
TYPE APPROVAL POLICY

For Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment

Consultation Document

The Supreme Council of Information & Communication Technology “ictQATAR”

26 April 2009

Comments in response due by 31 May 2009

Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	Background	4
1.2	Scope	4
1.3	Objectives	4
1.4	Next Steps	5
2	DEFINITIONS	6
3	CURRENT TYPE APPROVAL REGIME	8
4	PROPOSED TYPE APPROVAL POLICY	10
4.1	Type Approval Applicants	10
4.2	Type Approval Process	11
4.2.1	Simplified Type Approval Process	13
4.2.2	Standard Type Approval Process	14
4.3	Technical Standards	15
4.4	Validity of Type Approvals	15
4.5	Modifications to Type-Approved RTTE	15
4.6	Type Approval Fees	15
4.7	RTTE Importation Process	16
4.8	Type Approval Register and Importers Register	18
4.9	Customs Clearance	18
4.10	Selling of RTTE in Qatar	19

4.11	Marking and Labeling Requirements	19
4.12	Market Surveillance and Enforcement	20
4.13	Transitional Provisions	21
5	COMPARISON BETWEEN CURRENT AND PROPOSED TYPE APPROVAL REGIMES	21
6	INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDING TO THIS CONSULTATION DOCUMENT	25
6.1	Consultation Procedures	25
6.2	Publication of Comments	26
	ANNEX 1: LIST OF QUESTIONS	27
	ANNEX 2: COVERING PAGE FOR SUBMISSIONS IN RESPONSE	28
	TABLE 1: COMPARISON BETWEEN CURRENT TYPE APPROVAL REGIME AND PROPOSED TYPE APPROVAL REGIME	22
	FIGURE 1: TYPE APPROVAL PROCESS	12
	FIGURE 2: RTTE IMPORTATION PROCESS	17

I Introduction

I.1 Background

This public consultation on the Type Approval Policy for Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (“**RTTE**”) is issued by the Supreme Council of Information and Communication Technology (“**ictQATAR**”) in accordance with Decree Law No. (34) of 2006 on the promulgation of the Telecommunications Law.

Type Approval is the procedure by which RTTE is authorized by ictQATAR to be imported into or to be used in Qatar, and involves verification of the equipment’s compliance with the applicable standards and requirements.

The Telecommunications Law provides a legal mandate and the authority to ictQATAR to establish an effective Type Approval Regime for RTTE (Article 2.11 and Article 4.5) and to determine the technical standards or specifications for the RTTE or their types and the approval requirements and procedures (Chapter 12).

ictQATAR seeks views and comments from interested parties on this proposed Type Approval Policy for the State of Qatar. ictQATAR will carefully consider all submissions received through this consultation process in finalizing the Policy. However, ictQATAR is not obliged to take a final position on Type Approval of RTTE based on this document or the views submitted by any third party.

I.2 Scope

The Type Approval Policy covers all types of Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment. Such equipment is referred to collectively herein as Radio and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (“**RTTE**”).

The Type Approval Policy will apply to all RTTE imported or manufactured in Qatar, whether for marketing/commercial purposes or for private use, and will apply to any Person that is the initial or first point of supply of RTTE in Qatar.

I.3 Objectives

The objectives of this new Type Approval Policy are:

- To streamline and modernize the current Type Approval regime in accordance with the Telecommunications Law;

- To introduce a greater level of efficiency, transparency and certainty;
- To move from a regime where only a limited number of importers can apply for Type Approval to a more open regime where a wide range of persons such as manufacturers, Authorized Importers, Licensed Operators and end-user companies can apply for Type Approval;
- To allow internationally recognized standards to be used as the basis for the Type Approval process;
- To simplify the fee structure for Type Approval applications; and
- To ensure that:
 - only properly type-approved RTTE is placed, sold or used in the telecommunications market in Qatar;
 - RTTE does not cause damage to or interference with the operation of telecommunications networks or other RTTE;
 - RTTE does not cause harm to the general public or people working with telecommunications networks; and
 - the operating frequency of all Radio Equipment is according to the Frequency Allocation Plan in Qatar.

In addition, the Type Approval Policy aims to avoid placing unnecessary administrative burdens on importers and manufacturers of RTTE, in order to facilitate competition in the supply and choice of RTTE in Qatar. The Type Approval Policy aims also to assist customs officers in Qatar by having on ictQATAR's website an updated list of the RTTE that has been type-approved by ictQATAR and the list of the Authorized Importers.

Question 1: ictQATAR invites comments about the scope and objectives of the proposed Type Approval Policy.

1.4 Next Steps

At the end of the consultation period, ictQATAR will carefully review all responses received and finalize the Type Approve Policy.

Following the finalization of the Type Approval Policy, ictQATAR may develop and publish

guidelines, rules, procedures and forms outlining how the Policy will be implemented.

2 Definitions

The words and expressions used in this consultation document shall have the meanings set forth below.

Applicable Regulatory Framework: the Telecommunications Law of 2006 and its By-Law and any other rules and regulations, decisions, orders, policies, guidelines, instructions or notices issued by ictQATAR as well as license terms and conditions and relevant legislation and international treaties.

Authorized Importer: is a Person in Qatar that is authorized by ictQATAR to import RTTE to Qatar for marketing/commercial purposes in line with the Applicable Regulatory Framework.

Dealer's License: also called "Approval for dealing with telecommunications equipment and related activities". It is the license currently issued by ictQATAR to dealers of telecommunications equipment (i.e., importers, wholesalers and retailers). Such dealers are called **Licensed Dealers**. This license is valid from the date of issuance until the end of the following calendar year. The Dealer's License will cease to exist in the new Type Approval Regime.

Frequency Allocation Plan: the frequency plan by ictQATAR that sets out the allocation of radio frequency bands to their various uses.

Interface: means (i) a network termination point, which is a physical connection point at which a user is provided with access to public telecommunications network, and/or (ii) an air interface specifying the radio path between radio equipment and their technical specifications.

Licensed Operator: a Person that is licensed by ictQATAR to own, establish or operate a telecommunications network.

NB: In the context of this consultation document, the term **Licensed Operator** is used to refer to a Licensed Operator who is also authorized by ictQATAR to import RTTE.

Licensed Dealer: see the definition of **Dealer's License** above.

Person: a natural or legal person of any type or form.

Radio Equipment: a product, or relevant component thereof, capable of communication by means of the emission and/or reception of radio waves utilizing the spectrum allocated to terrestrial/space radiocommunication. Examples of Radio Equipment include, but are not limited to: earth stations, broadcasting stations, VSAT, microwave radio links, aeronautic and maritime stations, mobile handsets, Bluetooth devices, indoor Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) equipment, etc.

NB: In this document, we distinguish between two categories of Radio Equipment:

- **License-Free Radio Equipment:** Radio Equipment for which the end-user is exempted from obtaining a license from ictQATAR to own or operate it provided that it is type-approved by ictQATAR. Examples include, but are not limited to: mobile handsets, cordless phones, Bluetooth devices, indoor applications WLAN equipment, computers with WLAN and Bluetooth connection, etc.
- **Licensed Radio Equipment:** Radio Equipment for which the end-user must obtain from ictQATAR a license to own or operate it. Examples include, but are not limited to: aeronautic stations, maritime stations, satellite systems (earth stations, VSAT, SNG, mobile satellite), broadcasting stations, radio amateur, microwave radio links, Telemetry, Private Mobile Radio (PMR), Tetra, outdoor WLAN equipment, WiMAX stations, Wireless Local Loop (WLL), paging systems, etc.

A complete list of the types of Radio Equipment in each of these two categories will be included in a separate consultation document on Spectrum Policy that will be published by ictQATAR in due course.

Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (RTTE): this covers both the Radio Equipment and the Telecommunications Terminal Equipment.

Retailer: a merchant who sells in small quantities directly to the end consumers.

Service Provider: a Person that is licensed to provide one or more telecommunications services to the public or licensed to own, establish or operate a telecommunications network to provide telecommunications services to the public. This includes providers of information or content provided using a telecommunications network.

Telecommunications Equipment: equipment capable of being connected directly or indirectly with a Telecommunications Network in order to send, transmit or receive telecommunications services.

NB: Telecommunications Equipment includes RTTE and core network equipment such as switches, Mobile Switching Centers (MSC), Base Stations (BSCs), and transmission equipment. Core network equipment does not follow the Type

Approval regime for RTTE.

Telecommunications Law: is the Telecommunications Law of 2006.

Telecommunications Network: any wire, radio, optical or electromagnetic systems for routing, switching and transmitting telecommunications services between network termination points including fixed and mobile terrestrial networks, satellite networks, electricity transmission systems or other utilities (to the extent used for telecommunications), circuit or packet switched networks (including those used for Internet Protocol services), and networks used for delivery of broadcasting services (including cable television networks).

Telecommunications Terminal Equipment: a product enabling communication or a relevant component thereof which is intended to be connected directly or indirectly by any means whatsoever to Interfaces of public telecommunications networks (that is to say, telecommunications networks used wholly or partly for the provision of publicly available telecommunications services). Examples of Telecommunications Terminal Equipment include, but are not limited to: ADSL modems, PBX, phones connected to PSTN, Fax machines, answering machines, mobile handsets, Bluetooth devices, etc.

Type Approval: is the procedure by which RTTE is authorized by ictQATAR to be used in Qatar or imported into Qatar, and involves verification of the equipment's compliance with the applicable standards and requirements.

Type Approval Policy: the policy to be published by ictQATAR which provides direction on different aspects of the Type Approval Regime such as principles, objectives and essential requirements.

Type Approval Regime: the combination of Type Approval Policy, guidelines, rules, procedures, forms and fees that may be issued by ictQATAR as required.

Wholesaler: a merchant who sells chiefly to Retailers, other merchants, or industrial, institutional, and commercial users mainly for resale or business use.

3 Current Type Approval Regime

The current Type Approval regime operated by ictQATAR involves the following documentation and procedures and can be summarized as follows:

- Type Approval applications and certificates: ictQATAR accepts Type Approval applications from and issues Type Approval certificates to importers of RTTE who are authorized by manufacturers or regional distributors and who hold a Dealer's License from ictQATAR. The Type Approval certificates are valid for 2 years for Radio Equipment and unlimited for Telecommunications Terminal Equipment.
- Type Acceptance applications and certificates: ictQATAR accepts Type Acceptance applications from and issues Type Acceptance certificates to end-user companies which are permitted by ictQATAR to import directly for a major project. The Type Acceptance certificates are valid for 6 months.
- Application requirements: Type Approval applications need to be submitted with the following:
 - Full technical description & specifications;
 - Copy of Type Approval certificate issued by international reputed testing labs which are accredited by reputed regulatory authorities, or certificate of conformity issued by such labs indicating the technical standards that the equipment complies with together with the test report and procedures (if available);
 - Technical manual describing the functionality;
 - User/operating manual (if testing is required);
 - Any required software (if testing is required);
 - EMC certification & electrical safety certificates (if available);
 - Sample equipment for testing (until Feb 2007); and
 - Applicable fees.
- Type Approval/Acceptance fees vary between 100 QR and 3,000 QR depending on the type of equipment. The fee for the renewal (every two years) of the Type Approval certificate of Radio Equipment is 200 QR.
- The Type Approval process and requirements are the same whether or not the RTTE has previously been type-approved by international Type Approval bodies. This means that there is no simplified process in place for approving such RTTE.

- Every Licensed Dealer wishing to import RTTE must submit TA application and the requirements to obtain the TA certificate, even if the same RTTE has already been type approved by ictQATAR for another dealer.
- ictQATAR does not have any specific marking or labeling requirements for the RTTE imported into Qatar.
- Importers must obtain a Dealer's License in order to be authorized to import and sell RTTE. The importer must also hold a Type Approval certificate from ictQATAR for the respective RTTE.
- Wholesalers and retailers of RTTE in Qatar must obtain a Dealer's License from ictQATAR in order to be authorized to sell RTTE.
- Customs clearance must be obtained from ictQATAR every time RTTE is to be imported.
- End users of Licensed Radio Equipment must have import permission and a frequency license from ictQATAR in order to obtain the customs clearance.

A comparison of the current Type Approval Regime with the proposed Type Approval Regime is set out in Table I below.

4 Proposed Type Approval Policy

4.1 Type Approval Applicants

Applications for Type Approval can be submitted by the following parties:

- a) Local and international manufacturers.
- b) Authorized Importers (as defined in Section 2 of this document).
- c) Licensed Operators (as defined in Section 2 of this document).
- d) Companies in Qatar wishing to import RTTE for their own use (i.e., not for marketing/commercial purposes).

Once an RTTE is type-approved by ictQATAR, the same type of equipment can be imported by any eligible importers (i.e., the parties specified in Section 4.7) without having to apply for another Type Approval.

ictQATAR will maintain on its website a Type Approval Register (hereinafter referred to as “**TA Register**”) containing the types of RTTE that are approved by ictQATAR.

Question 2: ictQATAR seeks views on the proposed parties that can apply for Type Approval.

Question 3: Do you have any comments about the proposal that once a type of RTTE is approved by ictQATAR, any eligible importer can import the same type of RTTE?

4.2 Type Approval Process

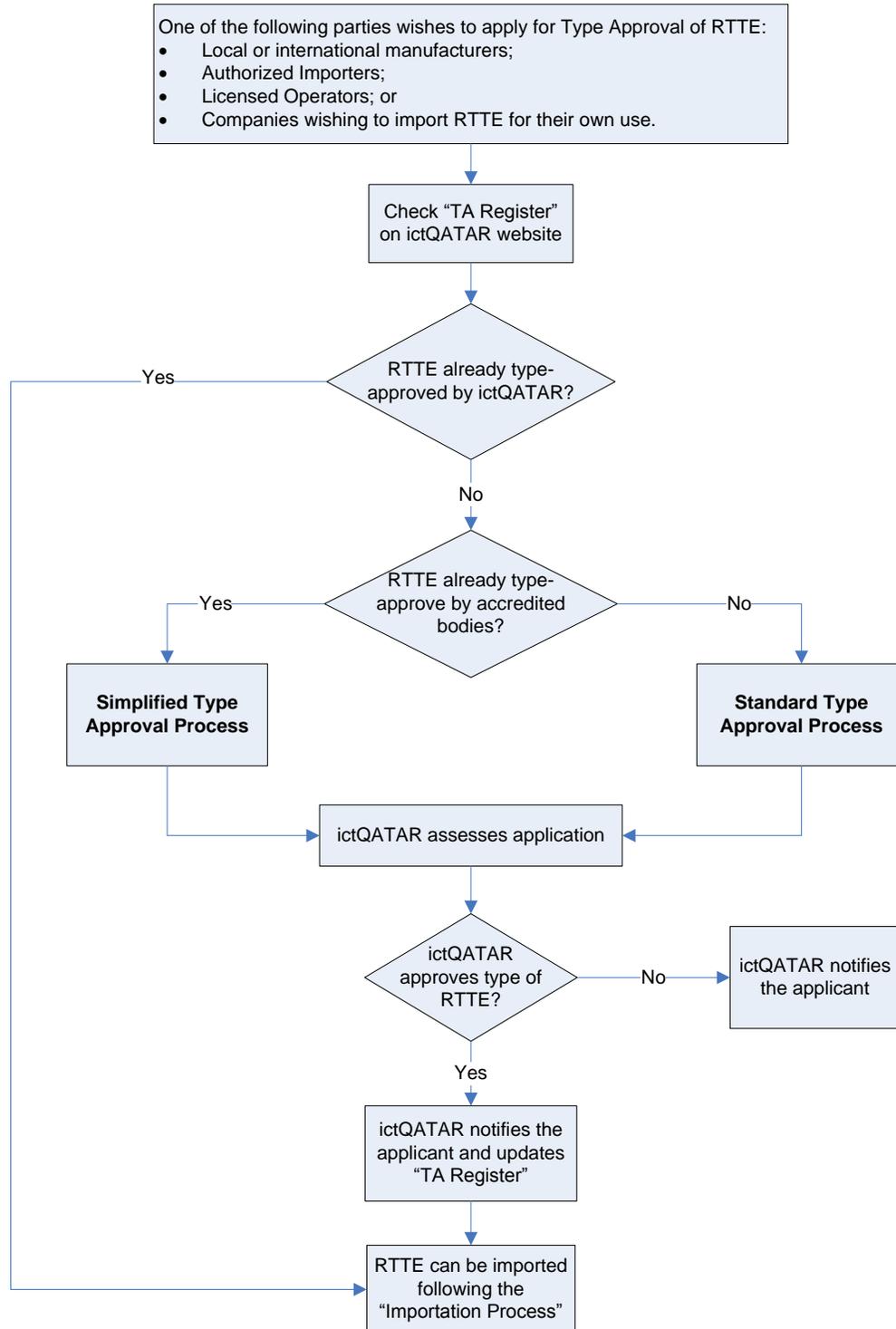
All RTTE imported into Qatar must be type-approved by ictQATAR in conformance with the applicable technical standards.

RTTE that has already been type-approved by ictQATAR (i.e., included in the TA Register) can be imported into Qatar following the importation process as described in Section 4.7 of this document.

RTTE that has not been previously type-approved by ictQATAR (i.e., not included in the TA Register) needs to undergo the Type Approval process.

In order to streamline and simplify the Type Approval procedures, ictQATAR proposes to differentiate between: (i) equipment that has been type-approved by national or international accredited laboratories or recognized Type Approval bodies; and (ii) equipment that has not received such approval. ictQATAR will publish on its website a list of the accredited laboratories and recognized Type Approval bodies. These two scenarios are described in the following figure (**Figure 1: Type Approval Process**) and two sections.

Figure 1: Type Approval Process



4.2.1 Simplified Type Approval Process

If Type Approval for a specific RTTE has already been issued by accredited laboratories or recognized Type Approval bodies demonstrating the compliance of the equipment with a national or international standard that is recognized by ictQATAR, then the Simplified Type Approval process has to be followed. The applicant in this case needs to complete and submit to ictQATAR a Simplified Type Approval Application with the following requirements:

- a) Type Approval certificate issued by an accredited laboratory or a Type Approval body recognized by ictQATAR, which certifies the compliance of the equipment with specific technical standards;
- b) Copy of the warranty document that will be offered to customers in Qatar; and
- c) Applicable fee.

If the application and supporting documents are assessed as compliant and acceptable, ictQATAR will notify the applicant and update the TA Register to show that this type of equipment is approved by ictQATAR. This means that no Type Approval certificates will be issued.

If ictQATAR decides not to approve the type of the equipment applied for, the applicant will be informed of the reasons for the decision. The applicant may address the non-compliance and submit a new application for Type Approval where appropriate.

This simplified process will be applied in the majority of cases and it aims to facilitate entry of RTTE from the large international manufacturers and adopt best practices for the benefit of the Qatar marketplace. ictQATAR will retain the right to not approve specific RTTE as it deems appropriate. Such circumstances shall be in the public interest, including but not limited to, concern for public health/safety or the safety of existing public networks and infrastructure.

A flowchart of this process is set out above in **Figure 1: Type Approval Process**.

Question 4: Do you have any comments about the Simplified Type Approval Process. In particular, are there any other requirements that should be submitted with the Type Approval application?

4.2.2 Standard Type Approval Process

If the RTTE has not been previously type-approved by accredited laboratories or recognized Type Approval bodies (i.e., the applicant is seeking original type approval for Qatar), then the Standard Type Approval process has to be followed. The applicant in this case needs to complete and submit to ictQATAR a Standard Type Approval Application with the following:

- a) Test reports and other relevant documentation which clearly and unambiguously demonstrate that the equipment complies with technical standard(s) that are recognized by ictQATAR;
- b) Full technical description and specifications describing inter alia, but not limited to: functionality, network interfaces and required software;
- c) Copy of the RTTE user guide in English;
- d) Copy of the warranty document that will be offered to customers in Qatar;
- e) Applicable fee; and
- f) Two (2) equipment samples for testing (if requested by ictQATAR).

ictQATAR will accept results of testing performed by one of the testing and measurement bodies or agencies officially recognized by ictQATAR. A list of these recognized bodies or agencies will be posted on ictQATAR's website in future.

If the application and supporting documents are assessed as compliant and acceptable, ictQATAR will notify the applicant and update the TA Register to show that this type of equipment is approved by ictQATAR. ictQATAR will not issue Type Approval certificates but such certificates will be available in a printable format on ictQATAR's website.

If ictQATAR decides not to approve the type of the equipment applied for, the applicant will be informed of the reasons for the decision. The applicant may address the non-compliance and submit a new application for Type Approval where appropriate.

A flowchart of this process is set out above in **Figure 1: Type Approval Process**.

Question 5: Do you have any comments about the Standard Type Approval Process. In particular, are there any other requirements that should be submitted with the Type Approval application?

Question 6: Do you have any comments about having two Type Approval processes?

4.3 Technical Standards

ictQATAR will determine and publish on its website the recognized technical standards with which RTTE must conform in order to be eligible for Type Approval. These standards will be based on the standards prepared by recognized international and national standards making bodies and agencies and will be the minimum requirements for meeting the Type Approval objectives set out in Section (1.3) of this document.

Question 7: Are there any particular criteria or issues that ictQATAR should take into consideration in determining the recognized standards?

4.4 Validity of Type Approvals

All Type Approvals will be for unlimited duration. This is under the condition that the type-approved equipment maintains the same technical specifications including the operating frequencies of radio equipment.

Question 8: Do you have any comments about the validity period of Type Approvals?

4.5 Modifications to Type-Approved RTTE

Any modifications to the technical specifications (including modifications to the operating frequency of radio equipment) of type-approved RTTE will require new Type Approval by submitting a new application with supporting documents.

4.6 Type Approval Fees

Type Approval application fees are intended to cover the administrative costs incurred by ictQATAR for operating and administering the Type Approval Regime, including the assessment of Type Approval applications and market surveillance. Approval fees shall be payable irrespective of the outcome of an application. The level of fees will depend on the process to be followed:

- “Simplified Type Approval Process”: QR 500 per application.
- “Standard Type Approval Process”: QR 1,000 per application.

The Type Approval application is limited to one type of equipment per application.

Applications fees may be subject to change at ictQATAR's discretion.

Question 9: Are there any comments about the proposed fees?

4.7 RTTE Importation Process

RTTE that has been type-approved by ictQATAR can be imported into Qatar by the following parties:

- a) Authorized Importers (as defined in Section 2 of this document).
- b) Licensed Operators (as defined in Section 2 of this document).
- c) Persons (individuals or companies) can import RTTE for their own use (i.e., not for marketing/commercial purposes) without an authorization from ictQATAR, subject to a maximum number of equipment allowed for individuals. This number will be specified in the subsequent documents (e.g., guidelines and procedures) related to the new Type Approval Regime.

There will be no limitations placed on the number of importers or on the types of equipment imported and supplied other than:

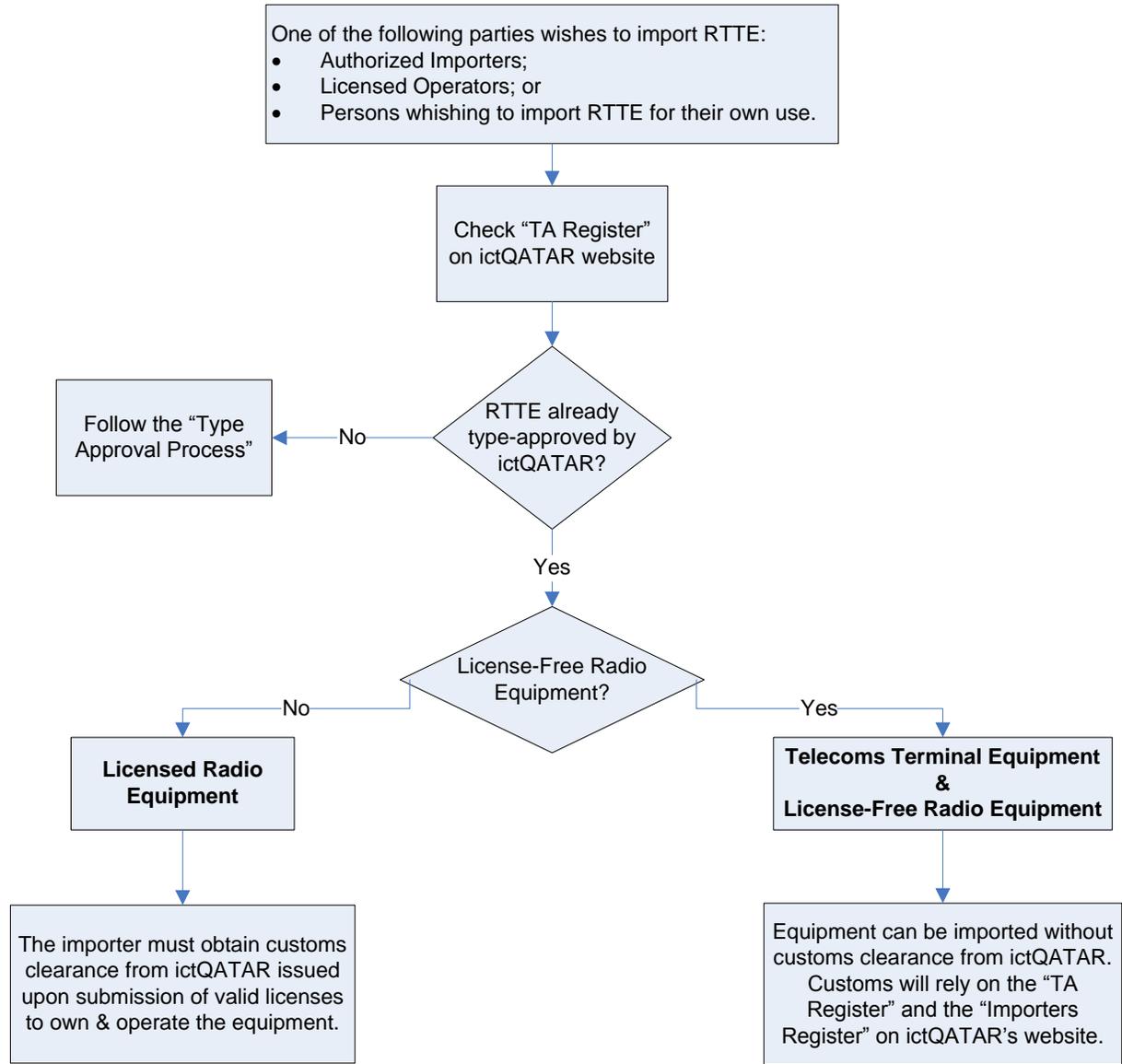
- all RTTE imported must comply with the Type Approval Regime; and
- all RTTE imported must have a valid warranty document for customers in Qatar covering a period of at least twelve (12) months from the date of purchasing.

This replaces the current authorization approach (Dealer's License) which is applied prior to the implementation of the new regime.

The statements in this Section are subject to the customs clearance requirements that are set out in Section 4.9.

A flowchart of the importation process is set out below in **Figure 2: RTTE Importation Process**.

Figure 2: RTTE Importation Process



Question 10: Are there any comments about the proposed importation process? In particular, do you support the proposal that an Authorized Importer can import any RTTE (from any brands) that (i) has been type-approved by ictQATAR and (ii) contains a valid warranty for customers in Qatar?

4.8 Type Approval Register and Importers Register

ictQATAR intends to publish the following two registers on its website in order to streamline and simplify the Type Approval and importation procedures of RTTE and to assist the customs officers in Qatar:

- 1) Type Approval Register (“TA Register”): This register will contain the up-to-date information on all the RTTE that has been type-approved by ictQATAR. The information in this register will include, but will not be limited to:
 - a. the type of RTTE;
 - b. manufacturer;
 - c. model number; and
 - d. whether or not the Radio Equipment requires a license from ictQATAR.
- 2) Register of Authorized Importers (“Importers Register”): This Register will contain the up-to-date information on the Authorized Importers. The information in this register will include, but will not be limited to:
 - a. company name;
 - b. commercial registration number; and
 - c. address and contact information.

These registers will be publicly available. However, it should be noted that it may take some transitional time for ictQATAR to fully implement these new registers.

Question 11: Is there any specific information that should also be included in these registers?

4.9 Customs Clearance

The two registers mentioned in Section 4.8 will provide the customs officers in Qatar immediate access to current and necessary information on type-approved RTTE and Authorized Importers.

Customs clearance from ictQATAR will only be required for Licensed Radio Equipment.

This is to ensure that the end-users of this equipment are licensed by ictQATAR to possess, install or operate the Licensed Radio Equipment.

Any other Telecommunications Terminal Equipment and License-free Radio Equipment will not need customs clearance from ictQATAR. The companies importing this type of equipment for their own use (i.e., not for marketing/commercial purposes) will have to declare so to the customs.

Question 12: ictQATAR invites comments about the proposed policy for customs clearance.

4.10 Selling of RTTE in Qatar

Any wholesalers and retailers can sell RTTE without obtaining an authorization from ictQATAR under the following two conditions:

- the RTTE was supplied in Qatar by Authorized Importers or Licensed Operators; and
- the RTTE has a valid warranty document for customers in Qatar covering a period of at least twelve (12) months from the date of purchasing.

This means that the current Dealer's License from ictQATAR will no longer be required to sell RTTE in Qatar.

Authorized Importers and Licensed Operators, must keep records of their RTTE wholesalers and/or retailers as applicable. The records must include the names of the wholesalers and retailers and the types of equipment sold to them.

The objective of these records is to facilitate the market surveillance activities of ictQATAR.

Question 13: ictQATAR invites comments about the proposed policy for selling RTTE in Qatar.

4.11 Marking and Labeling Requirements

The marking of RTTE is the affixing of a specific mark (or marking) on the equipment by the

manufacturers or their authorized representatives indicate that the equipment complies with certain laws and regulations (e.g., CE and FCC markings).

The labeling of RTTE is the affixing of a specific label on the equipment by the importers or suppliers to indicate that the equipment complies with the technical standards or specifications required by the regulatory authority in the country in which the equipment is being imported or supplied.

ictQATAR proposes the following marking and labeling requirements which depend on the Type Approval process:

- For “Simplified Type Approval Process”: The imported RTTE must be marked with an internationally recognized marking (e.g., CE, FCC, etc). No further labels from ictQATAR need to be placed.
- For “Standard Type Approval Process”: A label from ictQATAR containing its logo and the word “Approved” shall be affixed on the imported RTTE.

When the RTTE is too small for the label to be applied, or where the construction or configuration of the RTTE makes it impossible to apply the label, the label shall be applied to the user guide accompanying the RTTE and its packaging.

Question 14: Are there any specific comments or issues regarding the proposed marking and labeling policy?

4.12 Market Surveillance and Enforcement

ictQATAR will monitor the market to ensure that RTTE available in the state of Qatar has been type-approved in accordance with ictQATAR procedures.

Importers of RTTE (as listed in Section 4.7) are required to cooperate with ictQATAR’s surveillance activities and provide RTTE samples and documentation on request at no cost to ictQATAR.

In the event that any RTTE is found to be non-compliant with the Type Approval Regime, ictQATAR may take any enforcement action or measures, as it deems appropriate, against the parties (companies or individuals) held responsible for the non-compliance and any related activities. In some cases, this may mean issuing an instruction or notice to importers, wholesalers, retailers or users to cease supplying or using the relevant RTTE, as it may be

recalled and withdrawn from markets and could be impounded or destroyed. All other measures of legal recourse within the laws of the State of Qatar remain at ictQATAR's disposal.

Question 15: Do you support this market surveillance and enforcement policy for RTTE? Are there any specific suggestions in this regard?

4.13 Transitional Provisions

RTTE that was type-approved by ictQATAR prior to the implementation of the new Type Approval Regime shall be deemed to be certified and approved for use in Qatar and will be included in the TA Register.

Importers who hold a Dealer's License from ictQATAR prior to the implementation of the new Type Approval Regime shall be deemed to be Authorized Importers and will be included in the Importers Register.

All new applications for Type Approval after the implementation of the new Type Approval Regime must follow the procedures and requirements of the new regime as set out in this Policy and any guidelines, rules, procedures or forms that may be issued by ictQATAR in the future.

Question 16: Are there any specific issues that should be addressed at this stage to ensure a proper transition from the current Type Approval Regime to the new one?

5 Comparison between Current and proposed Type Approval Regimes

The following table (**Table I**) provides a comparison of the current Type Approval Regime with the proposed Type Approval Regime.

Table 1: Comparison between Current Type Approval Regime and Proposed Type Approval Regime

Subject	Current Type Approval Regime	Proposed Type Approval Regime
1. Equipment requiring Type Approval (“TA”)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type Approval is needed for all RTTE intended for public market. Type Acceptance is needed for all RTTE intended for end users (companies) that are permitted by ictQATAR to import directly for a major project. 	<p>Type Approval is needed for all RTTE.</p> <p>NB: The Type Approval process is different from the importation process of RTTE.</p>
2. Who can apply for TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type Approval: Licensed Dealers (importers) who are authorized by manufacturers or regional distributors. Type Acceptance: End users of RTTE who are permitted by ictQATAR to import directly for a major project. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Local and international manufacturers; Authorized Importers; Licensed operators; and Companies wishing to import RTTE for their own internal use.
3. When is TA necessary - how many times should TA be performed for the same type of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every Licensed Dealer wishing to import RTTE must submit TA application and the requirements to obtain the TA certificate, even if the same RTTE has already been type- approved by ictQATAR for another dealer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once an RTTE is type-approved by ictQATAR, it can be imported by any party listed in item 10 below “Who can import RTTE” without having to apply again for TA. The “TA Register” on the website will show the RTTE that is already type-approved by ictQATAR.
4. TA process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One process for TA: All RTTE must be type- approved by ictQATAR even the RTTE that has been type-approved/certified by other international institutions or that complies with reputed international standards. 	<p>Two different TA processes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Simplified Type Approval Process</u> for RTTE that has already been type-approved by accredited laboratories or Type Approval bodies recognized by ictQATAR demonstrating the compliance of the equipment with a national or international standard that is recognized by ictQATAR. <u>Standard Type Approval Process</u> for RTTE that has not been previously type-approved by accredited laboratories or recognized Type Approval bodies.
5. TA application requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application form. Separate application for DTH (Direct to the Home) equipment. Full technical description & specifications Copy of TA certificate issued by international reputed testing labs, which are accredited by reputed regulatory authorities, or certificate of conformity issued by such labs indicating the technical standards that the equipment complies with together with the test report and procedures. Technical manual describing the functionality User/operating manual 	<p><u>For the Simplified Type Approval Process:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Type Approval certificate issued by an accredited laboratory or a Type Approval body recognized by ictQATAR certifying the compliance of the equipment with specific technical standards; Copy of the warranty document that will be offered to customers in Qatar; and Applicable fee (QR 500). <p><u>For the Standard Type Approval Process:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Test reports (from a recognized testing

Subject	Current Type Approval Regime	Proposed Type Approval Regime
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any required software EMC certification & electrical safety certificates (if available). Applicable fee (depends on the type of RTTE) Sample equipment for testing (until Feb 2007). Testing was performed to ensure compatibility with current national & international standards. <p>NB: ictQATAR may or may not accept the TA certificates or test reports issued by other agencies.</p>	<p>body) and other relevant documentation which clearly and unambiguously demonstrate that the equipment complies with technical standard(s) that are recognized by ictQATAR;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Full technical description and specifications describing inter alia, but not limited to: functionality, network interfaces and required software; c) Copy of the RTTE user guide in English; d) Copy of the warranty document that will be offered to customers in Qatar; e) Applicable fee (QR 1,000); and f) Two (2) equipment samples (if requested by ictQATAR).
<p>6. Issuance of Type Approval certificates and Type Acceptance certificates by ictQATAR</p>	<p>ictQATAR issues Type Approval certificates and Type Acceptance certificates.</p> <p>NB: These certificates are issued to the importers to demonstrate that the RTTE is type-approved by ictQATAR.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ictQATAR will no longer issue Type Approval certificates and Type Acceptance certificates. In the case of a Standard Type Approval, certificates will be available in a printable format on ictQATAR's website. The "TA Register" on the website of ictQATAR will show the RTTE that is type-approved by ictQATAR.
<p>7. Technical standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ictQATAR doesn't fully recognize any international standards institutions. ictQATAR has not published any recognized technical standards. 	<p>ictQATAR will determine and publish on its website a list of accepted/recognized national and international standards and accept RTTE that complies with them.</p>
<p>8. Validity period of TA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Type Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 years for radio equipment - Unlimited otherwise Type Acceptance: 6 months 	<p>All Type Approvals are for unlimited duration as long as the type-approved equipment maintains the same technical specifications; this includes the operating frequencies of Radio Equipment.</p>
<p>9. TA fees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fee depends on the type of equipment and varies between 100 and 3000 QR. 200 QR to renew TA of radio equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 QR for "Simplified Type Approval" applications. 1000 QR for "Standard Type Approval" applications. <p>NB: This fee covers the administrative cost of ictQATAR.</p>

Subject	Current Type Approval Regime	Proposed Type Approval Regime
10. Who can import RTTE (that has already been type-approved by ictQATAR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed Dealers (importers). End users (companies) which are permitted by ictQATAR to import directly for a major project. Individuals importing RTTE for own use need a customs clearance from ictQATAR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorized Importers Licensed Operators. Persons (individuals or companies) can import RTTE for their own use (i.e., not for marketing/commercial purposes) without an authorization from ictQATAR, subject to a maximum number of equipment allowed for individuals. <p>NB: ictQATAR will publish on its website a register of Authorized Importers and Licensed Operators “<u>Importers Register</u>”</p> <p><u>NB: The current Dealer’s License will cease to exist.</u></p>
11. Customs clearance	<p>Customs clearance from ictQATAR is required every time type-approved/accepted RTTE is to be imported.</p> <p>NB: End users of Licensed Radio Equipment must have import permission and frequency license from ictQATAR in order to obtain a customs clearance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customs Clearance from ictQATAR is only required for importing Licensed Radio Equipment. Otherwise, customs officers will rely on the “TA Register” and the “Importers Register” available on the website of ictQATAR.
12. Who can sell RTTE	Wholesalers and retailers who hold a Dealer’s License.	<p>Wholesalers and retailers are not required to obtain an authorization from ictQATAR to sell RTTE.</p> <p>NB: Authorized Importers and Licensed Operators must keep records of their wholesalers and retailers as applicable. The records must include the names of the wholesalers/retailers and the types of equipment sold to them.</p>
13. Marking requirements	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For “Simplified Type Approval Process”: The imported RTTE must be marked with an internationally recognized marking (e.g., CE, FCC, etc). No further labels from ictQATAR need to be placed. For “Standard Type Approval Process”: A label from ictQATAR containing its logo and the word “Approved” shall be affixed on the imported RTTE.
14. Licensing of Radio Equipment	Licenses (also called authorizations) from ictQATAR are required to own or operate certain types of Radio Equipment.	Authorizations from ictQATAR will continue to be required to own or operate certain types of Radio Equipment (See Section 2 - Definitions).

Question 17: Are there any other subjects or issues that should be addressed in the Type Approval Policy?

6 Instructions for Responding to this Consultation Document

6.1 Consultation Procedures

All interested parties are invited to submit responses to the questions specifically identified in this document and to provide their views on any other relevant aspects. Comments should reference the number of the question being addressed or the specific section of this document if not responding to a particular question.

ictQATAR asks that, to the extent possible, submissions be supported by examples or relevant evidence. Any submissions received in response to this consultation will be carefully considered by ictQATAR when finalizing its position on type approval. Nothing included in this consultation document is final or binding. However, ictQATAR is under no obligation to adopt or implement any comments or proposals submitted.

Communications with ictQATAR concerning this consultation must be submitted by email or letter by no later than 3:00 p.m. (local time in the State of Qatar) on 31 May 2009. A covering page containing the information set out in Annex 2 should be included as the first page of the submission. Comments should be submitted by either of the following two methods:

- (1) (Preferred method) By email to: consult@ict.gov.qa. The subject reference in the email should be stated as "Consultation on Type Approval Policy". It is not necessary to provide a hard copy in addition to the soft copy sent by email.
- (2) By hand, courier or post – one hard copy accompanied by a CD Rom, to

Mr. Ahmad Sultan

Licensing Section Manager

Policy and Economic Affairs Department

Regulatory Authority

The Supreme Council of Information & Communication Technology (ictQATAR)

19th floor, Al Nasr Tower, Corniche Road

P.O.Box 23264
Doha - Qatar

6.2 Publication of Comments

In the interest of transparency and public accountability, ictQATAR intends to publish the submissions to this consultation on its website at www.ictqatar.qa. All submissions will be processed and treated as non-confidential unless confidential treatment of all or parts of the response has been requested and follows the criteria set out in Annex 2.

While ictQATAR will endeavor to respect the wishes of respondents, in all instances the decision to publish responses in full, in part or not at all remains at the sole discretion of ictQATAR.

By making submissions to ictQATAR in this consultation, respondents will be deemed to have waived all copyright that may apply to intellectual property contained therein.

For more clarification concerning the consultation process, please contact Mr. Ahmad Sultan, Licensing Section Manager, at asultan@ict.gov.qa.

Annex I: List of Questions

<u>Question</u>	<u>Page</u>
QUESTION 1: ICTQATAR INVITES COMMENTS ABOUT THE SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSED TYPE APPROVAL POLICY.....	5
QUESTION 2: ICTQATAR SEEKS VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED PARTIES THAT CAN APPLY FOR TYPE APPROVAL.	11
QUESTION 3: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PROPOSAL THAT ONCE A TYPE OF RTTE IS APPROVED BY ICTQATAR, ANY ELIGIBLE IMPORTER CAN IMPORT THE SAME TYPE OF RTTE?	11
QUESTION 4: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE SIMPLIFIED TYPE APPROVAL PROCESS. IN PARTICULAR, ARE THERE ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS THAT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITH THE TYPE APPROVAL APPLICATION?	13
QUESTION 5: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE STANDARD TYPE APPROVAL PROCESS. IN PARTICULAR, ARE THERE ANY OTHER REQUIREMENTS THAT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITH THE TYPE APPROVAL APPLICATION?	14
QUESTION 6: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT HAVING TWO TYPE APPROVAL PROCESSES?	14
QUESTION 7: ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR CRITERIA OR ISSUES THAT ICTQATAR SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION IN DETERMINING THE RECOGNIZED STANDARDS?	15
QUESTION 8: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF TYPE APPROVALS?	15
QUESTION 9: ARE THERE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PROPOSED FEES?	16
QUESTION 10: ARE THERE ANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE PROPOSED IMPORTATION PROCESS? IN PARTICULAR, DO YOU SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL THAT AN AUTHORIZED IMPORTER CAN IMPORT ANY RTTE (FROM ANY BRANDS) THAT (I) HAS BEEN TYPE-APPROVED BY ICTQATAR AND (II) CONTAINS A VALID WARRANTY FOR CUSTOMERS IN QATAR?	17
QUESTION 11: IS THERE ANY SPECIFIC INFORMATION THAT SHOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THESE REGISTERS?	18
QUESTION 12: ICTQATAR INVITES COMMENTS ABOUT THE PROPOSED POLICY FOR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE.	19
QUESTION 13: ICTQATAR INVITES COMMENTS ABOUT THE PROPOSED POLICY FOR SELLING RTTE IN QATAR.	19
QUESTION 14: ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC COMMENTS OR ISSUES REGARDING THE PROPOSED MARKING AND LABELING POLICY?	20
QUESTION 15: DO YOU SUPPORT THIS MARKET SURVEILLANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY FOR RTTE? ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS IN THIS REGARD?	21
QUESTION 16: ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC ISSUES THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AT THIS STAGE TO ENSURE A PROPER TRANSITION FROM THE CURRENT TYPE APPROVAL REGIME TO THE NEW ONE?	21
QUESTION 17: ARE THERE ANY OTHER SUBJECTS OR ISSUES THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE TYPE APPROVAL POLICY?	25

Annex 2: Covering Page for Submissions in Response

Covering Page for Comments in Response to ictQATAR's Consultation on Type Approval Policy

Responding Party

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Date:

Consent

By submitting this Response to ictQATAR, the Respondent consents to its publication in full by ictQATAR on its official website or by other media, unless confidential treatment of all or parts of the Response has been requested and follows the criteria set out below.

Confidentiality

In the event you would like your Response to be treated confidentially, you are requested to also supply ictQATAR with a non-confidential version. The provision of written explanation justifying the need for confidentiality is also necessary.

Please note that a failure to provide sufficient reasoning for a request of confidentiality or an additional, non-confidential version of the Response, the request will be treated as incomplete and may result in full publication of the Response.

While ictQATAR will endeavor to respect the wishes of Respondents, in all instances the decision to publish Responses in full, in part or not at all remains at the sole discretion of ictQATAR.