

**Consultation Period Extended for  
Review of the Principles and Costing Methodology  
of the Local Access Charge**

The Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA) announced today (17 September 2003) that the period to respond to the consultation paper issued on 1 September 2003 on “Review of the Principles and Costing Methodology of the Local Access Charge” had been extended by two weeks.

All submissions should be made to OFTA by 17 October 2003 instead of the original deadline of 3 October 2003 indicated in the consultation paper.

“The extension was made in response to requests from several operators in the industry who said that they need more time to prepare comments on the paper given that the original deadline was too close to the deadlines of two other industry consultations, namely the Proposed Merger Guidelines for Hong Kong Telecommunications Markets (29 September 2003) and the Licensing of Mobile Services on Expiry of Existing Licences for Second Generation Mobile Services (2 October 2003),” explained a spokesperson of OFTA.

**Office of the Telecommunications Authority  
17 September 2003**