Licensing of Mobile Services for Implementation of Real-name Registration Programme for Subscriber Identification Module (SIM) Cards





Real-name Registration ("RNR") Programme

- ❖ The Telecommunications (Registration of SIM Cards) Regulation ("Regulation") took effect on 1 September 2021 to implement the RNR programme which applies to
 - holders of Unified Carrier Licence ("UCL")
 - holders of Services-based Operator Licence ("SBOL"); and
 - persons falling under the Class Licence for Offer of Telecommunications Services ("CLOTS")
 - who supply or offer local mobile services through SIM cards primarily for person-to-person communications.
- To provide practical and administrative guidance to the relevant licensees, the Communications Authority ("CA") issued the Guidelines on Implementation of Real-name Registration for SIM Cards ("RNR Guidelines").



RNR Implementation



1 March 2022

- · New pre-paid and service plan SIM cards have to be registered before use
- Registration starts for existing pre-paid SIM cards







cards are deactivated

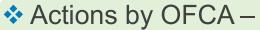






23 February 2023

Existing pre-paid SIM card users are required to complete real-name registration with respective operators



- **Examining** licensees' registration systems and procedures
- Arranging demonstrations and testing of such systems
- √ Taking enforcement actions against non-compliant licensees
- ❖ As of 30 June 2022, 30 licensees supplying or offering pre-paid SIM the market cards to established electronic registration platforms as required in the RNR Guidelines





RNR Implementation from Licensing Perspective – for New Service Providers

OFCA has updated the relevant licensing guidelines where -

an applicant for a new UCL or SBOL who intends to supply a local telecommunications service through SIM cards subject to the Regulation

shall provide an implementation plan for RNR for SIM cards

a person who intends to offer in the course of business under the CLOTS a local telecommunications service through SIM cards subject to the Regulation

shall register its business information with the CA pursuant to condition 5.1 of the CLOTS

shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of OFCA that it has put in place a registration system which is in compliance with the Regulation and RNR Guidelines

before a UCL/SBOL can be granted



before the service can be offered under the CLOTS



RNR Implementation from Licensing Perspective – for Existing Service Providers

OFCA has put in place a new administrative arrangement where -

a UCL, SBOL or CLOTS Licensee, who is **not** supplying or offering a local telecommunications service through SIM cards subject to the Regulation **but** intends to do so

shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of OFCA that it has put in place a registration system which is in compliance with the Regulation and RNR Guidelines before supplying or offering the service

if the licensee intends to supply or offer a local telecommunications service through prepaid SIM cards but its previous demonstration to OFCA was for service plan SIM cards only

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