

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

### to the ANRC President's Decision on the amendment of ANRC President's Decision no.140/2002 on the Adoption of the National Numbering Plan and of ANRC President's Decision no.141/2002 on the Application and Granting Procedure regarding the Licenses for the Use of Numbering Resources

According to the provisions of the Government Emergency Ordinance no.79/2002 on the General Regulatory Framework for Communications, approved, with amendments and completions, by Law no.591/2002, ANRC is responsible for the administration and management of the numbering resources in Romania, making available adequate numbering resources to the providers of electronic communications services. Through its actions, ANRC seeks to maximize the users' benefits, offering them the possibility to use various electronic communications services, by creating the necessary conditions so that the market meet their needs.

The draft Decision on the amendment of *ANRC President's Decision no.140/2002 on the Adoption of the National Numbering Plan* and of *ANRC President's Decision no.141/2002 on the Application and Granting Procedure regarding the Licenses for the Use of Numbering Resources* ensures the proper regulatory framework for the implementation of the carrier selection procedure without intermediate tone.

At this moment, the carrier selection procedure with intermediate tone is already implemented, by using the *10xyz* carrier selection code. The providers of publicly available electronic communications services find this procedure unsatisfactory, as it is difficult to use and could create problems regarding the traffic billing. Therefore, it is necessary to implement a carrier selection procedure without intermediate tone in order to ensure the development of the electronic communications market and the competitiveness on the long-distance and international telephony services market.

Taking into account the limitations of the existing networks, the implementation of the carrier selection without intermediate tone has required technical solutions accepted by the providers of publicly available electronic communications services. These aspects have been discussed by the „Technical aspects of interconnection” group of the Technical and Standardization Commission of the ANRC's Consultative Council, over a number of meetings. Also, several tests have been performed in order to find the best solutions, with the participation of S.C. Romtelecom S.A., Societatea Națională de Radiocomunicații S.A. and S.C. Astral Telecom S.A. The results of the tests, together with the commission's final report, are published on the ANRC's website.

The agreed technical solution consists of the transmission of the carrier selection code through the address signals from the „Called Party Number” field of the „Initial Address Message” from the signalling system no.7 (SS7), concatenated with the called number. This solution requires the use of new carrier selection codes, in order to implement the carrier selection procedure without intermediate tone, type *16xy*.

At the moment, the *16xy* carrier selection codes are not included in the National Numbering Plan and no other future usage has been provided for them, so the technical impact on the provision of other electronic communications services is minimum. In legal terms, the introduction of *16xy* carrier selection codes requires the amendment of the National

Numbering Plan, adopted by the ANRC President's Decision no.140/2002, and of the ANRC President's Decision no.141/2002 on the application and granting procedure regarding the licenses for the use of numbering resources, in order to allow for the allocation of these codes to the providers of electronic communications services.

The  $16xy$  individual carrier selection codes will be used simultaneously with the existing  $10xyz$  codes, which will be used for the carrier selection procedure with intermediate tone. Thus, each provider of electronic communications services can choose the appropriate solution for its users, implementing the carrier selection procedure with intermediate tone, without intermediate tone or both procedures.

The application and granting procedure regarding the licenses for the use of numbering resources for the  $16xy$  carrier selection codes is the same as for the other numbering resources allotted by ANRC. The allotment of the  $16xy$  carrier selection code is not conditioned by the prior allotment of a  $10xyz$  carrier selection code.

When granting the new codes, ANRC will take into account the  $10xyz$  codes allotted to the requester or to other providers of electronic communications services, in correlation with the allotted  $16xy$  codes, in order to minimize the impact on both carriers and end-users. Thus, for example, if a provider of electronic communications services has been previously allotted the carrier selection code „1071“, then the code for carrier selection without intermediate tone will be, as a rule, „1671“,  $x$  and  $y$  having the same value. The application of this principle will promote the efficient and rational use of numbering resources, under fair competition conditions.