

MCMC ISSUES PUBLIC CONSULTATION PAPER ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMUNICATIONS AND MULTIMEDIA ACT 1998

18 June 2026



On 10 June 2026, the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission ("MCMC") published a public consultation paper ("PCP") on proposed amendments to the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 ("CMA"). MCMC is currently accepting submissions and feedback on the PCP until 5.00 p.m. on 10 July 2026.

We set out below an overview of some of the salient points discussed in the PCP.

Deeming Mechanism under the Class Licensing Framework

At present, Section 46A of the CMA provides the Minister of Communications ("Minister") with the power to issue a declaration dispensing with the formality of registration under a class licence, thereby deeming any entity mentioned in the declaration to be registered under a class licence. The PCP proposes to amend the CMA to clarify this provision by stating the following:

- 1) that the Minister's power to dispense with the formality of registration applies to entities that are required to register under a class licence but who have not voluntarily done so;
- 2) that the deemed registration can only be cancelled by way of Ministerial declaration upon recommendation by MCMC; and
- 3) that deemed licensees are subject to the relevant fees, penalties, and obligations of the CMA applicable to class licensees.

Revising Fees Applicable to Class Licences

At present, class licences are subject to an annual registration fee of RM2,500. The PCP proposes to introduce provisions to enable the Minister “to prescribe fees that reflect the costs, regulatory efforts, and the evolving range of service providers operating in the communications and multimedia industry.”

Alignment of Competition Framework

The PCP proposes to amend the competition provisions in the CMA to align with the provisions of the Competition Act 2010 and Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia Act 2017 to ensure the competition framework for the communications and multimedia industry is aligned with Malaysia’s general competition law framework.

Enforceability of Access Agreements

The PCP proposes to amend the CMA to state that access agreements for the provision of listed network facilities and network services will not be enforceable unless lodged with MCMC. This restriction was removed by the Communications and Multimedia (Amendment) Act 2025, but the PCP proposes to reinstate the provision into the CMA. The PCP also proposes to establish a framework to resolve disputes relating to access agreements.

Extension of Apparatus Assignment Framework

The PCP proposes to extend the scope of apparatus assignments to cover both network infrastructure and customer equipment. Additionally, the PCP proposes to introduce a requirement for MCMC’s prior approval before an apparatus assignment holder may authorize a third party to operate the apparatus.



Establishing Authority for MCMC to Administer Satellite Network Filings

The PCP proposes to introduce an express statutory framework for MCMC to administer satellite network filings to the International Telecommunication Union. This will include express provisions on fees and coordination and registration of Malaysian satellite networks.

Network Facilities Installation Permit Framework

The PCP proposes to amend Chapter 1 of Part X of the CMA to modernise the regulatory framework for installing and deploying communications infrastructure in Malaysia. The PCP states that this includes strengthening MCMC's ability to gather and maintain information on communications infrastructure, improving the management of fees and permit conditions, and reinforcing national security considerations.

Introducing a Private Right of Action under the CMA

The PCP proposes to introduce an express right for persons suffering loss or damage arising from specified offences under the CMA to seek civil redress for said loss or damage from the offender.

Amendments to the Equipment Certification Framework

The PCP proposes to amend the CMA to clarify that the role of registered certifying agencies under the CMA is limited to technical assessments of communications equipment, whereas MCMC's role will be to grant regulatory approval to communications equipment. This proposed amendment aligns with the new communications equipment framework which MCMC intends to introduce, details of which can be found in an MCMC public consultation paper issued on 20 May 2024.

Enhancing MCMC's Investigative Powers

The PCP proposes to introduce provisions allowing MCMC to deploy agent provocateurs and exercise statutory sampling powers in investigation and enforcement operations.

Comments

The deadline for submitting submissions and feedback on the PCP is 5.00 p.m. on 10 July 2026. Interested parties are advised to take note of this deadline and submit any feedback they have by then. The PCP can be accessed [here](#).

For further information, please contact Charmayne Ong (Partner), Natalie Lim (Partner) and Jillian Chia (Partner) of the Technology, Media and Telecommunications Practice of Skrine.



CHARMAYNE ONG
Partner
Technology, Media and
Telecommunications Practice

T: +603 2081 3736
E: co@skrine.com



NATALIE LIM
Partner
Technology, Media and
Telecommunications Practice

T: +603 2081 3894
E: natalie.lim@skrine.com



JILLIAN CHIA
Partner
Technology, Media and
Telecommunications Practice

T: +603 2081 3882
E: jc@skrine.com



A proud member of international legal network, LexMundi
Bringing the best together™

PRACTICE AREAS

- Banking and Finance
- Construction and Engineering
- Corporate
- Corporate Structures and Secretarial Services
- Employment
- Fraud and Asset Recovery
- Intellectual Property and TMT
- Litigation and Arbitration
- Real Estate
- Regulatory Compliance
- Restructuring and Insolvency
- Tax and Revenue

INDUSTRIES

- Aviation
- Financial Institutions
- Healthcare, Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals
- Industrial and Manufacturing
- Insurance and Reinsurance
- Maritime and Shipping
- Oil & Gas, and Energy
- Projects and Infrastructure
- Real Estate
- Technology, Media and Telecommunications

CONTACT US

Level 8, Wisma UOA Damansara
50 Jalan Dungun, Damansara Heights, 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

T +603 2081 3999
F +603 2094 3211
E skrine@skrine.com



www.skrine.com

Welcome to **Skrine**, where legal excellence meets unwavering dedication. We are a homegrown Malaysian firm known locally and internationally as a beacon of trust and proficiency in the ever-evolving landscape of jurisprudence. Founded on the principles of **wisdom, fortitude** and **ingenuity** over 60 years ago, we navigate the complexities of the law with precision and insight.

Through our wide range of practice groups managed by lawyers with extensive experience, we work with our clients to achieve the results they aspire towards. While keeping pace with rapid development on all fronts, Skrine has remained steadfast in its commitment to champion the cause of its clients with diligence, skill, and a relentless pursuit of justice.

OUR APPROACH

While fostering a one-to-one lawyer-client relationship is of significant importance, in instances where cases do not fit neatly into one area of law, we take advantage of the various internal practice groups and combine the skills of our lawyers to ensure that all relevant legal issues are addressed.

ONE-STOP CENTRE WITH DEDICATED FOREIGN DESKS

We are a one-stop centre for all your legal needs to help you set up in Malaysia and hit the ground running. Beyond our borders, we understand the significance of dedicated foreign desks including **China, India (South Asia)** and **Middle East and North Africa (MENA)**. A key benefit is the seamless and efficient delivery of our services to multilingual nations where our lawyers are proficient in Mandarin, and Hindi, while many within the Firm are proficient in Cantonese and Tamil.

VALUE ADDED SERVICES

We recognise that from the perspective of our clients, the day-to-day management of internal legal matters does not stop at specific cases that require external legal counsel or representation. We therefore offer a number of value-added services to help clients keep abreast with updates in the law and ensure internal compliance. This includes our e-alerts, newsletters, in-house trainings, workshops and seminars on industry-related legal topics.

FIRM AWARDS

As a testament to the high standards we uphold, Skrine has garnered some of the top local and international awards for both legal firm and individual lawyers (a full list can be viewed at our website). We are honoured to have received the following:

- Chambers Asia-Pacific Leading Firm Year 2026
- Legal 500 Asia Pacific: Top Tier Firm Year 2026
- Global Arbitration Review (GAR): Ranked in Top 100 International Arbitration Practice 2012-2025
- IFLR 1000 2019-2025: Tier 1 Firm for Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions, Energy, Infrastructure and Oil & Gas
- Chambers Asia-Pacific and Greater China Region Awards 2024: Malaysia Law Firm of the Year
- *asialaw*: Malaysia Law Firm of the Year 2023