Cost of Communication in SA
Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Communications

Cape Town
30 November 2012

## Prepaid rates have since 2008 declined by $44 \%$ and blended rates by 30\%



Effective rates exclude VAT


Inflation rates applied:
2009-7.1\%
2010-4.3\%
2

$$
2011-5.0 \%
$$

$$
2012-5.5 \%
$$

## VC offers a wide range of prepaid price plans to meet customer needs and market demand

## Prepaid tariffs and products

## Vodacom 4 Less

- Cost-sensitive consumer
- Benefit of network utilisation passed to consumer through discounts
 discount

Promotional value propositions
Value promotions reduce the cost of communication across all Prepaid tariffs

## Night Shift

Free minutes between 12pm and 5am A R12 recharge voucher entitles a consumer use up to 60 on-net off-peak minutes per day for 7 days

## Power Hour

- A consumer obtains up to 60 on-net minutes if he buys an R8 Power Hour voucher


## Extra Time

- A consumer pays for 3 minutes and gets up to 57 minutes free per call

Effective rate per minute

## Airtime Advance

- R10 Airtime Advance: only pay on next recharge


## Call discounts are determined by traffic utilisation profiles

 per site

EASTERN CAPE

Low discounts



## Vodacom offers contracts that include devices and SIM-only contracts to meet different customer needs



R 1.13
R 0.79
(R0.99)
(R0.69)
vodacom

## Broadband demand in SA, as is the case in other economies, is fuelled by smartphones and tablets

## Smartphones and MB usage

-Smartphones (000)
$\rightarrow$-Average data per smartphone (Mb)


Tablets and MB usage
-Tablets (000)
$\rightarrow$-Average data per tablet (Mb)


## Opportunity for expanding broadband penetration via smartphones is huge in SA, but spectrum is a constraint



Data explosion has led to an effective price decline of data rates per megabyte

| _MyMeg 500 | _-MyGig 1 |
| :--- | :--- |
| _MyGig 2 | --- MyMeg 500 Promotion |
| _-- MyGig 1 Promotion | --- MyGig 2 Promotion |




## Wholesale regulation and competitive market dynamics serve consumer welfare



Effective rates exclude VAT

| Jun- | Jun- | Jun- | Jun- | Mar- | 12 | 12 | 11 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## Concluding Thoughts (1/2)

## Retail

Prices are declining and will continue to go down due to effective competition in the market

## MTR

Policy makers should be circumspect about MTR reductions:

- rural coverage is a concern and investment resources is still required;
- MTR revenues help facilitate low cost access to communication;
- waterbed effect; and
- regulatory intervention is ICASA's responsibility.


## Concluding Thoughts (2/2)

## NDP \& VISION 2020

- VC supports and will work with government to achieve the NDP and Vision 2020 policy objectives
- Electronic Communications Policy considerations should:
- include both incumbents and emerging telecoms operators;
- facilitate spectrum sharing and trading;
- promote network and facilities sharing;
- streamline rights of way processes;
- encourage co-investment; and
- consider the option of MVNOs.

