

Legislative and Regulatory Telecommunications Framework Improvement in Madagascar

The *Office Malagasy d'Études et de Régulation des Télécommunications* (OMERT) launched a public consultation in order to receive observations regarding the modification of Act No. 96-034 on Institutional Reform of Telecommunications Sector. On its Web site, OMERT published the annotated bill including contributions from the following parties: World Bank, OMERT, le Comité d'Appui en E-Stratégies (CAeS), le Comité ad Hoc pour la finalisation de l'avant projet de Loi sur le Code de la Communication (CHCC), EBC, l'Association des Cabines Mobiles de Madagascar (ACAMO), le Groupement des Opérateurs en Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication (GOTICOM), Orange, ROCINSTEPH, and an anonymous contributor.

These contributions as well as OMERT answers that have been received so far can be consulted in the "Public Consultation Synthesis on the Amendment Act". In general terms, the contributions concern main topics in the telecommunications sector, such as:

- (a) Definitions: telephony service, networks, private service, voice, IP network, fixed and mobile, alternative infrastructure, etc.
- (b) OMERT independence and obligations
- (c) Telecommunications sector liberalization
- (d) Frequencies band utilization
- (e) Universal service
- (f) Technological neutrality
- (g) Interconnection
- (h) Encryption
- (i) Role and composition of board of directors

The initial closing date has been extended to 31 January 2005.

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Adapted from Office malagasy d'études et de régulation des télécommunications (OMERT) – "Synthèse de la consultation publique sur le projet de loi modificative" and "Loi N° modifiant la loi 96-034 et portant réforme institutionnelle du secteur des télécommunications"(in French)

(Source: <http://www.omert.mg/synthese.htm>)