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## **Press Release**

## **Telephone Numbering Plan and Procedures**

The Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) issued an updated Numbering Plan and Procedures (NNP) on the 18th June 2012.

The Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) is responsible under section 7(2)(d) of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulations Act-No. 30 of 2009 (the "Act") to "allocate telephone number blocks and other telecommunication systems numbers as administered by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) to service providers". This National Numbering Plan and Procedures addresses numbering for voice and related telecommunications services in Vanuatu in accordance with these responsibilities.

Marianne Berukilukilu, Telecom Engineer and officer responsible said "The NNP has been produced to document a series of practices and procedures developed over the last few years to assist operators such as TVL and Digicel, in allocating and assigning numbers."

The plan should be adequate for effective competition and future demands and should provide blocks of numbers for the following applications:

- Fixed telephony
- Mobile telephony
- Internet-based telecommunications services
- Short codes including Emergency services and directory services
- Value-added information services, countrywide services, and commonly recognized national
- Define numbering blocks reserved for future allocation and applications.

The Table indicates the type of service assigned to the first digit of the telephone number.

Leading Telephone Digit	Purpose (Number length and type of service)
0	Two to seven digit access numbers for International Service (00), Special Services, Premium Rate Service and network Routing Services
1	Three digit short codes such as those for emergency services e.g. 112 Hospital
2	Five digit Numbers for geographical areas - fixed telephone services
3	Five digit numbers for geographical areas - fixed telephone services
4	Numbers for geographical areas - fixed telephone services allocated prior to October 2011.  All other blocks are Protected.
5	Seven digit numbers for non-geographical services - mobile services
6	Protected
7	Seven digit numbers for non-geographical services - mobile services
8	Five digit fixed telephone services
9	Seven digit VOIP including Nomadic, excluding mobile services

Dalsie Baniala said "Consumers should find the numbering plan easy to understand and service providers should find it easy to implement. Changes in the plan have and will in future be kept to a minimum because changes can affect consumers and service providers driving up costs for consumers such as costs associated to cover changes in stationery, signage and telephone equipment.

Alan Horne, the Telecommunications Regulator said "TRR recognizes the need to monitor the evolution of markets and telecommunications technology to introduce changes in the design of the NNP and the allocation rules of the numbering resources of Vanuatu. TRR will conduct regular reviews of this NNP, typically at five year intervals. However there are currently considerations being given to convergence of fixed and mobile services which might require an earlier review and revision to this issue. If required this would be done after due consultation."

For further information go to the web site of TRR at www.trr.vu or phone TRR at 27621