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## Reduced International Roaming Charges

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) today welcomed the publication by the European Commission of an overview of progress by mobile networks throughout Europe in reducing their roaming charges. In particular, the overview notes that Irish mobile operators are compliant with the requirements of the recent Regulation which imposed a price cap on charges for both making and receiving calls while in another EU country.

Irish mobile companies have committed to automatically applying the new rates from the end of August for all of their customers (other than those on special roaming tariffs) while the Regulation required that this be done from 30 September for customers who had not explicitly requested the new rates. Customers who are on special roaming tariffs such as “Vodafone Passport” or O2’s “My Europe” can contact their service provider if they want to avail of the new roaming rates. All networks have informed their customers of the new rates and have provided detailed information on their websites.

The European Commission overview is published on [http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/activities/roaming/implementation/benchmark/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/roaming/implementation/benchmark/index_en.htm) and show prices excluding VAT. The final prices including VAT which Irish consumers will pay from the end of August are:

| <b>Mobile Operator</b> | <b>Making calls<br/>(cent per minute)</b> | <b>Receiving calls<br/>(cent per minute)</b> |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 3                      | 39  | 19   |
| Meteor                 | 59  | 29   |
| O2                     | 59  | 29   |
| Vodafone               | 59  | 29   |

**ENDS**

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