

Trade in Services

**ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

**Schedule of Specific Commitments**

**Supplement 1**

(This is authentic in English only)

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This text is inserted as the Telecommunication services section in document GATS/SC/2.

# ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA - SCHEDULE OF SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS

Modes of supply:	(1)	Cross-border supply	(2)	Consumption abroad	(3)	Commercial presence	(4)	Presence of natural persons
Sector or subsector	Limitations on market access				Limitations on national treatment		Additional commitments	
2.C. <u>Telecommunications services</u>								
a. Voice telephone services (7521)	(1) Bypass of exclusive operators not permitted until 2012. None as of 2012.				(1)	None	See attached additional commitments on regulatory disciplines.	
	(2) None				(2)	None		
	(3) Domestic telephone reserved to Government owned exclusive operator. International telephone reserved to international exclusive operator until 2012. None as of 2012 (only applies to international telephone).				(3)	None		
	(4) Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section				(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section		
	(1) Bypass of exclusive operators not permitted until 2012. None as of 2 012 for international services.				(1)	None		
	(2) None				(2)	None		
	(3) Reserved to exclusive operators until 2012. None as of 2012 for international services.				(3)	None		
	(4) Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section. None as of 2012 for international services.				(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section		
<u>For public use</u>								
b. Packet-switched data transmission services (7523**)								
c. Circuit-switched data transmission service (7523**)								
d. Telex services (7523**)								
e. Telegraph services (7522)								
g. Private leased circuit services (7522**, 7523**)								

Modes of supply:	(1)	Cross-border supply	(2)	Consumption abroad	(3)	Commercial presence	(4)	Presence of natural persons
	<b>Sector or subsector</b>	<b>Limitations on market access</b>			<b>Limitations on national treatment</b>			<b>Additional commitments</b>
For non-public use (i.e. Closed user groups): b. Packet-switched data transmission services (7523**) c. Circuit-switched data transmission services (7523**)		(1)	Only on network facilities supplied by the exclusive operators and bypass of exclusive operators not permitted. None as of 2012 for international services.			(1)	None	
		(2)	None			(2)	None	
		(3)	Only on network facilities supplied by the exclusive operators and bypass of exclusive operators not permitted and resale of excess capacity are not permitted until 2012. None as of 2012 for international services.			(3)	None	
		(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section			(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section	
f. Facsimile services (7521**, 7529**) h. Electronic mail (7523**) i. Voice mail (7523**) j. On-line information and data base retrieval (7523**) k. Electronic data interchange (7523**) l. Enhance/value-added facsimile services incl. Store and forward Store and retrieve (7523**)		(1)	Only on network facilities supplied by the exclusive operators.			(1)	None	
		(2)	None			(2)	None	
		(3)	Only on network facilities supplied by the exclusive operators.			(3)	None	
		(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section			(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section	

Modes of supply:	(1)	Cross-border supply	(2)	Consumption abroad	(3)	Commercial presence	(4)	Presence of natural persons
	<b>Sector or subsector</b>	<b>Limitations on market access</b>		<b>Limitations on national treatment</b>		<b>Additional commitments</b>		
m.	Code and protocol conversion							
n.	On-line information and/or data Processing (incl. Transaction Processing) (843**)							
o.	Other Internet and internet access (Except voice) (75260)							
	Mobile service (terrestrial based)	(1)	Unbound	(1)	None			
-	Cellular/mobile telephone services	(2)	None	(2)	None			
-	Mobile data services	(3)	Foreign ventures permitted only if capital invested is greater than US\$500,000, ventures less than US\$500,000 reserved to nationals.	(3)	None			
-	Personal communications services							
-	Paging (75291)	(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section	(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section			
-	Trunked radio system services							

Modes of supply:	(1)	Cross-border supply	(2)	Consumption abroad	(3)	Commercial presence	(4)	Presence of natural persons
	Sector or subsector	Limitations on market access		Limitations on national treatment		Additional commitments		
Mobile services (satellite-based)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mobile telephone services</li><li>- Mobile data services</li><li>- Personal communications services</li><li>- Paging</li><li>- Trunked radio system services</li></ul>	(1)	Only through arrangements between satellite transport service suppliers and exclusive international operator, who is under obligation not to limit the number of suppliers with whom such arrangements will be entered into	(1)	None			
		(2)	None	(2)	None			
		(3)	Reserved to supply by exclusive operator in accordance with arrangements indicated under mode 1.	(3)	None			
		(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section.	(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section			
Fixed satellite services		(1)	Only through arrangements between satellite transport service suppliers and exclusive international operator, who is under obligation not to limit the number of suppliers with whom such arrangements will be entered into	(1)	None			
		(2)	None	(2)	None			
		(3)	Only on satellite network capacity supplied by the exclusive international operator and bypass of exclusive international operator not permitted.	(3)	None			
		(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section	(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section			

Modes of supply:		(1)	Cross-border supply	(2)	Consumption abroad	(3)	Commercial presence	(4)	Presence of natural persons
Sector or subsector		Limitations on market access				Limitations on national treatment			Additional commitments
Teleconferencing services (75292)		(1)	Only on network facilities supplied by the exclusive operators.				(1)	None	
		(2)	None				(2)	None	
		(3)	Only on network facilities supplied by the exclusive operators.				(3)	None	
		(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section				(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section	
Telecommunications equipment sales, rental, maintenance, connection, repair and consulting services (75410, 75450)		(1)	None				(1)	None	
		(2)	None				(2)	None	
		(3)	None				(3)	None	
		(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section				(4)	Unbound except as indicated in the horizontal section	

## REFERENCE PAPER

### Scope

The following are definitions and principles on the regulatory framework for the basic telecommunications services.

### Definitions

Users mean service consumers and service suppliers.

Essential facilities mean facilities of a public telecommunications transport network or service that

- (a) are exclusively or predominantly provided by a single or limited number of suppliers; and
- (b) cannot feasibly be economically or technically substituted in order to provide a service.

A major supplier is a supplier which has the ability to materially affect the terms of participation (having regard to price and supply) in the relevant market for basic telecommunications services as a result of:

- (a) control over essential facilities; or
- (b) use of its position in the market.

### 1. Competitive safeguards

#### 1.1 Prevention of anti-competitive practices in telecommunications

Appropriate measures shall be maintained for the purpose of preventing suppliers who, alone or together, are a major supplier from engaging in or continuing anti-competitive practices.

#### 1.2 Safeguards

The anti-competitive practices referred to above shall include in particular:

- (a) engaging in anti-competitive cross-subsidization;
- (b) using information obtained from competitors with anti-competitive results; and
- (c) not making available to other services suppliers on a timely basis technical information about essential facilities and commercially relevant information which are necessary for them to provide services.

## 2. Interconnection

2.1 This section applies to linking with suppliers providing public telecommunications transport networks or services in order to allow the users of one supplier to communicate with users of another supplier and to access services provided by another supplier, where specific commitments are undertaken.

### 2.2 Interconnection to be ensured

Interconnection with a major supplier will be ensured at any technically feasible point in the network. Such interconnection is provided.

- (a) under non-discriminatory terms, conditions (including technical standards and specifications) and rates and of a quality no less favourable than that provided for its own like services or for like services of non-affiliated service suppliers or for its subsidiaries or other affiliates;
- (b) in a timely fashion, on terms, conditions (including technical standards and specifications) and cost-oriented rates that are transparent, reasonable, having regard to economic feasibility, and sufficiently unbundled so that the supplier need not pay for network components or facilities that it does not require for the service to be provided; and
- (c) upon request, at points in addition to the network termination points offered to the majority of users, subject to charges that reflect the cost of construction of necessary additional facilities.

### 2.3 Public availability of the procedures for interconnection negotiations

The procedures applicable for interconnection to a major supplier will be made publicly available.

### 2.4 Transparency of interconnection arrangements

It is ensured that a major supplier will make publicly available either its interconnection agreements or a reference interconnection offer.

### 2.5 Interconnection: dispute settlement

A service supplier requesting interconnection with a major supplier will have recourse, either:

- (a) at any time or
- (b) after a reasonable period of time which has been made publicly known

to an independent domestic body, which may be a regulatory body as referred to in paragraph 5 below, to resolve disputes regarding appropriate terms, conditions and rates for interconnection within a reasonable period of time, to the extent that these have not been established previously.



3. Universal service

Any Member has the right to define the kind of universal service obligation it wishes to maintain. Such obligations will not be regarded as anti-competitive *per se*, provided they are administered in a transparent, non-discriminatory and competitively neutral manner and are not more burdensome than necessary for the kind of universal service defined by the Member.

4. Public availability of licensing criteria

Where a licence is required, the following will be made publicly available:

- (a) all the licensing criteria and the period of time normally required to reach a decision concerning an application for a licence and
- (b) the terms and conditions of individual licences.

The reasons for the denial of a licence will be made known to the applicant upon request.

5. Independent regulators

The regulatory body is separate from, and not accountable to, any supplier of basic telecommunications services. The decisions of and the procedures used by regulators shall be impartial with respect to all market participants.

6. Allocation and use of scarce resources

Any procedures for the allocation and use of scarce resources, including frequencies, numbers and rights of way, will be carried out in an objective, timely, transparent and non-discriminatory manner. The current state of allocated frequency bands will be made publicly available, but detailed identification of frequencies allocated for specific government uses is not required.