Article 126
Universal Service

Each Party has the right to define the kind of universal service obligations it wishes to maintain. Such obligations shall not be regarded as anti-competitive *per se*, provided that 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 Party.

Article 127
Public Availability of Licensing Criteria

1. Where a license, concession, permit, registration or other type of authorization is required for the supply of public telecommunications transport networks or services, each Party shall make publicly available:

(a) all the licensing or other authorization criteria and procedures, and the period of time normally required to reach a decision concerning an application for a license, concession, permit, registration or other type of authorization; and

(b) the terms and conditions of individual licenses, concessions, permits, registrations or other type of authorizations it has issued.

2. The competent authority of a Party shall notify the applicant of the outcome of its application without undue delay after a decision has been taken. In case a decision is taken to deny an application for a license, concession, permit, registration or other type of authorization, the competent authority of the Party shall make known to the applicant, upon request, the reason for the denial.

Article 128
Allocation and Use of Scarce Resources

1. Each Party shall carry out any procedures for the allocation and use of scarce resources related to telecommunications, including frequencies, numbers and rights of way, in an objective, timely, transparent and non-discriminatory manner.

2. Each Party shall make publicly available the current state of allocated frequency bands, but shall not be required to provide detailed identification of frequencies allocated for specific government uses.

3. A Party's measures allocating and assigning spectrum and managing frequency are not measures that are *per se* inconsistent with Article 106. Accordingly, each Party retains the right to establish and apply spectrum and frequency management policies that have the effect of limiting the number of suppliers of public telecommunications transport networks or services, provided that it does so in a manner consistent with other provisions of this Agreement. Such right includes the ability to allocate frequency bands, taking into account current and future needs and spectrum availability.

Article 129
Transparency

Each Party shall ensure that its measures relating to access to and use of public telecommunications transport networks and services are made publicly available, including measures relating to:

(a) tariffs and other terms and conditions of service;

(b) specifications of technical interfaces;

(c) bodies responsible for the preparation, amendment and adoption of standards affecting such access and use;

(d) conditions applying to attachment of terminal or other equipment to the public telecommunications transport networks; and

(e) notifications, permit, registration or licensing requirements, if any.