



**SCREENING CHAPTER 10
INFORMATION SOCIETY AND MEDIA**

AGENDA ITEM 3A : UNIVERSAL SERVICE

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LEGISLATION

- Law No.5369 on the Provision of Universal Service (Official Gazette : 25.06.2005)
- By-Law on the Rules and Procedures on the Collection of the Universal Service Revenues and the Financing of the Expenditures (Official Gazette : 29.06.2006)



OBJECTIVE

to ensure the provision of universal service obligation



DEFINITIONS – I

Universal Service : electronic communications services which are accessible to everyone within the territory of Republic of Turkey independently of geographical location, and which are to be offered with a predefined level of quality and minimum set of standards in return for reasonable prices affordable to everybody



DEFINITIONS – II

Operator: an undertaking providing electronic communications services and/or operating electronic communications infrastructure under an authorization agreement or a concession agreement concluded with, or a license or a general authorization granted by the Telecommunications Authority,

Universal Service Provider : an operator designated to provide universal services within the electronic communications sector.

- Any operator may be designated as universal service provider at the regional or national level.
- The universal service providers shall be designated among the operators via tendering method whilst respecting the principles of efficiency, objectivity, transparency and non-discrimination.



PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE – I

- Anybody living in the territory of Republic of Turkey, without any discrimination on the basis of region and place of residence, shall enjoy universal services.
- The universal service shall be offered by taking into account the gross domestic product per capita at affordable and reasonable prices.



PRINCIPLES OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE – II

- Specific measures regarding the reasonable pricing and the technology options shall be taken to ensure that those on low incomes and with special social needs and the disabled can also enjoy universal services.
- Universal service shall be offered at predefined service quality standards.
- Continuity is essential in the provision of and access to the universal service.



SCOPE OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE (Art. 5)

- Fixed telephone services,
- Public pay phone,
- Telephone directory services to be provided in the printed or electronic media,
- Emergency call services,
- Basic internet services,
- Communications services as regards distress and safety call at sea.



REVIEW OF THE SCOPE OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE (Art. 5)

Scope of the universal service is reviewed by the Council of Ministers upon a proposal of the Ministry of Transport, in consultation with the Telecommunications Authority and operators, at certain intervals not more than three years, in the light of country's social, cultural, economic and technological conditions.



EXTENSION OF THE SCOPE OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE

Two additional services were appended to the scope of universal service by the decisions of the Council of Ministers

- Services regarding the expansion of information technologies, including computer literacy so as to contribute the improvement of the information society (28 February 2006)
- Services regarding the provision of the digital broadcasting performed by the utilization of various broadcast media and technology via digital terrestrial transmitters to cover the entire settlements country-wide (27 April 2006)



FINANCING OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION – I

- 2% of the authorization charges granted to Telecommunications Authority,
- 1% of the annual net sales of operators, except GSM operators,
- 10% of the share that GSM operators paid to the Treasury,
- 20% of the administrative fines incurred by Telecommunications Authority,
- 20% of the amount remained after all expenditure of Telecommunications Authority.



FINANCING OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION – II

- The revenues of universal service are collected under a special account named “Universal Service Revenues”.
- If these revenues do not cover the expenditures of the universal service obligation, Ministry of Finance shall allocate the required appropriation.



NET COST OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION

- Calculated as the difference between the net cost for a designated undertaking of operating with the universal service obligations and operating without the universal service obligation.
- Any market benefit which accrues to an undertaking designated to provide universal service shall be taken into account in the calculation of net cost of the universal service obligation.
- The rules and the procedures regarding the calculation of net cost of universal service were laid down by a by-law.



THE QUALITY AND THE STANDARDS OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE

- The quality and standards concerning the universal service are set out by the Telecommunications Authority.



**Thank you
for your attention!**