



INDEPENDENT CONSUMER AND
COMPETITION COMMISSION

Office of the Commissioner & CEO

2nd Floor, Post Office Building
Nita Street, Angau Drive
P.O. Box 6394, BOROKO,
National Capital District
Papua New Guinea
Telephone: (675) 312 4600
Facsimile: (675) 323 0052
Toll Free No. 180 3333
Email: infor@iccc.gov.pg

Our Ref: 6203.2/RID

06th December, 2021

Mr. Kila Gulo-Vui

Chief Executive Officer

NICTA

P O Box 8444

BOROKO 111

National Capital District

Dear Mr. Gulo- Vui,

**RE: PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON REFERENCE INTERCONNECTION OFFER PROPOSED BY
PNG DATACO LIMITED AND DRAFT GUIDELINES ON WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
SERVICES**

The Independent Consumer and Competition Commission ('ICCC') acknowledges receipt of National Information and Communications Technology Authority's ('NICTA') letter dated 3rd November, 2021.

We thank NICTA for the opportunity to provide comments on the revised Reference Interconnection Offer ('RIO') submission by PNG DataCo Limited ('DataCo') and NICTA's Draft Guidelines on Wholesale and Retail Services.

ICCC's comments on the RIO and Draft Guidelines are briefly discussed below for your noting and consideration.

Revised Reference Interconnection Offer

After reviewing DataCo's submission, we noted that it provided a detailed revised submission taking into consideration issues raised by NICTA and other stakeholders. We noted that there has been a reduction in the Wholesale Internet Service (WIS) (66%-94%) across all capacities on this revised pricing schedule. This is indeed great news for the sector in terms of wider accessibility and cheaper rates for end users. In addition, from a consumer affairs perspective, the ICCC considers that it is equally important for this reduction to be passed down to the end users. Therefore, the ICCC encourages NICTA as the responsible regulator for the Information Communication Technology industry (ICT) to ensure that the respective Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are passing on these reductions to the retail segment of the market.

Nonetheless, NICTA should proceed to accept DataCo's revised submission as it is now consistent with the requirements under section 142 of the NICTA Act.

"Our Competition Watchdog, Shaping our Market Economy and Protecting our Consumers"

Southern Regional Office
2nd Floor, Post Office Building
Nita Street, Angau Drive
P.O. Box 6394, BOROKO
National Capital District
Phone: (675) 312 4600
Fax: (675) 325 3980
Email: southern@iccc.gov.pg

Highlands Regional Office
1st Floor, Tininga Central Office Complex
P.O. Box 1581, MTHAGEN
Western Highlands Province
Phone: (675) 542 1356
Fax: (675) 732 1414
Email: highlands@iccc.gov.pg

Momase Regional Office
2nd Floor, Nambawan Super
P.O. Box 448, LAE
Morobe Province
Phone: (675) 472 2859
(675) 472 6188
Fax: (675) 472 6122
Email: momase@iccc.gov.pg

Islands Regional Office
Ground Floor, Matanitu Building
P.O. Box 461, KOKOPO
East New Britain Province
Phone: (675) 982 9711
Fax: (675) 982 9712
Email: islands@iccc.gov.pg



Draft Guideline on Wholesale and Retail Services

In terms of the Draft Guideline on the demarcation between wholesale and retail services; pursuant to section 219 and 229 of the NICTA Act, the ICCC noted that the Draft Guidelines outlines and distinguishes clearly between the wholesale and retail segment of the industry. Although, section 4.10 briefly states the intervention of ICCC for any anticompetitive conduct within the market or unfair pricing of the wholesale access services, it should also extend to cover any consumer complaints relating to the services offered.

Please contact Mrs Stella M Kora, Executive Manager – Regulated Industries Division on 312 4600 or via email to skora@iccc.gov.pg, should you have any queries on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

MR. PAULUS AIN

Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer