

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Trade in Services

Original: English

BANGLADESH

Draft consolidated Schedule of Specific Commitments¹

Attached is a draft consolidated version of the Schedule of Specific Commitments of Bangladesh in word format. This document does not substitute for the legally binding commitments undertaken by Bangladesh in its Schedule of Specific Commitments (GATS/SC/8; GATS/SC/8/Suppl.1)

Attached to the draft consolidated schedule is Bangladesh's Article II (MFN) Exemption List (GATS/EL/8) in word format.

The draft consolidated versions of the Schedule and the MFN Exemption List were prepared by the Secretariat, at the request of Members, to facilitate the process of negotiations, including the presentation of initial offers.

¹ This document has been prepared, in English only, under the Secretariat's own responsibility and without prejudice to the positions of Members and to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

BANGLADESH – SCHEDULE OF SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS

Mode of Supply 1) Cross-border supply 2) Consumption abroad 3) Commercial presence 4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
2. COMMUNICATION SERVICES			
C. <u>Telecommunication Services</u>		1),3) Certain subsidies and tax benefits may only be extended to national operators.	The creation of regulatory disciplines is under review. If the outcome of this review permits then additional commitments on regulatory disciplines will be attached before 1 January 1998.
All Subsectors	4) The employment of foreign natural persons for the implementation of foreign investment shall be agreed upon by the contracting parties and approved by the Government and such personnel shall be employed in higher management and specialised jobs only.		
<u>For public use International service:</u>	1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator. No call-back or refile allowed.	1) None	
(a) Voice telephone services	2) None	2) None	
(b) Packet-switched data transmission services	3) Reserved to exclusive supply by the Government operator	3) None	
(c) Circuit-switched data transmission services	4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	4) None	
(d) Telex services			
(e) Telegraph services			
(g) Private leased circuit services			

Mode of Supply 1) Cross-border supply 2) Consumption abroad 3) Commercial presence 4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
<p><u>For public use</u> <u>Fixed network</u> <u>infrastructure, Domestic</u> <u>long distance and local</u> <u>service:</u></p> <p>(a) Voice telephone services (g) Private leased circuit services</p>	<p>1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Two licenses are issued to private operators, each to serve designated administrative (rural) areas in competition with the Government operator 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors</p>	<p>1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None</p>	
<p><u>For non-public use</u>¹ (i.e., services supplied to closed user groups):</p> <p>(a) Voice telephone services (b) Packet-switched data transmission services (c) Circuit-switched data transmission services</p>	<p>1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Only on network facilities supplied by the Government operator and other licensed public-service operators. Two-ended breakout and resale of excess capacity are not permitted 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors</p>	<p>1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None</p>	
<p>(f) Facsimile services</p>	<p>1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Only on network facilities supplied by the Government operator and other licensed public-service operators 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors</p>	<p>1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None</p>	

¹ Means exclusive use of services by users within a corporate body. This use includes communication between corporate branches and affiliates but cannot be accessed for PSTN subscribers for commercial use.

Mode of Supply 1) Cross-border supply 2) Consumption abroad 3) Commercial presence 4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
(o) Other Internet access services	1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Only on network facilities supplied by the Government operator and other licensed public-service operators. 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None	
Mobile services (terrestrial)			
- Cellular/mobile voice telephone services	1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Four licences issued to private operators, in addition to the Government operator 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None	
VSAT services	1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Reserved to supply by the Government operator, who has entered into build-operate transfer arrangements with three foreign suppliers 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None	
Gateway earth station services	1) No bypass of facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Reserved to exclusive supply by the Government operator 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None	

Mode of Supply 1) Cross-border supply 2) Consumption abroad 3) Commercial presence 4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
Teleconferencing services (CPC 75292)	1) No bypass of network facilities of Government operator 2) None 3) Reserved to exclusive supply by the Government operator 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None	
Telecommunications terminal equipment (telephone sets, fax machines, PABX, cellular handsets) sales, rental, maintenance, connection, repair and consulting services	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound except as indicated under All Subsectors	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None	

Mode of Supply 1) Cross-border supply 2) Consumption abroad 3) Commercial presence 4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
<p>9. TOURISM AND TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES</p> <p>A. <u>Five Star Hotel and Lodging Services</u> (CPC 641)</p>	<p>1) Unbound*</p> <p>2) Unbound</p> <p>3) Commercial presence requires that foreign service providers incorporate or establish the business locally in accordance with the relevant provisions of Bangladesh laws, rules and regulations. There is no fixed ratio of equity between local and foreign investors. Foreign equity to the extent of 100 per cent is allowed.</p> <p>4) In Bangladesh, the entry and residence of foreign natural persons (service providers) are subject to Bangladesh's immigration and labour laws, regulations, guidelines and procedures. There is no restriction in issuing work permits to foreign nationals in Bangladesh. The employment of foreign natural persons for the implementation of the foreign investment shall be agreed upon by the contracting parties and approved by the Government and such personnel shall be employed in higher management and specialised jobs only.</p>	<p>1) Unbound*</p> <p>2) Unbound</p> <p>3) None</p> <p>4) None</p>	

* Mode of supply is technically not feasible.

BANGLADESH - LIST OF ARTICLE II (MFN) EXEMPTIONS

Sector or Subsector	Description of measure indicating its inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the measure applies	Intended duration	Conditions creating the need for the exemption
2.C. Telecommunication services - International services	Measures including the application of different accounting rates for different operators/countries covered by International Telecommunication Services Agreements between Bangladesh and various foreign operators.	Countries covered by International Telecommunication Services Agreements between Bangladesh and foreign operators.	Ten years.	On account of bilateral agreements between Bangladesh and foreign operators dealing with various aspects of cooperation.
2.C. Telecommunication services – International services	Measures including the application of different accounting rates for different neighbouring countries covered by Telecommunication Agreements entered into by the Government of Bangladesh with Governments of neighbouring countries.	Neighbouring countries	Ten years.	On account of bilateral agreements with Governments of neighbouring countries.