



**ESWATINI  
COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMISSION**

# **Notice 4/2025: Introduction of New Licence Categories Under the General Electronic Communications Services Licence May 2025**



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**ESWATINI  
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## 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 4/2025: Introduction of New Licence Categories Under the General Electronic Communications Services Licence**

### **General Notice NO.4/2025**

#### **Introduction of New Licence Categories Under the General Electronic Communications Services Licence**

Section 6(a) of the Eswatini Communications Commission Act, 2013 ("the ESCCOM Act") enjoins the Commission to regulate and supervise the operation of electronic communications networks and the provision of electronic communications services within the Kingdom of Eswatini, including the regulation of data protection in electronic communications.

Further, Section 7(g) of the ESCCOM Act stipulates that the Commission shall grant any authorisation necessary for the carrying out of any operation or activity relating to matters within the remit of the Commission. Additionally, Section 7(cc) enjoins the Commission to make such decisions as may be necessary for carrying out its functions. For the purposes of the Act, a decision of the Commission includes any directive, determination, authorisation, condition, measure, requirement, or specification made by the Commission.

In accordance with its responsibilities as the regulator, the Commission conducts periodic reviews of the sectors it regulates to determine the necessary interventions aimed at fostering sector development. This process is crucial for achieving social and economic development, promoting sustainable resource allocation and usage, and facilitating innovation, which lies at the heart of the Commission's mandate.

Following an extensive review of the existing licensing framework and in alignment with international best practice, the Commission has determined that there is a need to expand and refine the licence categories available under the General Electronic Communications Services Licence.

Accordingly, the Commission hereby introduces the following new licence categories:

#### **I. Network Facilities Provider Licence**

This licence category authorises entities to establish and maintain passive network infrastructure for lease to licensed or authorised communications service operators. The key features of this licence include but is not limited to the following:

- a) Enabling the development, management, and leasing of infrastructure such as towers, poles, ducts, and fibre networks.
- b) Promoting infrastructure sharing among operators, thus reducing overall sector costs and minimising environmental impact by avoiding the unnecessary duplication of facilities.
- c) Allowing licensed telecommunications service providers to focus on delivering core services (such as network coverage, service quality, and customer acquisition) while specialised infrastructure companies manage and maintain the underlying facilities.

## **Notice 4/2025: Introduction of New Licence Categories Under the General Electronic Communications Services Licence**

This licence is aimed at fostering a more efficient telecommunications sector and encouraging investment in infrastructure.

### **2. Services and Applications Provider Licence**

This licence category authorises entities to offer value-added services and applications that operate over telecommunications networks without owning the underlying network infrastructure. Typical services under this licence include but is not limited to the following:

- a) Voice over IP (VoIP) services.
- b) Cloud-based services.
- c) Content delivery services (e.g., video and music streaming).
- d) Mobile financial services and other data-driven applications.

The introduction of this licence category is intended to encourage diversification of service offerings in the market and enhance consumer choice and foster economic growth through the development of new and emerging digital services.

### **Effective Date of Implementation**

In terms of Section 37 of the ESCCOM Act, the Commission has the discretionary power to determine an early effective date of its decisions where circumstances demand. Accordingly, the Commission has determined that the decision to introduce these new licence categories shall come into force on **12 May 2025**.

***Issued 9 May 2025***

**Mvilawemphi Dlamini**  
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