



Completed Applications for Digital Mobile Licence

Engineer Ernest C A Ndukwe, the Executive Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission, today named the companies who have applied to take part in Nigeria's first auction of mobile telecommunication licences, in January 2001. Five groups submitted the appropriate forms and the USD\$20million deposit.

Mr. Ndukwe said "I am delighted that a significant number of companies have recognised the potential of the Nigerian mobile communications market and have applied to take part in this licensing process. The prospect of four national mobile operators and the competition that this will bring is good news both for Nigerian consumers and the economy. The Commission is committed to achieving a licensing regime that will spur the rapid rollout of digital networks and encourage competition in order to bring new services and cheaper prices to consumers".

The Commission will auction three national digital mobile licences with a further licence reserved for NITEL/M-TEL at the market price derived from the auction. The Reserve Price for each licence is USD\$100m. The names of those applicants who qualify to take part in the auction, and the auction start date, will be confirmed on 8 January 2001, following the completion of checks on applications.

Information on the progress of the auction will be released at the end of each day of bidding.

Complete Applications have been submitted by:

- Communications Investments Ltd.,
- MSI-Celtel Nigeria Ltd.,
- MTN Nigeria Communications Ltd.,
- United Networks Mobile Ltd.,
- Econet Wireless Nigeria Ltd.