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TRAI Regulation on filing of interconnect agreements by all Service Providers of Broadcasting and Cable Services

The Government of India issued a Notification No.39 dated 09.01.2004 whereby the scope of the expression 'telecommunication services' (defined in Section 2(k) of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 as amended) was expanded to include the broadcasting and cable services also. Consequently the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India is also entrusted with the basic task of regulation of cable and broadcasting services in the country.

- 2. As per the provisions of the regulation titled "The Register of Interconnect Agreements Regulations 1999" (2 of 1999), as amended by the Register of Interconnect Agreement (First Amendment) Regulations 2004, all the Service Providers of Telecom Services including Broadcasting & Cable Services are required to register with the Authority any interconnect agreements to which they are parties within the time frame specified in that regulations.
- 3. Consequently all the broadcasters including their authorized distribution agencies and Multi Service Operators are bound to register with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India any interconnect agreements to which they are parties;
- a. Where such Agreement had been entered into earlier than these Regulations, within 30 days of the coming into effect of these Regulations; and
- b. In all other cases within 30 days of the execution or modification of such Agreements
- 4. The Regulation is available on TRAI's **website** www.trai.gov.in

(Rajendra Singh) Secretary