

## **Procedure for Bidding of Numbers Levels Initiated by IMDA**

### **Introduction**

1. To meet the requirements of operators for numbers, IMDA will progressively make available 8-digit number levels in a sequential order for bidding by operators. For each bidding session, IMDA will make available about 100 levels for bidding.

### **General Principles and Procedures**

2. An eligible FBO / SBO licensee (e.g. cellular mobile, paging, public trunk radio and IP telephony operators) is eligible to bid for an unrestricted number of number levels for each number pool (e.g. pre-paid, post-paid or fax & data number pool) which has achieved 50% utilisation. For number pool which has an utilisation percentage of less than 50% operators are however eligible to bid only for one number level in a bidding session.
3. The minimum bid price will be set at the current price of a normal number level i.e. \$24,300. For ease of administering the bidding, this price will be rounded up to \$25,000 (excluding GST).
4. Any number level successfully bid will only be considered officially allocated upon payment of the bid price. All payment must be forwarded to IMDA within seven (7) working days. The allocation of such number level is not transferable.
5. All remaining number levels that are not allocated during the bidding session will be placed in a common pool<sup>30</sup> for subsequent sequential allocation by IMDA.
6. Except where approved by IMDA, the number level acquired at the bidding session should be used<sup>31</sup> within 6 months from the date of allocation. IMDA will recover the number level without refund if it is not used within the period.
7. Where IMDA grants approval under Para. 6 upon the submission of justification by operator, the period of extension shall not exceed 6 months. If the number level is still not put into use after the extension, IMDA will recover the number level without any refund, and place it in the common pool for sequential allocation.

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<sup>30</sup> “Common pool” refers to the pool of numbers that are not bid for and are subsequently set aside for sequential allocation

<sup>31</sup> Number levels are considered used once they are connected in different operators' networks, or when they are made available to the public

8. A number level acquired under this procedure will be taken into account in the computation of the utilisation criteria.

### **Request for Numbers by Sequential Allocation**

9. An operator who is unsuccessful in its bid for number levels may still request for number levels via administrative allocation. For such requests, IMDA will sequentially allocate number levels from the common pool of numbers.

### **Frequency of Bidding Session**

10. IMDA may make available a new pool of numbers for bidding by operators when any one of the following events first occurs:
  - (i) When 20 or less number levels are left in the common pool; or
  - (ii) After a period of 36 months has elapsed since the completion of the previous bidding session.