

### III. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC) is a state-owned enterprise that provides national and international telecommunications services using satellite, optical fiber, microwave and multi-access radio, VSAT, UHF and VHF.

In the fourth quarter of 2008/09, the total installed exchange capacity of fixed telephone reached 1,769,024 (in terms of line) showing a 54.3 and 0.21 percent increase over last year and the preceding quarter, respectively.

The number of fixed telephone subscription under all categories (residential, business enterprise, governmental, etc) also went up 2 and 2.3 percent during the same period.

Mean while, the number of waiting list for fixed telephone subscribers dropped 2.5 percent compared to last year showing the narrowing of gap between exchange capacity and customer demand.

**Table 3.1 Telephone Subscription Demand**

Items	2007/08		2008/09		Percentage Changes	
	Q.IV	Q.III	QIV	C/A	C/B	
	A	B	C			
Installed Capacity	1,146,555	1,765,238	1,769,024	54.3	0.21	
Subscriber Lines	897287	894775	915058	1.98	2.27	
Waiting	19013	18753	18548	-2.45	-1.09	
Expressed Demand	916300	913528	933606	1.89	2.2	
Main Lines as % of Expressed Demand	97.93	97.95	98.01	0.09	0.06	
Expressed Demand as % of Capacity	79.92	51.8	52.8	-34	1.98	

Source: Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC)

Similarly, the number of mobile phone subscribers, both pre-paid and post paid, rose by 22.1 percent to 4,051,703 from

3,319,493 in the previous quarter and 4,808,248 a year ago.

**Table: III.2 Mobile Subscription**

Items	2007/08	2008/09		Percentage Changes	
	Q. Iv	Q.III	Q.IV	C/A	C/B
	A	B	C		
No. of Mobile Subscribers	1,954,327	3,319,493	4,051,703	107.3	22.1
Radio Network Capacity	2,333,334	4,731,248	4,808,248	106.1	1.6

Source: ETC

In addition, the number of dial up internet subscribers reached 71,059 showing a 66.4 percent rise over the preceding quarter and

108.3 percent against the same period of last year.

**Table III. 3 Dial up Internet Subscribers**

2007/08	2008/09		Percentage Changes	
Q.IV	Q.III	Q.IV	C/A	C/B
A	B	C		
34110	42059	71059	108.3	66.4

Source: ETC

