



The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited

Response to:

**Retail Cellular Mobile Market Review and Assessment
under Section 39(1) and (2) of the Communications
Act, 2009**

**Preliminary Determination
ECS 01/2022
Issued 25 March 2022**

Submitted to:

**Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority
("URCA")**

Legal, Regulatory and
Carrier Services Division
April 25, 2022

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited (BTC) has reviewed the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority's (URCA) Preliminary Determination, *Retail Cellular Mobile Market Review and Assessment under Section 39(1) and (2) of the Communications Act, 2009*, ECS 01/2022, issued 25 March 2022. BTC commends URCA for its thorough review and assessment of the retail cellular mobile market in The Bahamas. BTC agrees with and supports the conclusions reached in the Preliminary Determination (i.e., specifically those subject to the four Consultation Questions included in the document). BTC is of the view that the removal of existing asymmetric price regulations that apply to BTC's retail mobile services is long overdue.

BTC also urges URCA to complete a similar market review of the retail fixed voice service market in The Bahamas as soon as possible, so that consumers in this market can also benefit from the increased competition that would come from the removal of unnecessary, asymmetric rate-of-return-based price regulations. Alternatively, if continued retail price regulation was found to be necessary in the fixed voice service market based on such a review, then a more efficient and narrowly targeted price cap regime should be implemented.

Reservation of Rights

BTC reserves the right to comment further on all issues and states categorically that the decision not to respond to any issue raised on this Preliminary Determination in whole or in part does not necessarily indicate agreement in whole or in part with URCA's position; nor does any position taken by BTC in its response mean a waiver of any of BTC's rights in any way. BTC expressly reserves all its rights.