Working Party on Telecommunication and Information Services Policies

REVISION OF THE OECD TELECOMMUNICATION PRICE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Rome 16-17 June 2005

Invitation to participate in the Basket Revision Workshop to be organised by the OECD and Teligen in Rome, 16-17 June 2005.

Delegates to the Working Party on Telecommunication and Information Services Policy are invited to inform their telecommunication tariff experts in the public and private sectors of this workshop which will review the telecommunication price performance indicators (the basket methodology). The TISP Working Party will be informed of the results of this meeting and will be requested to approve any changes which are made to the present methodology used to compare telecommunication prices. Experts are invited to provide information on calling and traffic patterns in their countries as well as tariff structures.

The working language at the Workshop will be English.

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Invitation to participate in the Basket Revision Workshop to be organised by the OECD and Teligen in Rome, 16 – 17 June 2005.

Background

1. The Price Performance Indicators (“the Baskets”) were developed by the OECD back in 1989 to allow for price benchmarking of telecoms services across the OECD markets. In 1995 Teligen took over the updating of the Baskets on behalf of the OECD and moved the updating cycle from once a year to once a quarter. The basket implementation has since then been available from Teligen in the form of the T-Basket product.

2. Due to changes in markets and service structures it was decided to hold a “Revision Workshop” in 1999. All the Baskets were revisited and up to date information was provided by regulators and operators in OECD member countries to support the changes that were deemed necessary. A similar workshop was held in late 2001 to again revisit the mobile Basket in particular. This resulted in a new and more comprehensive mobile Basket structure with more coverage than before.

3. The telecommunications markets are moving fast - even though there are good reasons to maintain a consistent Basket structure over time, Teligen and the OECD find that in order to maintain the quality and usefulness of the Baskets it is again necessary to check them against the reality in the markets of the OECD Countries. The best way to do this is to gather evidence from as many sources as possible, and analyse this with experts from the OECD Countries.

Invitation

4. With the kind co-operation of Telecom Italia, the OECD and Teligen are pleased to invite your organisation to participate in the upcoming workshop on the OECD Price Performance Indicators. The workshop is open to OECD Members and relevant staff from the Regulators and Operators in the OECD Member countries. Space is limited and the OECD and Teligen reserve the right to restrict participation in certain cases. As this is a working meeting where certain results are expected, we will suggest that delegates have knowledge in the area of Price Benchmarking, and also be able to provide evidence and insight into the traffic patterns and tariff structures of their country.

The workshop will be chaired by OECD and Teligen experts on Price Benchmarking. The workshop will be held in Rome, Italy on the 16th and 17th of June 2005.
AGENDA

The preliminary agenda for the Basket Revision Workshop will be:

**Thursday 16 June 2005:**

09:00 Welcome
09.15 Introduction to the OECD Baskets – Past, Present and Future?
10:00 The PSTN Baskets
   Issues to be covered:
   - More packages (criteria for selection)?
   - More carriers (criteria for selection)?
   - Types of calls (non-incumbent mobile destinations)?
   - Revisit weights used in Baskets
   - Need for more (different) Baskets?
   - PSTN / Broadband bundles?
13:00 Lunch break
14:30 The PSTN Baskets (continued)
16:00 Baskets for Internet access
   Issues to be covered:
   - Do we need them? (Dial up basket, Broadband Basket, VoIP)
   - If yes, why, for what and how?
17:00 End of first day

**Friday 17 June 2005:**

09:00 The Leased Line Basket
   Issues to be covered:
   - Discontinue Analog and 64 kb/s circuit coverage?
   - Extend to 34 Mb/s, and even 155 Mb/s
   - Data not published in many countries
11:00 The Mobile Baskets

Issues to be covered:

- Data access
- Include MMS?
- SMS (and MMS) split into On-net/Off-net and Peak/Off-peak? Relevant weights are required.
- Issues with the current implementation, where different call set-up charges cannot be covered, and the number of allowance options is limited. Also there is a problem with tiered pricing.
- Other issues with mobile baskets

It is not the intention to raise the mobile baskets in full as a future revision is anticipated when 3G services mature.

13:00 Lunch break

14:30 The Mobile baskets (continued)

16:00 Actions and procedures

17:00 End of workshop

Delegates will generally be expected to provide views and appropriate evidence on the basket structures and weights for their company and/or country, and should bring as much evidence as possible so as to enable Teligen to build a case for any changes suggested during the workshop.

A more detailed background document will be sent to delegates at the beginning of May.

Registration

Delegates can register with Teligen at the following address:
Teligen, HI Europe
Attention: Alex Lambert
Watermans Park, Brentford TW8 0BB, UK
Email: alexl@teligen.com
Phone: +44 (0)208 263 5443
Fax: +44 (0)208 263 5222

Registration must be received by Teligen by 29 April 2005.

There is no cost involved with participation in this workshop, but delegates are responsible for their own travel and subsistence costs, and for organizing their travel and stay in Rome. The workshop will take place in a central location in Rome.
**Location of meeting and some suggested hotels**

The meeting will take place at one of the premises of Telecom Italia: The address is given below. Transportation will be provided from Central Rome to the meeting site. Transport will likely leave from Telecom Italia’s offices at Corso d'Italia 41 (near Piazza Fiume) in the centre of Rome – this will be confirmed to registered participants.

**Meeting Location**
Telecom Italia s.p.a.
Via Oriolo Romano 257 / 265, Rome

**Hotels**

Participants are responsible for their own hotel bookings. The nearest hotels to Telecom Italia’s offices in the centre of Rome are the first three:

**JOLLY HOTEL VITTORIO VENETO** (4 star)
http://www.jollyhotels.it/eng/ALBERGHI_scheda_master.asp?Obj=1266
Corso d'Italia 1
Tel: ++39 06 8495

**ALBANI HOTEL**
http://www.hotelalbani.it/roma/ewelcoro.htm
Via Adda 45
Tel: ++39 06 8499399

**HOTEL EXECUTIVE**
Via Aniene 3
Tel: ++39 06 8537669

**GRAND HOTEL BEVERLY HILLS** (4 star)
Largo B. Marcello 220
Tel: ++39 06 8542141

**HOTEL AMBASCIATORE** (5 star)
Via V. Veneto 62
Tel: ++39 06 47493

**HOTEL EXCELSIOR**
Via V. Veneto 125
Tel: ++39 06 47081

**HOTEL ALEXANDRA**
Via V. Veneto 18
Tel: ++39 06 4841943

**HOTEL BERNINI BRISTOL**
Piazza Barberini 23
Tel: ++39 06 4883051
HOTEL REGINA BAGLIONI
Via V. Veneto 72
Tel: ++39 06 421111