



Regulatory Aspects of ICT in Disaster Mitigation

Role of Telecoms Regulation

November 2012

Regulation for Disaster Management



- This session focuses on the legal and organizational frameworks for disaster management, look at the role of telecommunication regulation, and discuss policy issues related to effective deployment of telecommunications/ICT for disaster management.

Primary role



- The primary role of Regulation and Regulators must be to foster, facilitate and develop the mechanisms for relief operations and provisioning of resources to manage and mitigate the effects of emergencies and disasters;
- Supporting all measures designed to prevent, predict, prepare for, respond to, monitor or mitigate the effects of natural disasters

1. Legal/Regulatory Issues



- Accession to International Conventions or Agreements like Tampere Convention;
- Development and formal adoption of National Emergency Telecommunications Plans;
- Providing exemptions of possible legal regulatory restrictions in case of natural disasters and emergencies

Regulatory Exemptions



Making provisions of exemptions for:

- any existing regulations that may restrict the import or export of telecoms equipment;
- regulations restricting the use of telecoms equipment or of radio-frequency spectrum;
- regulations restricting the movement of personnel who operate telecoms equipment or who are essential to its effective use;

Movement of people and equipment



Also providing exemptions from regulations restricting the transit of telecommunication resources into, out of and through the territory of a State Party; and delays in the administration of such regulations.

Administrative/Logistical



- Provision of reliable contact persons and established procedures in case of disasters;
- Establishment and publication of inventory of resources including persons authorized to request, offer, accept or terminate assistance, in this case Telecoms/ICT assistance;

Technical measures



- Allocation of frequencies and flexible rules for pre-clearance of telecommunication resources for use in disaster mitigation;
- Recognition of foreign type-approval of telecommunication equipment and/or operating licenses;
- Temporary waiver of those regulations for the use of telecommunication resources for disaster mitigation and relief.

Approach



- Review and revision of the regulations and rules to ensure compliance with modern day practice and facilitate use of ICTs in disaster mitigation and relief;
- Complete audits of resources and provide list of what might be required;
- Publish list of contacts and processes for disaster management

Conclusion



- Natural disaster occur almost every day mitigating the effects require planning preparation
- All systems may use ICTs but the technology is complementary to the human systems
- Regulations that are necessary in normal time may be a hindrance in a disaster situation.

Thank you



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