

ECTRA RECOMMENDATION OF 7 NOVEMBER 1996 REGARDING NUMBER PORTABILITY BETWEEN OPERATORS IN THE FIXED LOCAL LOOP

The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering

The results of the European Telecommunications Office final report on Non-Discriminatory Access to Numbering Resources, particularly:

1. customer relationships with the incumbent operators may form a barrier for new operators entering the market
2. number portability between operators, especially in fixed networks, has a clear positive impact on network and service competition
3. call-forwarding applications should be seen as an important but only intermediate solution for number portability
4. when considering the development of number portability the long term focus should be Intelligent Network based solutions
5. solutions for number portability depend on the network technology available
6. number portability between operators can deliver considerable benefits which far outweigh the costs

taking into account

1. the Council Resolution 92/C 318/02 of 19 November 1992

RECOMMENDS

That all CEPT members

* shall identify any technical, operational or regulatory barriers that may prohibit the introduction of number portability between operators in the fixed local loop; as soon as possible, but no later than 1 January 1998

* shall remove any regulatory barriers as soon as possible, but no later than 18 months after the

liberalisation of voice telephony service

* shall implement number portability between operators in the fixed local loop as soon as the launching of competition in the local loop. Where this implementation is not feasible at this date, it shall take place no later than three years after the liberalisation of voice telephony service

* shall report progress on each of the above stages to ECTRA