

### III. Telecommunications

The Ethiopia Telecommunications Corporation (ETC) is a state-owned institution that renders national and international telecommunications services using satellite, optical fiber, microwave, and multi-access radios, VSAT, UHF and VHF.

During the fourth quarter of 2007/08 fiscal year, the total installed exchange capacity of fixed telephone has reached 1,146,555 (in terms of line) showing 2.07 percent increase over last year.

At the same time, the number of fixed telephone subscription under all categories (residential, business enterprises,

governmental and others) decreased by 0.3 percent from 900,328 in the previous quarter to 897,287 during the review quarter. It, however, rose by 2 percent compared to last year same period.

On the other hand, the number of waiting list for fixed telephone subscribers went up by 40 percent compared to last year mainly due to the existence of a wide gap between exchange capacity and customer demand excluding Addis Ababa.

**Table 3.1 Telephone Subscription Demand during Fourth Quarter**

Source: Ethiopia Telecommunications Corporation (ETC)

Items	2006/07	2007/08		Percentage Changes	
	Q.IV	Q.III	QIV	C/A	C/B
	A	B	C		
Installed Capacity	1123281	1,146,240	1,146,555	2.1	0.03
Subscriber Lines	880,088	900,328	897,287	2.0	-0.3
Waiting	13579	20188	19,013	40.0	-5.8
Expressed Demand	927,667	920516	916,300	-1.2	-0.5
Main Lines as % of Expressed Demand	94.87	97.81	97.93	-	-
Expressed Demand as % of Capacity	82.59	80.31	79.92	-	-

Similarly, the number of mobile phone subscribers both pre-paid and post paid, dropped by 6.3 percent from 2,085,967 in

the the previous quarter to 1,954,327 in the review quarter. Year-on-year basis, however, it went up by 61.7 percent.

At the same time, the number of dial up internet subscribers reached 34,110

showing 18.1 percent increase over the preceding quarter. It also increased by 8.6 percent compared to same period last year.

**Table 3.2 Dial up Internet Subscribers**

2006/07	2007/08		Percentage Changes	
Q.IV	Q.III	Q.IV		
A	B	C	C/A	C/B
31,400	28,880	34,110	8.6	18.1

Source: ETC

It is to be noted that there were 1,496 multimedia subscribers in addition to the dial up subscribers as of June 2007/08.

**Table: 3.3 Mobile and Internet Subscription**

No.	Region	Major Town	2006/07 4th Quarter		2007/08 3rd Quarter		2007/08 4th Quarter		Percentage Changes			
			No. of Mobile Subscribers	B	No. of Mobile Subscribers	D	No. of Mobile Subscribers	F	E/A	F/B	E/C	F/D
			A (Pre-paid+ Post-paid)	Radio Network Capacity	C (Pre-paid+ Post-paid)	Radio Network Capacity	E (Pre-paid+ Post-paid)	Radio Network Capacity				
1	Addis Ababa	Addis Ababa& Nazareth	10,335,29	956,097	1,735,680	1,622,532	1,636,745	1,632,830	58.4	70.8	-5.7	0.6
2	North Eastern Region	Dessie	17,245	48,732	30,870	79,964	25,766	91,195	49.4	87.1	-16.5	14.0
3	Northern Region	Mekelle	39,407	80,363	73,670	103,657	67,572	103,657	71.5	29.0	-8.3	0.0
4	Eastern Region	Dire Dawa /Harrar/	30,591	93,534	40,211	96,257	39,299	96,257	28.5	2.9	-2.3	0.0
5	Southern Region	Shashemane	21,301	63,992	55,227	168,071	48,973	168,071	129.9	162.6	-11.3	0.0
6	South Western Region	Jimma	14,341	32,525	45,678	50,205	47,098	50,205	228.4	54.4	3.1	0.0
7	Western Region	Nekempt	9,465	19,463	9,613	31,288	9,617	31,288	1.6	60.8	0.0	0.0
8	North Western Region	Bahir Dar /Gondar/	42,619	74,708	9,5018	159,829	79,257	159,829	86.0	113.9	-16.6	0.0
Total			1,208,498	1,369,414	2,085,967	2,311,803	1,954,327	2,333,334	61.7	70.4	-6.3	0.9

Source: ETC

