



THE SADC MEMBER COUNTRIES



ANGOLA

Angola's regulator is the Direcção Nacional de Correios e Telecomunicações, which was created in 1985. The regulator is financed by the government's central budget and is under the guidance of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Direcção Nacional de Correios e Telecomunicações is responsible for frequency allocation, market structure issues, design and administration of infrastructure arrangements with private sector providers, and determination of regulated prices and quality/performance standards. Angola has monopolies in long distance, international, and analog cellular services.



BOTSWANA

Since its independence in 1966, Botswana has encouraged private sector provision of goods and services and this led Botswana to become one of the first SADC countries, in 1994, to liberalize telecommunications. The separation of Posts and Telecom occurred in 1980 with the formation of Botswana Telecommunications Corporation (BTC), which is 100% state-owned. The Botswana Telecommunications Authority, BTA, is a statutory agency established in December 1996, with responsibilities for licensing telecommunications and broadcasting operators, settling disputes among operators (with decisions reviewable only by the High Court), approving tariffs, promoting and monitoring free and fair competition, allocating and managing the radio spectrum, type approving terminal equipment, and protecting consumers. The head of the BTA reports to the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications. In February 1998 BTA licensed two GSM cellular operators, and in May 1999 BTA licensed the first private radio broadcaster. Since 1995 teledensity has doubled from 3.3 percent to over 6.5 percent and is expected to double again by 2001. The network of the incumbent fixed network operator, BTC, is 100 percent digital. Botswana has monopolies in long distance and international services, and permits full competition in local and digital cellular services.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The regulator is the Secrétariat Général Ministère des Postes et Télécommunications and is under the policy guidance of the Ministère des Postes et des Télécommunications. The Democratic Republic of Congo permits at least partial competition in all aspects of telecommunications services with the exception of telex and leased line services.



LESOTHO

The separation of Posts and Telecom occurred in 1979 with the formation of Lesotho Telecommunications Company (LTC). LTC is governed by a board of directors and a managing director, both of whom report to the Ministry of Transport and Communications. There are three important reforms in progress: the telecommunications policy paper, the new telecommunications act, and the establishment of an independent regulatory authority. Lesotho has monopolies in local, long distance, international, and digital cellular services.



MALAWI

The regulator is the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority, established by the Communications Act of 1998. Its responsibilities include licensing of telecommunications providers and broadcasters, compliance and radio emissions monitoring, interconnection agreements regulation, number planning, type approval, frequency management, and standards setting. The Authority is funded through license fees, fines, and parliamentary appropriations. The communications sector policy maker is the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, Posts and Telecommunications. Malawi has monopolies in local, long distance, international and digital cellular services.



MAURITIUS

The separation of Posts and Telecom occurred in 1988 with the formation of Mauritius Telecom (MT). The Telecommunications Act of 1988 created the nation's independent regulator, the Telecommunications Authority (TA). The policy maker is the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology and the head of the TA reports to the Prime Minister's office. The TA is financed by government appropriation and its responsibilities include licensing, tariff approval, frequency allocation, type approval, monitoring service quality and establishing licensing fees. Mauritius has monopolies in local, long distance, international, and digital cellular services, and full competition in analog cellular services. Mauritius is a WTO member that has signed the Basic Telecom Services Agreement.



MOZAMBIQUE

The separation of Posts and Telecom occurred in 1992 when the national operator was transformed into Telecommunications of Mozambique (TDM), an independent state-owned company. The Ministerial Decree of 1992 created Mozambique's independent regulator, the National Telecommunications Institute of Mozambique (INCM). License fees, spectrum fees and government appropriations finance the regulator. INCM is under the guidance of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The responsibilities of the INCM include tariff proposals, technical standards, frequency allocation, type approval, monitoring service quality and establishing licensing fees. Mozambique has monopolies in local, long distance, international and cellular services.



NAMIBIA

Telecom Namibia was granted a monopoly over all basic telecommunications services after the Department of Posts and Telecommunications was dissolved in 1992. The Namibian Communications Act of 1992, which became effective in 1995, created the Namibia Communications Commission (NCC) as the nation's independent regulator. NCC is financed through government appropriation and is guided by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. NCC's responsibilities include licensing, frequency allocation, type approval and establishment of license fees. Namibia has monopolies in local, long distance, international and digital cellular services.



SEYCHELLES

Cable & Wireless (Seychelles) Ltd. is the telecommunications service provider for the Seychelles Islands. In 1990, the company was locally incorporated but remains wholly owned by Cable & Wireless (C&W). The Seychelles does not yet have an independent regulator. The Ministry of Finance and Communication guides the telecommunications sector. In 1996, the Ministry created a telecom section within its organization to ensure that universal service obligations are identified and addressed. The Seychelles introduced competition to the sector by licensing a second national cellular and main line operator. The Seychelles also recently revised the Telecommunications and Broadcasting Act to create a more transparent regulatory environment.



SOUTH AFRICA

The separation of Posts and Telecom occurred in 1991 with the formation of Telkom. The Telecommunications Act, Act 103 of 1996, created an independent regulator, the South African Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (SATRA). The policy maker is the Ministry for Posts, Telecommunications, and Broadcasting and the head of SATRA reports to the Ministry of Communications. SATRA is financed by parliamentary appropriations and its responsibilities include licensing, number planning, tariff approval, technical standards, frequency allocation, type approval, monitoring service quality and establishment of license fees. South Africa has a monopoly in basic telecommunications services and a duopoly in cellular (Note: A third cellular service provider will be licensed in the future. South Africa is a WTO member that has signed the Basic Telecom Services Agreement.



SWAZILAND

The Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) was created in 1986. SPTC reports to the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Swaziland's government is in the process of restructuring its telecom sector. Swaziland has monopolies in local, long distance, and international services.



TANZANIA

The separation of Posts and Telecom in Tanzania occurred in 1992 with the establishment of Tanzania Telecom. The Communications Act of 1993, which came into force in 1994, created Tanzania's independent regulator, the Tanzania Communications Commission (TCC). The head of the TCC reports to the policy maker, the Minister of Works, Communications and Transport. The TCC is financed by licensing fees and its responsibilities include licensing, number planning and interconnection rates (together with the ministry), tariff approval, technical standards, frequency allocation, type approval, monitoring service quality and establishing licensing fees. Tanzania has full or partial competition in every market within the telecommunications sector.



ZAMBIA

Zambia Telecommunications Ltd. (ZamTel) was established as a wholly owned subsidiary of the Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation Ltd. (Zimco) by the telecommunications law of 1994. The Telecommunications Act of 1994 also created the Communications Authority (CA), Zambia's independent regulator. CA is financed through licensing fees and supplements from the Treasury. CA is guided by the Board of Regulators and its responsibilities include licensing, number planning, technical standards, interconnection rates, frequency allocation, type approval, monitoring service quality and establishment of license fees. Zambia has a fair degree of competition in the data, digital cellular and paging markets. ZamTel provides all basic telephony and analog cellular services.



ZIMBABWE

The Zimbabwe Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (PTC), a wholly government-owned company, is currently the only provider and operator of telecommunications and postal services in the country. An independent regulatory body does not now exist in Zimbabwe. The Ministry of Information, Posts and Telecommunications plays a role in developing policy. Zimbabwe permits full competition in cellular services.