

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Pakistan Issue Paper # 02

REVISION OF INTERNET ACCESS CLAIM**1. ISSUE PAPER THEME**

Self-Sustainment

2. SUMMARY / BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS HISTORY

Internet is a Self-Sustainment category under welfare and directly impacts the wellbeing of the peacekeepers. The present rate of internet access claim is 6.00 USD per individual per month (Refer chapter 8, Annex B). The same is grossly inadequate to meet the prevailing rates and minimum requirements of data as the under-developed telecom infrastructure in the mission area results in limited operators resulting in higher internet rates. Hence, there is requirement for increase in the internet access claim from present 6.00 USD. It is proposed that monthly data should be fixed for an individual and T/PCCs should be reimbursed for the quantity of data. The amount to reimbursed should be as per internet rates prevailing in that particular host country.

3. DETAILED PROPOSAL

UN contingents are deployed in remote area / terrain over a period of six months to one year. During their stay in mission area, they need to regularly interact with family and friends to stay connected. Multimedia devices like laptops, iPad, mobile phones are extensively used to access the internet facilities for communication, increased situation awareness, education pursuits, financial transactions and procurement of items etc.

Internet access charges are being reimbursed to the troops at the rate of 6.00 USD per month. Keeping the high internet access cost in the mission area the monthly reimbursement rate needs to be enhanced. The details of internet packages provided by various companies MINUSCA, MONUSCO & UNMISS are as under:-

Ser No	Service Providers	Monthly Internet <i>Package</i>		Remarks
		Data (GB)	Amount	
<u>MINUSCA</u>				
a.	Telecel	8 GB	24 USD	7 GB plan not available
b.	Orange	7 GB	16 USD	
<u>MONUSCO</u>				
c.	Orange	15 GB	10 USD	No internet plan less than 10 USD is available in DR Congo
d.	Vodacom	15 GB	10 USD	
e.	Airtel	15 GB	10 USD	
<u>UNMISS</u>				
f.	Zain	7 GB	30 USD	
g.	MTN	7 GB	35 USD	

Normal / average use of data per month by an individual is 7 GB. Based on the average data usage per month, Internet access reimbursement rate may be revised from existing 6.00 USD to 15.00 USD per month per individual.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. PROPOSED 2026 COE MANUAL TEXT

Revise Chapter 8, Annex A, Page 203: change in text to be considered in bold:

Chapter 8, Annex A, Page 203

Internet Access, Monthly Rate (excluding factors) be revised from 6.00 USD to 15.00 USD.