

### III. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC) is a state-owned institution that renders national and international telecom services.

During the first quarter of 2009/10 fiscal year, the total installed exchange capacity of fixed telephone (in terms of line) has reached 1,772,276 showing a 54.3 percent increase over the corresponding quarter of last year (Table 3.1).

Similarly, the number of fixed telephone subscription under all categories (residential, business enterprises,

governmental and others) increased by 0.3 percent to 917,835.

On the other hand, the number of waiting list for fixed telephone subscribers in the review period was 10,507, down by 44.7 percent against last year mainly due to expansion in exchange capacity. Hence, the percentage share of customer demand to exchange capacity dropped to 52.4 percent from 79.8 percent a year earlier.

**Table-3.1 Telephone Subscription Demand Statistics during First Quarter of 2009/10**

Indicators	2008/09		2009/10	Percentage changes	
	QI	QIV	QI	C/A	C/B
	A	B	C		
Installed Capacity	1,148,424	1,769,024	1,772,276	54.3	0.2
Subscriber Lines	897,277	915,058	917,835	2.3	0.30
Waiting	18,990	18,548	10,507	-44.7	-43.4
Expressed Demand	916,267	933,606	928,342	1.3	-0.6
Main lines as % of expressed demand	97.9	98.0	98.9	1.0	0.9
Expressed demand as % of capacity	79.8	52.8	52.4	-27.4	-0.4

Source: Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC)

**Table 3.2 Mobile Subscription During First Quarter of 2009/10**

Indicators	2008/09	2009/10		Percentage changes	
	QI	QIV	QI		
	A	B	C	C/A	C/B
Number of Mobile Subscribers	2,424,436	4,051,703	4,412,553	82.00	8.9
Radio Network Capacity	2,690,801	4,808,248	5,259,991	95.5	9.4

Source: ETC

Similarly, the number of mobile phone subscribers, both pre-paid and post paid, rose by 82 percent to 4,412,553 in the review quarter. Radio network capacity was also 5,259,991 up by 95.5 percent relative to the same period of last fiscal year. The number of dial up Internet subscribers reached 65,992, showing an

increase of 78.5 percent over the same period of last fiscal year.

All in all, the significant improvements witnessed in the telecom sector are reflections of the government's strategy to enhance capacity building program in the infrastructure sub-sector.

**Table 3.3. Internet Subscribers During First Quarter of 2009/10**

2008/09	2009/10		Percentage changes	
	QIV	QI		
	B	C	C/A	C/B
36,970	56,074	65,992	78.5	17.7

Source: ETC