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Autore	Dymond Andrew <1947->
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Conclusion on Tariffs -- Downstream Beneficiaries-Should They be Regulated or Licensed? -- 6. Numbering and Billing Issues -- What Prerequisite Changes in the Numbering Plan are Required -- What Modifications to Intercarrier Billing Would be Required? -- 7. Relating De-averaged Interconnection to Universal Access Policy -- Comparison of North American and Chilean Financial Models -- Conclusion -- 8. Summary and Next Step -- Study Outcome -- Next Step -- References -- FIGURES -- Figure 1 -- Figure 2 -- Figure 3 -- TABLES -- Table 1. Is Rural Network Investment Incentive Created -- Table 2. Chile, Access Rates.

Table 3. Mobile-based Public Access Projects.

Sommario/riassunto

Rural telecommunications are usually believed to be unprofitable and therefore chronically under-invested. The author challenges this view and sets out to present reasons why regulators should consider implementing fairer cost-based interconnection arrangements between urban and rural network operators, which could significantly improve the business case for rural network operators. Specifically, a regime of geographically de-averaged asymmetric termination charges that reflect the higher costs rural operators face is proposed. A wide range of related issues are investigated before the author concludes that asymmetric termination charges could be implemented practically.
