

LLOs are expected to satisfy part of Kenya's significant unmet demand for services (it is estimated that only 10% of Kenyans have access to fixed telephone lines) by complementing the efforts of facilities-based carriers in the provision of local services. This initiative is in line with Kenya's undertaking to establish a policy and strategy for universal access to information and communications, announced in early March.

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