

Mauritius adopts calling party pays regime for mobile service

The Mauritius Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) issued an order on 20 September 2004 to adopt the calling party pays (CPP) regime for mobile service. To that effect, the ICTA defined the interconnection usage charges (IUC) and price caps for inter-mobile network calls, and calls from a fixed network to a mobile network.

Under the CPP regime, incoming calls to cellular subscribers are free and the party making the call pays. The fixed or mobile operator that originates the call collects the charges and remits the applicable interconnection charge to the operator who terminates the call. The order requires mobile and fixed line operators to file their new tariffs with the Authority by 24 September 2004. Tariffs from fixed to mobile telephones are expected to double, while those from mobile telephones would increase by a third.

The new mechanism comes into effect on 1 October 2004 and according to the Authority will have as main beneficiaries students, parents, and seniors. It will likely increase the number of mobile subscribers, as has occurred in other countries that have adopted the regime. In 2003, Mauritius reported 38 cellular mobile subscribers per 100 inhabitants, higher than the world average of 22.

Source: Telecommunication Order No. 5 of 2004, ICTA of Mauritius
<http://ncb.intnet.mu/icta/telord/tel2004/tel5-04.htm>