

LAWS OF SOUTH SUDAN

# National Communications Numbering Regulations, 2016



Final Text  
Directorate of Legislation  
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**LAWS OF SOUTH SUDAN  
NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS NUMBERING  
REGULATIONS, 2016**

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In accordance with the provisions of Section 68 read together with Section 92 of the National Communications Act, 2012, the Authority with the approval of the Competent Minister, issue and promulgate the following into Regulations:

## CHAPTER I

### Preliminary Provisions

#### 1. Title and Commencement

These Regulations shall be cited as the National Communications Numbering Regulations, 2016, and shall come into force on the date of its signature.

#### 2. Repeal and Saving

Any existing regulations or orders, directives, rules and guidelines governing the subject of these Regulations is hereby repealed; provided that any orders issued or regulations made thereunder, except to the extent they are cancelled by or are otherwise inconsistent with provisions of these Regulations shall continue in force and effect until repealed or amended by these Regulations.

#### 3. Object and Purpose

The object and purpose of these Regulations is to provide a regulatory framework for control, planning, and management of numbering and addressing of network services, national plan and applications services.

#### 4. Interpretation

In these regulations, all words and expressions that are defined under the Communications Act, 2012, shall have the same meanings herein; unless the context otherwise requires:

**“Communications Addresses”** means an address determined by the Authority from time to time, for use in communication.

**“Communication Number”**

means the number, sign or other mark that licensee uses for identification of communication systems, when delivering communication services to connect between the place of transmission and place of reception or for identification of type of content of transmission the communications system is to deliver.

**“Maritime Mobile Service Identity”**

means any number used for the purpose of identification while using Global Maritime Distress Service System, search and rescue facilities on board ships and marine vessels.

**“National Communication Numbering and Addressing Plan”**

means the plan for electronic communications numbers and addresses, postal codes and national addressing

**system established by the Authority under regulation 5 of these Regulations.**

**“Numbering Scheme”**

means the procedures and criteria for reservation, assignment, and reclamation of numbering resources.

# CHAPTER II

## Establishment of National Communications and Numbering Plan

### 5. Establishment of National Communication and Numbering Plan

1. The Authority shall establish the National Communications Numbering and Address Plan and control all communications numbers and addresses to ensure fairness and efficiency by:
  - a. undertaking planning, allocations and monitoring;
  - b. maintaining national communication numbering and address registry for all licensees in respect of resources which have been assigned;
  - c. facilitating maintenance of national electronic address and users registry;
  - d. managing postal codes and national addressing systems;
  - e. assigning call signs to all amateur radio operators in the country; and
  - f. issuing maritime mobile service identity numbers, for maritime vessels registered in South Sudan.

### 6. Administration and Planning of Numbering and Communication Addresses

1. The Authority shall control, plan, administer and manage numbering and addressing of communications systems and services.
2. The Authority shall develop numbering and addressing plans for communications systems and services taking into account the numbering plan subsisting immediately prior to commencement of these Regulations.
3. In discharge of its functions under these Regulations, the Authority shall liaise with relevant international organisations dealing with numbering and electronic addresses.
4. Prior to assignment and publication of any numbering and plan, the Authority shall ensure that the numbering plan:
  - a. provides for allocation of numbers to licensees in sufficient quantities in the manner determined
  - b. the Authority;
  - c. allows for numbers to be allocated without undue delay;
  - d. allows for inclusion of few digits as may be practicable;

- e. does not confer undue advantage on any licensee; and
  - f. minimises any inconvenience and costs that may be caused by implementation of numbering plans to licensees and to persons using the communication systems.
5. The numbering scheme of licensee shall comply with the Authority guidelines relating to implementation of national numbering plan issued from time to time.
  6. The numbering and addressing plan may set out rules which may include:
    - a. use of different numbers and addresses for different kinds of services;
    - b. assignment of numbers and addresses;
    - c. transfer of assigned numbers and addresses;
    - d. use of assigned numbers and addresses;
    - e. portability of assigned numbers and addresses;
    - f. requirements that licensees maintain plan for assigning and re-assigning numbers and addresses;
    - g. fees for the assignment and transfer of numbers and addresses, which may be determined by the Authority; and
    - h. any other matters that the Authority may, from time to time, issue.
  7. The Authority shall, when assigning or allocating numbers to licensees, charge the prescribed fees for the allocation or assignment.
  8. The Authority shall permit any person, upon paying prescribed fee, to inspect numbering and addressing plans during working hours.
  9. Notwithstanding sub-regulation (2) of this Regulation, any person authorised by the Authority in writing, may inspect the numbering plan without paying the prescribed fee.

## **7. Compliance with Numbering and Address Plans**

1. The licensee shall abide by and apply a numbering plan prescribed by the Authority.
2. The Authority may, before developing numbering plan, consult with licensees in respect of:
  - a. Arrangements for allocation and reallocation of numbers, within the initial numbering plan; and
  - b. Additions to or replacement of the initial numbering plan.
3. The Authority shall, at least six months before prescribing a new numbering plan, give notice to licensees and general public in the Public Media and any other media that the Authority considers appropriate.

# CHAPTER III

## Miscellaneous Provisions

### 8. Obligations of Licensees

1. All licensees shall use communication numbers and addresses assigned by the Authority, in accordance with National Communication Numbering and Address Plan and ensure that resources are:
  - a. utilised efficiently;
  - b. limited to provision of communication services;
  - c. utilised in manner that ensures communications systems and services are identified;
  - d. utilised and paid for as prescribed by the Authority; and
  - e. not transferred without prior written consent of the Authority.

### 9. Communications Numbering and Electronic Address Plan

1. The National Communication Numbering and Address Plan shall include communication numbers and addresses used to identify:
  - a. electronic communications networks;
  - b. different carriers;
  - c. terminal facilities for cellular phones;
  - d. signalling transmission equipment;
  - e. emergency and inquiry calls;
  - f. terminal transmission line facilities for data communication services;
  - g. electronic mail communications networks;
  - h. types or content of information and communication technologies;
  - i. terminal transmission line facilities for paging services;
  - j. geographical postal points of delivery;
  - k. maritime mobile service identity numbers;
  - l. radio call signs; and
  - m. such other systems and services as the Authority may from time to time direct.

## 10. Assignment of Communications Numbers

When an application for communication numbers or addresses is submitted to the Authority, the Authority shall, after taking into account National Communication Numbering and Address Plan and availability of numbers and addresses, assign and issue certificate of assignment together with conditions attached to the use of communication numbers and numbers required upon payment of prescribed fee.

## 11. Cancellation of Assignment

1. When licensee fails to use the number or address assigned by the Authority within prescribed period, or pay prescribed fees or uses the number in any manner contrary to the Regulations, the licensee shall be required to submit to the Authority reasons for such failure, after which the Authority may take such measures as may be necessary, including, among others, cancellation of the assignment.
2. A licensee that fails to utilise the number or address assigned by the Authority within the period prescribed in the assignment may apply in writing to the Authority for extension of the time within which the licensee ought to utilise the number or address.
3. An application for extension of time under sub-regulation (2) of this regulation shall include reasons for failure to utilise the number within prescribed time.
4. Any person other than the Authority shall not regenerate or use fictitious numbers or addresses.

## 12. Delegation of Responsibilities

1. The Authority may appoint any person or organisation to manage or maintain an integrated public number or address database.
2. The Authority, any person or organization appointed under sub-regulation (I) of this Regulation, shall provide non-discriminatory commercial access to database on terms and conditions similar to those offers to itself.
3. The Authority may, prescribe, in Public Media, the manner in which obligations under this Regulation may be undertaken

## 13. Offences and Penalties

Subject to provisions of sections 97 and 98 of the Act, any person, or licensee that uses numbers or addresses contrary to these Regulations, commits an offence and shall, upon conviction be punishable with fine not exceeding **South Sudanese Pounds equivalent of USD Five Hundred Thousand Only (USD 500,000)** or imprisonment for period not exceeding three (3) years or both.

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