

NATIONAL COMMUNICATION AUTHORITY REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN Director General

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TELECOMMUNICATION TARIFFS EXCHANGE RATE ADJUSTMENT

Juba, 8th September 2022

National Communication Authority is announcing 90 days rollout of tariffs exchange rate adjustments. Over the past five months, network operators submitted several requests to review the current tariffs exchange rate of 300 SSP against 1 USD. The current exchange rate was set in 2020 which is a little over two years ago. The breakout and effect of Covid-19 have been enormous, especially in low-income countries including South Sudan. Additionally, global oil prices have risen significantly which negatively affect the network operator's ability to sustain the generators that power network and pay satellite connectivity that received and relay communication services to South Sudan.

Understanding the suffering of the people of South Sudan due to global inflation, NCA has been reluctant to adjust the tariffs exchange rate. However, our attempt to control the current exchange rate at 300 SSP to the dollar was unsustainable for the Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) because we are demanding them to provide quality network coverage across the country. Therefore, the Authority, in the exercise of Section 63 of the National Communication Authority Act 2012 and its associated regulations, found it necessary to adjust the exchange rate once again to enable business continuity for MNOs while keeping communication services affordable for the people of South Sudan.

This adjustment aims to gradually take the exchange rate for the telecommunication tariffs to be at the same level as the Bank of South Sudan. The published exchange rate by the Bank of South Sudan as of 10/08/2022 was 668 SSP to 1USD. This change on weekly basis but 600 SSP has been holding as the base rate.

The drop in the value of SSP by 100% against USD since the last exchange rate in 2020 means that inflation has risen and the costs of keeping the

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networks running become higher. However, the Authority would like to emphasize that these exchange rate adjustments are subject to review should the Central Bank exchange rate fall below 600 SSP.

To ensure that the new exchange rate is rollout in a pocket-friendly process, the Authority has come up with a scaling modality that will be implemented within 90 days starting from 15th September to 15th December 2022.

The National Communication Authority avails itself this opportunity to renew to the public our commitment to ensuring affordable and accessible high-quality communication and ICT services.

Yours sincerely,

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