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ANGOLA | CONCESSION OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC SERVICE AND SPECTRUM AUCTION

On July 10, Order no. 298/17 of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technologies was published in the official gazette. Said order determines the launch of Limited Bid by pre-qualification procedure for the award of the Concession for the provision of the Electronic Communications Public Service and of an auction procedure for the grant of individual rights of use of frequencies in the 791 MHz to 862 MHz bands.

As per Order no. 298/17, the documents of the Limited Bid by pre-qualification procedure are also approved, and the members of said procedures Evaluation Committee are also appointed, said Committee also having as task to organize the auction procedures for the award of individual rights of use of frequencies in the above mentioned bands.

This Order follows the enactment of the new Electronic Communications General Regulations (Presidential Decree no. 180/16, of May 25), and the approval of the Strategic Plan on the licensing of electronic communications operators ("PERL" - Presidential Decree no. 122/16, of June 9) and of the The Strategic Plan for Radio Spectrum and Numbering (PEERUM - Presidential Decree No. 95/16, of May 10).

It is important to recall that, as per the PERL, as regards eligibility for participation in spectrum auctions, following operators would be potentially eligible:

- Main lot – Angola Telecom, Movitel and Unitel. It is foreseen the auction of a minimum of three lots of 10MHz Duplex (10Tx+10Rx) with national coverage, in band-widths between, among others, 791MHz and 862MHz, with the aim to allow the provision of national voice and data services, available for operators benefiting from an unified global title (issued under a concession agreement)

- Secondary lot – Angola Telecom, Itelnet, MSTelcom, Movicel, Multitel, Startel and Unitel. The awarding of global unified titles or convergent titles to the operators of largest expression in Angola is foreseen and, simultaneously, to grant those operators that fulfil certain requirements, the possibility of launching new and/or strengthening of their existing mobile data offers.

However, this aspect is yet to be confirmed by Evaluation Committee following analysis of the application submissions that shall be presented by interested parties within the spectrum auction procedure.

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