



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Office of the Spokesperson

Press Release

Alokozy Private Companies (Alokozy Group) purchase Wasel-Telecom to invest \$300 million in Information Communication Technology (ICT) Sector

The High Economic Council Afghanistan, meeting chaired by Dr. Mohamad Humayon Qayoumi acting minister of finance and senior advisor to the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for infrastructure approved the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) concept on the sale and transferring the ownership of the Wasel-Telecom to Alokozy Group. The meeting was attended by the minister of Communication and Information Technology, Mr. Shahzad Aryobee and other members of the High Economic Council of Afghanistan.

Private Wasel-Telecom is a CDMA service provider and has been experiencing technical problems since its establishment, and was unable to upgrade its technology to provide standard services to its 100,000 subscribers, therefore, it lost its credibility and its customers reduced to 12,000. It is noteworthy that Wasel-Telecom not only failed to pay off its debts, but also it didn't clear its tax debts during the years of its operation.

Through the efforts of the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology (MCIT) and the decrees number 547 dated 23/03/1397 and 554 dated 28/03/1397 of the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Wasel-Telecom has been given 60 days to solve its problems and clear its debts and taxes, but the company not only didn't solve the problems, but also it failed to clear its debts.

To deal with the problem, The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology started discussing the issue with the authorities of Wasel-Telecom and finally they agreed to sell the company to Alokozy Group (ACG) for \$300 million. ACG will have the responsibility to pay off Wael-Telecom all debts and taxes.

Alokozy Group is supposed to upgrade the Wasel-Telecom-CDMA to GSM service to operate throughout Afghanistan with a commitment to high-quality 3G and 4G services.

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, is confident that the investment of \$300 million not only will create plenty of job opportunities, but also it will update and provide high quality of services to its customers.

End.