

III. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Ethiopian 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 second quarter of 2008/09 fiscal year, the total installed exchange capacity of fixed telephone reached 1,776,543 (in terms of line) showing a 56 and 54.7 percent increase over last year and preceding quarter, respectively.

At the same time, the number of fixed telephone subscription under all categories (residential, business enterprises, governmental and others) decreased by 0.1 and 1 percent from 897,277 and

904,880 in the previous quarter and same period last year, respectively to 896,018.

On the other hand, the number of waiting list for fixed telephone subscribers excluding Addis Ababa went up by 5.6 and 0.3 percent as compared to preceding quarter and last year mainly due to the existence of a wide gap between exchange capacity and customer demand.

Similarly, the number of mobile phone subscribers both pre-paid and post-paid, rose by 30.7 percent from 2,424,436 in the previous quarter to 3,168,271 in the review quarter. It also increased by 61.1 percent year-on-year basis.

Table 3.1 Telephone Subscription Demand during Second Quarter

Items	2007/08		2008/09		Percentage Changes	
	Q.II	Q.I	Q.I	Q.II	C/A	C/B
	A	B	B	C		
Installed Capacity	1,137,319	1148424		1,776,543	56.2	54.7
Subscriber Lines	904,880	897,277		896,018	-1.0	-0.1
Waiting	20,000	18,990		20,062	0.3	5.6
Expressed Demand	924,880	916,267		916,018	-1.0	0.0
Main Lines as % of Expressed Demand	97.8	97.9		97.8	-	-
Expressed Demand as % of Capacity	81.3	79.8		51.6	-	-

Source: Ethiopia Telecommunications Corporation (ETC)

Table: 3.2 Mobile Subscription during Second Quarter

Items	2007/08	2008/09		Percentage Changes	
	Q.II	Q.I	Q.II	C/A	C/B
	A	B	C		
No. of Mobile Subscribers	1,966,227	2,424,436	3,168,271	61.1	30.7
Radio Network Capacity	2,278,516	2,690,801	3,168,271	39.0	17.7

Source: ETC

The number of dial up internet subscribers also reached 40,034 showing a 8.3 and 36.6 percent increase over the preceding quarter and same period last year, respectively.

Table 3.3 Dial up Internet Subscribers

2007/08	2008/09		Percentage Changes	
Q.II	Q.I	Q.II	C/A	C/B
A	B	C		
28,880	36,970	40,034	38.6	8.3

Source: ETC

Note: There are 1,496 multimedia subscribers in addition to the dial-up subscribers as of June 2007/08.