



**ESWATINI  
COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMISSION**

# **Notice 3/2025:** Regulatory Directive: Prohibition on the Importation of Analog Television Sets and DVB-T2 Non-Compatible Digital Television Sets May 2025





## GENERAL NOTICE NO.3/2025

### REGULATORY DIRECTIVE: PROHIBITION ON THE IMPORTATION OF ANALOG TELEVISION SETS AND DVB-T2 NON-COMPATIBLE DIGITAL TELEVISION SETS

Pursuant to its mandate under the Electronic Communications Act, No. 9 of 2013, the Eswatini Communications Commission (ESCCOM) hereby issues a directive prohibiting the importation of analogue television sets and digital television sets that are not compliant with the DVB-T2 standard. This measure follows Eswatini's successful transition to Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) and the complete analogue signal switch-off in 2016. The directive aims to uphold the integrity of the digital broadcasting environment, protect consumers from acquiring non-functional or obsolete equipment, and ensure efficient spectrum utilization.

Effective 01 June 2025, the importation into the Kingdom of Eswatini of all analogue television sets and digital television receivers that do not support the DVB-T2 standard is strictly prohibited. This directive applies to all entities involved in the importation, distribution, sale, and clearance of television equipment. Exemptions are permitted for equipment used exclusively for educational, research, or closed-circuit purposes, subject to prior written approval from ESCCOM.

All stakeholders are required to comply with the provisions of this directive. Customs and border authorities will enforce import restrictions, and ESCCOM will undertake regular inspections and market surveillance. Non-compliance may result in penalties, confiscation of equipment, and revocation of import or trading licenses. ESCCOM remains committed to supporting stakeholders through awareness campaigns and technical guidance to facilitate full and effective implementation.

Should you require any clarification or further information regarding this directive, visit [www.esccom.org.sz](http://www.esccom.org.sz) or email: [info@esccom.org.sz](mailto:info@esccom.org.sz).

Chief Executive  
Eswatini Communications Commission

# **Notice 3/2025: Regulatory Directive: Prohibition on the Importation of Analog Television Sets and DVB-T2 Non-Compatible Digital Television Sets**

## **General Notice NO.3/2025**

### **Regulatory Directive: Prohibition on the Importation of Analog Television Sets and DVB-T2 Non-Compatible Digital Television Sets**

Pursuant to the Electronic Communications Act, no.9, 2013, and associated regulations, the Eswatini Communications Commission (ESCCOM) hereby issues the following directive:

#### **1. Background and Rationale**

Following the successful completion of the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) rollout and the nationwide analogue signal switch-off in 2016, Eswatini has fully transitioned to digital broadcasting under the DVB-T2 standard. To maintain the integrity of the digital broadcasting ecosystem, safeguard consumer interests, and prevent the reintroduction of obsolete technology, it has become necessary to formalize restrictions on analogue and non-compliant digital television receivers.

#### **2. Purpose**

This directive aims to:

- Prohibit the importation of analogue television sets and digital television receivers that are not compatible with the DVB-T2 standard;
- Protect consumers from purchasing incompatible television sets;
- Support the efficient use of the digital broadcast spectrum;
- Align with national broadcasting policies and regional digital migration commitments.

#### **3. Scope and Applicability**

This directive applies to:

- All importers, distributors, retailers, and vendors of electronic/television equipment in Eswatini;
- Customs and border control agencies responsible for the enforcement of import regulations;
- Any party involved in the procurement or resale of television sets in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

#### **4. Prohibited Equipment**

Effective **1<sup>st</sup> June 2025**, the following equipment is **prohibited** from being imported into the Kingdom of Eswatini:

1. **Analog Television Sets** – defined as television receivers that rely solely on analog signals for reception (e.g., NTSC, PAL, SECAM).
2. **Non-DVB-T2 Compatible Digital Television Sets** – including any digital television receiver that does not support the DVB-T2 standard used in Eswatini for digital terrestrial broadcasting.

#### **5. Exemptions**

The following shall be exempt from this directive:

- Equipment imported or sold strictly for **educational, demonstration, or research** purposes, subject to prior written approval from ESCCOM;
- Equipment used exclusively in **closed systems** not connected to terrestrial broadcast networks (e.g., CCTV monitors);
- Analog-to-digital converter boxes (DVB-T2 set-top boxes) that comply with ESCCOM technical type approval specifications and standards.

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**6. Compliance and Enforcement**

- All importers and vendors must **declare and demonstrate** the DVB-T2 compliance of television sets through labelling, certification, or manufacturer documentation.
- Customs officials are mandated to **detain and reject** imports of prohibited devices unless exempted under Section 5.
- ESCCOM will conduct **routine inspections** and **market surveillance** to enforce compliance.
- Non-compliance may result in:
  - Confiscation of prohibited equipment;
  - Fines or penalties in accordance with applicable regulations;
  - Revocation of trading or import licenses.

**7. Stakeholder Engagement and Support**

ESCCOM shall undertake public sensitization campaigns and offer technical support to stakeholders to ensure the smooth implementation of this directive.

**8. Further Information**

For further information or clarification, stakeholders may contact ESCCOM via:

- **Email:** [info@esccom.org.sz](mailto:info@esccom.org.sz)
- **Phone:** +268 24067000
- **Postal Address:** Box 7811, Mbabane, H100 Eswatini

**Mvilawemphi Dlamini**

Chief Executive

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