

13 - 19 Harbour Street Kingston, Jamaica, W. I. Telephone: (876) 967-7948 / 948-7800

Fax: (876) 922-4093

2011 January 6

Mr. Curtis Robinson
Office of Utilities Regulation
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, PCJ Resource Centre
36 Trafalgar Road
Kingston 10

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Re: Consultation on the Adoption of Alternative Emergency Numbers (Towards Globally Harmonized Emergency Numbers)

The Spectrum Management Authority is pleased to respond to the OUR's Consultation Document, Adoption of Alternative Emergency Numbers (Towards Globally Harmonized Emergency Numbers).

In general, the Authority agrees with the move to harmonize the use of emergency numbers for the reasons outlined in the document. We have not identified any specific policy or technical implications with respect to the use of spectrum resources arising out of the Recommendation.

With respect to:

**Question 1:** The choice of option 3 seems to be the most logical and simplest to implement, while satisfying the ITU recommendations to promote harmonization in the use of emergency numbers.

Question 2: We consider the permissive period of one year to be adequate. This should be tightly managed so that persons are aware when it is at an end.

Question 4: We agree with the need for an extensive consumer awareness campaign. Further, special attention should be paid to children, the elderly and the disabled or otherwise challenged. Additionally, given the importance of the changes, we recommend that there should also be frequent impact assessments to determine acceptability of the changes and to ensure that there are no adverse effects on any part of the population, especially the most vulnerable.

Yours sincerely,

SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Dainsworth B. Richards

Managing Director

Directors: Mr. Robert Lawrence (Chairman); Dainsworth Richards (Munaging Director); Rupert Bent; Samantha Charles; Ainsley Deer; Alston Douglas; Winston Dwyer; Trevor Forest; Patricia Henry; Novelette Howell; Clement Jackson; Vernon McLeod; Keith Smith