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COMMUNICATION AND MULTIMEDIA ACT 1998 MINISTERIAL DIRECTION ON EQUAL ACCESS DIRECTION No. 3 of 2006

IN exercise of the powers conferred by sections 7 and 8 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 [Act 588], the Minister issues the following Direction to the Commission:

Citation and Commencement

1. This Direction may be cited as the **Ministerial Direction on Equal Access**, **Direction No.** 3 **of 2006** and shall come into operation on the date of registration of this Direction.

Interpretation

2. Any term used in this Direction shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meaning as in the Act or the Regulations made under it.

Pre-Selection

- 3. (1) In paragraph 3(2) of the Ministerial Direction on Equal Access, Direction No.2 of 2001, issued on 23 March 2001, it was stated that the implementation of equal access by pre-selection previously targeted for completion by 1 January 2001 was to be deferred pending review. The arrangement of call-by-call equal access was to be retained subject to a thorough review by the Commission aimed at improving its implementation.
- (2) In respect of call-by-call equal access, the Commission carried out a review of its implementation in a public inquiry¹ on a draft mandatory standard on access from April to July 2003. Following the public inquiry², the implementation of call-by-call equal access was strengthened in the Commission Determination on the Mandatory Standard on Access, Determination No. 2 of 2003.
- (3) In respect of equal access by pre-selection, the Commission carried out a public consultation³ from August to November 2004. Following the public consultation⁴, the Commission concluded that the implementation of pre-selection

Refer to Public Inquiry Paper on Draft Mandatory Standard on Access dated 30 April 2003

³ Refer to Consultation Paper on Implementation of Pre-Selection dated 5 August 2004

² Refer to A Report on Public Inquiry under section 65 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 on Mandatory Standard on Access dated 30 July 2003

⁴ Refer to Public Consultation Report on Implementation of Pre-Selection dated 30 November 2004

at this time would not significantly benefit the consumer due to the availability of other services.

- (4) I have considered the conclusion in the report and agree that equal access need not be implemented by pre-selection at this time. The Ministerial Statement on the Implementation Plan of Equal Access and Cost-Based Interconnection Pricing in Malaysia of 10 April 1998 cease to apply.
- (5) The Commission is therefore directed to take such steps as may be necessary to amend, modify or vary the existing instruments or other decisions to remove all requirements for the implementation of equal access by pre-selection.
- (6) The Ministerial Direction on Equal Access, Direction No.2 of 2001, is revoked.

Issued: 14 November 2006

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DATO' SERI DR. LIM KENG YAIK
Minister of Energy, Water and Communications