

## [ DOTC CIRCULAR NO. 98-01, February 27, 1998 ]

### **GLOBAL PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS BY MOBILE SATELLITE (GMPCS) POLICY**

RA 7925, Public Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines, states that the fundamental objective of government is to maintain a viable, efficient, reliable and universal telecommunications infrastructure using the best available and affordable technologies, as a vital tool to nation building and development.

It is recognized that, through the use of GMPCS, Filipinos could directly have greater choice of communications services, and users in remote and rural areas of the Philippines would, in particular, benefit from access to better and more affordable communications services.

To ensure the orderly provision of GMPCS services in the country, to optimize the utilization of radio frequency spectrum allocation and to provide healthy competition among authorized service providers, DOTC hereby promulgates the following policy directives:

*SECTION 1. Definition of Terms* - The following definitions shall apply within the context of this Policy:

**Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite (GMPCS)** - A satellite system (i.e., fixed or mobile, broadband or narrowband, global or regional) providing telecommunications services directly to end-users from one or more satellites, geostationary or non-geostationary, operated as a system.

**GMPCS System Operator** — Any entity who owns, operates and maintains GMPCS systems.

**GMPCS Service Provider** — A duly enfranchised telecommunications entity authorized by the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) to directly provide GMPCS services to the general public within the Philippines.

**GMPCS Terminals** — A user terminal intended to be operated with the GMPCS system.

*SECTION 2. Market Entry* — Duly enfranchised telecommunications entities having appropriate authorizations from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), shall be allowed to offer GMPCS services in the Philippines, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations.

The services offered must comply with the national spectrum policy requirements with respect to allocation, utilization and efficiency, orderly deployment and co-existence with other radio services authorized for use in the bands.