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| CONTRIBUTION No 4 | | | | | |
| **Source:** | | Brazil | | | |
| **Title:** | | Measures to increase the efficiency of international mobile services on border zones | | | |

**Background:**

The provision of mobile services on countries’ border zones presents specific problems related to the identification of users’ home networks and the consequent charging of calls originated at those locations. Users at border zones can often be inadvertently identified as being in roaming by the networks of mobile operators from the neighbouring countries, when in fact they are within the borders of their own country, and are wrongly charged as in roaming by the neighbouring countries’ operator.

This situation of inadvertent international roaming is a service inefficiency that, taking into consideration the high prices of international roaming service, results in bill-shock to the end consumers. Solving this inefficiency is a challenge to both policy makers and mobile operators.

The establishment of agreements between Operating Agencies of bordering Member States on the pricing of calls originated at a predetermined “border zone” can mitigate the problem of inadvertent international roaming and the consequent bill-shock on end consumers. The definition of an agreed charging methodology at the border zones would not only alleviate the problems described above, but would also encourage and increase the usage of mobile services on border zones.

**Proposal:**

To include the following provisions in Article 4, “International Telecommunication Services”, of the International Telecommunication Regulations:

“Member States shall ensure that Operating Agencies establish mutual agreements on charging local prices on mobile services accessed within a predetermined border zone.”

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