

Functions of Commission

12.— (1) *The functions of the Commission are to —*

(a) advise the Minister on the formulation of national policy on telecommunications matters with a view to ensuring the efficient, economic and harmonised development of the telecommunication and broadcasting services and radio communications of Saint Lucia;

(b) ensure compliance with the Government's international obligations on telecommunications;

(c) be responsible for technical regulation and the setting of technical standards of telecommunications and ensure compatibility with international standards;

(d) plan, supervise, regulate and manage the use of the radio frequency spectrum in conjunction with ECTEL, including the assignment and registration of radio frequencies to be used by all stations operating in Saint Lucia or on any ship, aircraft, vessel, or other floating or airborne contrivance or spacecraft registered in Saint Lucia;

(e) regulate prices for telecommunications services;

(f) advise the Minister in all matters related to tariffs for telecommunications service;

(g) collect all fees prescribed and any other tariffs levied under this Act or Regulations;

(h) receive and review applications for licences and advise the Minister accordingly; 308 No. 27] Telecommunications Act [2000.

(i) monitor and ensure that licensees comply with the conditions attached to their licences;

(j) review proposed interconnection agreements by telecommunications providers and recommend to the Minister whether or not he should approve such agreements;

(k) investigate and resolve any dispute relating to interconnections or sharing of infrastructure between telecommunications providers;

(l) investigate and resolve complaints related to harmful interference;

(m) monitor anti-competitive practices in the telecommunications sector and advise the national body responsible for the regulation of anti-competitive practices accordingly;

(n) maintain a register of licensees and frequency authorization holders;

(o) provide the Minister with such information as he may require from time to time;

(p) undertake in conjunction with other institutions and entities where practicable, training, manpower planning, seminars and conferences in areas of national and regional importance in telecommunications;

(q) report to and advise the Minister on the legal, technical, financial, economic aspects of telecommunications, and the social impact of telecommunications;

(r) manage the universal service fund;

(s) perform such other functions as are prescribed.

(2) In the performance of its functions the Commission shall where necessary, consult and liaise with ECTEL.