TELECOM ARGENTINA SA Form 20-F April 24, 2015 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 24, 2015.

### **UNITED STATES**

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

# FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

0	REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR 12(g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
	OR
X	ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
	For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014
	OR
0	TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
	For the transition period from to
	OR
0	SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of event requiring this shell company report .....

For the transition period from

to

Commission file number: 1-13464

#### TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

#### **Republic of Argentina**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

Alicia Moreau de Justo 50

#### (C1107AAB) - Buenos Aires

Argentina

(Address of principal executive offices)

#### Pedro Insussarry

(Tel: 54-11-4968-3743, Fax: 54-11-4968-3616, E-mail: pinsussa@ta.telecom.com.ar,

Alicia Moreau de Justo 50, 10th Floor, (C1107AAB), Buenos Aires, Argentina)

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class

nominal value P\$1.00 per share

American Depositary Shares, representing Class B Ordinary Shares N Class B Ordinary Shares,

registered New York Stock Exchange

Name of each exchange on which

New York Stock Exchange\*

\* Not for trading, but only in connection with the registration of American Depositary Shares, pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act:

#### None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer s classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

Class A Ordinary Shares, nominal value P\$1.00 each Class B Ordinary Shares, nominal value P\$1.00 each Class C Ordinary Shares, nominal value P\$1.00 each 502,034,299 466,858,524 266,782

# Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Accelerated filer o

Large accelerated filer x

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

US GAAP o

International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board x

If Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

o Yes x No

Other o

Non-accelerated filer o

o Item 17 o Item 18

o Yes o No

- - -

.....

x Yes o No

x Yes o No

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#### PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Telecom Argentina S.A. is a company incorporated under the laws of Argentina. As used in this Annual Report on Form 20-F (the Form 20-F or Annual Report ), the terms the Company, Telecom, Telecom Group, we, us, and our refer to Telecom Argentina S.A. and its consolidated subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014. Unless otherwise stated, references to the financial results of Telecom are to the consolidated financial results of Telecom Argentina and its consolidated subsidiaries. The Telecom Group is engaged in the provision of fixed and mobile telecommunications services.

The term Telecom Argentina refers to Telecom Argentina S.A. excluding its subsidiaries, as of December 31, 2014, Telecom Personal S.A., Núcleo S.A., Personal Envíos S.A. (Envíos), Telecom Argentina USA Inc. (Telecom Argentina USA), and Micro Sistemas S.A. Telecom Argentina is engaged in the provision of fixed telecommunication services in Argentina. The terms Telecom Personal or Personal refer to Telecom Personal S.A., our subsidiary engaged in the provision of mobile telecommunication services in Argentina. The term Núcleo refers to Núcleo S.A., Personal s subsidiary engaged in the provision of mobile telecommunication services in Paraguay. Envíos is Núcleo s subsidiary engaged in the provision of mobile telecommunication services in Paraguay. Envíos is Núcleo s subsidiary engaged in the provision of mobile telecommunication services in Paraguay. Envíos is Núcleo s subsidiary engaged in the provision of mobile telecommunication services in Paraguay. Envíos is Núcleo s engaged in the provision of mobile financial services in Paraguay. Envíos was officially registered in the Commercial Public Register of Paraguay in October 2014 and commenced its operations in January 2015.

Our Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, and the notes thereto (the Consolidated Financial Statements) are set forth on pages F-1 through F-89 of this Annual Report.

Our Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and have been approved by resolution of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 2, 2015.

Our Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, as included in this report, have been audited by an independent registered public accounting firm.

Telecom Argentina and our Argentine subsidiaries maintain their accounting records and prepare their financial statements in Argentine Pesos, which is their functional currency. Our subsidiaries Núcleo, Envíos and Telecom Argentina USA, however, maintain their accounting records and prepare their financial statements in Guaraníes (Núcleo and Envíos) and in U.S. dollars (Telecom Argentina USA). Our Consolidated Financial Statements include the results of these subsidiaries translated into Argentine Pesos. Assets and liabilities are translated at year-end exchange rates and revenue and expense accounts at average exchange rates for each year presented.

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Certain financial information contained in this Annual Report has been presented in U.S. dollars. This Annual Report contains translations of various Argentine Peso amounts into U.S. dollars at specified rates solely for convenience of the reader. You should not construe these translations as representations by us that the Argentine Peso amounts actually represent these U.S. dollar amounts or could be converted into U.S. dollars at the rates indicated. Except as otherwise specified, all references to US\$, U.S. dollars or dollars are to United States dollars, references to EUR, euro or are to the lawful currency of the member states of the European Union and references to P\$, Argentine Pesos are to Argentine Pesos. Unless otherwise indicated, we have translated the Argentine Peso amounts using a rate of P\$8.55 = US\$1.00, the U.S. dollar ask rate published by the Banco de la Nación Argentina (Argentine National Bank) on December 31, 2014. On April 21, 2015, the exchange rate was P\$8.87 = US\$1.00. As a result of fluctuations in the Argentine peso/U.S. dollar exchange rate, the exchange rate at such date may not be indicative of current or future exchange rates. Consequently, these translations should not be construed as a representation that the peso amounts represent, or have been or could be converted into, U.S. dollars at that or any other rate. See Item 3 Key Information Exchange Rates , and Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Argentina Devaluation of the peso may adversely affect our results of operations, our capital expenditure program and the ability to service our liabilities and transfer funds abroad.

For the purposes of this Annual Report, billion means a thousand million.

Certain amounts and ratios contained in this Annual Report (including percentage amounts) have been rounded up or down to facilitate the summation of the tables in which they are presented. The effect of this rounding is not material. These rounded amounts are also included within the text of this Annual Report.

The contents of our website and other websites referred to herein are not part of this Annual Report.

This Annual Report contains certain terms that may be unfamiliar to some readers. You can find a Glossary of these terms on page 5 of this Annual Report.

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#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 provides a safe harbor for forward-looking statements. Certain information included in this Annual Report contains information that is forward-looking, including, but not limited to:

• our expectations for our future performance, revenues, income, earnings per share, capital expenditures, dividends, liquidity and capital structure;

- the implementation of our business strategy;
- the changing dynamics and growth in the telecommunications market;
- our outlook for new and enhanced technologies;
- the effects of operating in a competitive environment;
- industry conditions;
- the outcome of certain legal proceedings;
- the impact of the emergency laws and subsequent related laws enacted by the Argentine government;
- regulatory and legal developments; and
- other factors identified or discussed under Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors.

This Annual Report contains certain forward-looking statements and information relating to the Telecom Group that are based on current expectations, estimates and projections of our Management and information currently available to the Telecom Group. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements made in Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors, Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects under the captions Critical Accounting Policies and Trend Information, Item 8 Financial Information Legal Proceedings and other statements about the Telecom Group s strategies, plans, objectives, expectations, intentions, capital expenditures, and assumptions and other statements contained in this Annual Report that are not historical facts. When used in this document, the words anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, intend, plan, will , may and should and other similar expressions are generally intended to identify forward-looking statements.

These statements reflect the current views of the Management of the Company with respect to future events. They are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. In addition, certain forward-looking statements are based upon assumptions as to future events that may not prove to be accurate.

Many factors could cause actual results, performance or achievements of the Telecom Group to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements that may be expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These factors include, among others:

- our ability to successfully implement our business strategy;
- our ability to introduce new products and services that enable business growth;
- uncertainties relating to political and economic conditions in Argentina and Paraguay;
- inflation, the devaluation of the peso and of the Guaraní and exchange rate risks in Argentina and Paraguay;

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A	FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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restrictions on the ability to exchange pesos into foreign currencies and transfer funds abroad;

• difficulties or delays to import critical technological supplies, including handsets, for our business due to restrictions imposed by the Argentine government;

• the final results of the contract renegotiation process with the Argentine government and the way the Argentine government regulates the LAD;

• the creditworthiness of our actual or potential customers;

nationalization, expropriation and/or increased government intervention in companies;

• technological changes;

• the impact of legal or regulatory matters, changes in the interpretation of current or future regulations or reform and changes in the legal or regulatory environment in which we operate, particularly the LAD, which came into in force on December 19, 2014, which as of the date of this Annual Report is still pending of regulation to implement its provisions; and

• the effects of increased competition.

Many of these factors are macroeconomic in nature and therefore beyond the control of the Company s Management. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated, expected, intended, planned or projected. The Company does not intend and does not assume any obligation to update the forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Report.

These forward-looking statements are based upon a number of assumptions and other important factors that could cause our actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from our future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Readers are encouraged to consult the Company s filings made on Form 6-K, which are periodically filed with or furnished to the United States Securities and Exchange Commission

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#### **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

The following explanations are not provided as or intended to be technical definitions, but only to assist the general reader to understand certain terms used in this Annual Report.

2G (second-generation mobile system): Second-generation protocols using digital encoding and includes GSM, D-AMPS (TDMA) and CDMA. These protocols support high bit rate voice and limited data communications. 2G networks technology offers auxiliary services such as data, fax and SMS. Most 2G protocols offer different levels of encryption.

*3G (third-generation mobile system):* Third-generation mobile service, designed to provide high speed data, always-on data access, and greater voice capacity. 3G networks allow the transfer of both voice data services (telephony, messaging) and non-voice data (such as downloading Internet information, exchanging email, and instant messaging). The high data speeds, measured in Mbps, are significantly higher than 2G, and 3G networks technology enable full motion video, high-speed Internet access and video-conferencing. 3G technology standards include UMTS, based on WCDMA technology (quite often the two terms are used interchangeably), and CDMA2000.

4G (fourth-generation mobile system): Fourth-generation mobile service using the LTE technology (Long Term Evolution technology)

Access charge: Amount charged per minute by national operators for the use of their network by operators of other networks.

Access (or Accesses): Connection provided by Telecom Argentina to Internet services.

ADS: Telecom Argentina s American Depositary Share, listed on the New York Stock Exchange, each representing 5 Class B Shares.

ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line): A type of digital subscriber line technology (DSL); a data communications technology that enables faster data transmission over copper lines than a conventional voiceband modem can provide.

AFIP (Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos): The Argentine federal tax authority.

*AFJP (Administradoras de Fondos de Jubilaciones y Pensiones):* Private entities that were in charge of managing the funds of the Private Pension and Retirement System established by Law No. 24,241, until its nationalization in November 2008 pursuant to Law No. 26,425.

AFTIC (Autoridad Federal de Tecnologías de la Información y de las Comunicaciones): The decentralized and autonomous agency in the scope of the PEN appointed as the Regulatory Authority in the LAD.

AMBA (Area Múltiple Buenos Aires): An area comprising the city of Buenos Aires and the greater Buenos Aires area. Telephone calls within the area are considered local.

Analog: A mode of transmission or switching that is not digital, e.g., the representation of voice, video or other not in digital form.

ANSES: The Argentine administrator of social security pension and retirement benefits.

Argentina: Republic of Argentina.

Argentine Bankruptcy Law: Law No. 24,522, as amended.

Argentine GAAP: Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Argentina, which we used before the adoption of IFRS.

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ARBU (Average Revenue Billed per User): Calculated by dividing total monthly basic charges and traffic revenue excluding public telephony revenue by weighted-average number of fixed lines in service during the period.

ARPU (Average Revenue per User): Calculated by dividing total revenue excluding mainly handset, out collect (wholesale) roaming, cell site rental and activation fee revenue by weighted-average number of subscribers during the period.

ARSAT: Empresa Argentina de Soluciones Satelitales Sociedad Anónima, a state-owned company.

ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode): A Broadband switching technology that permits the use of one network for different kinds of information (e.g., voice, data and video).

Auction Terms and Conditions: Terms and Conditions approved by SC Resolution No. 38/14 for the awarding of frequency bands.

AWS: Advanced Wireless Services.

*Backbone:* Portion of telecommunication network with the highest traffic intensity and from which the connections for services in the local areas depart.

*Basic Telephone Services:* The supply of fixed telecommunications links that form part of the public telephone network, or are connected to such network, and the provision of local and long-distance telephone service (domestic and international).

BCBA (Bolsa de Comercio de Buenos Aires): The Buenos Aires Stock Exchange.

BCRA (Banco Central de la República Argentina): The Central Bank of Argentina.

*Broadband services or Broadband:* Services characterized by a transmission speed of 2 Mbps or more. These services include interactive services such as video telephone/video conferencing (both point-to-point and multipoint); video monitoring; interconnection of local networks; file transfer; high-speed fax; e-mail for moving images or mixed documents; Broadband videotex; video on demand and retrieval of sound programs or fixed and moving images.

Broadcast: Simultaneous transmission of information to all nodes and terminal equipment of a network.

Carrier: Company that makes available the physical telecommunication network.

CAT: Compañía Argentina de Teléfonos S.A.

*CDMA (Code Division Multiple Accesses):* A digital wireless technology used in radio communication for transmission between a mobile handset and a radio base station. It enables the simultaneous transmission and reception of several messages, each of which has a coded identity to distinguish it from the other messages.

Cell: Geographical portion of the territory covered by a base transceiver station: 850 MHz/1900 MHz.

*Cellular:* A technique used in mobile radio technology to use the same spectrum of frequencies in one network multiple times. Low power radio transmitters are used to cover a cell (i.e., a limited area) so that the frequencies in use can be reused without interference for other parts of the network.

Channel: The portion of a communications system that connects a source to one or more destinations. Also called circuit, line, link or path.

CNC (Comisión Nacional de Comunicaciones): The Argentine National Communications Commission.

CNDC (Comisión Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia): Argentine Antitrust Commission.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.

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CNV (Comisión Nacional de Valores): The Argentine National Securities Commission.

C.O.O.: Chief Operating Officer.

CONATEL: National Communications Commission of Paraguay.

*Convertibility Law:* Law No. 23,928 and its Regulatory Decree No. 529/91. The Convertibility Law fixed the exchange rate at one peso per U.S. dollar during the period from April 1, 1991 through January 6, 2002. The Convertibility Law was partially repealed on January 6, 2002 by the enactment of the Public Emergency Law.

*CPP* (*Calling Party Pays*): The system whereby the party placing a call to a mobile handset rather than the mobile subscriber pays for the air time charges for the call.

*D-AMPS (Digital-Advanced Mobile Phone Service):* It is a digital version of AMPS (Advanced Mobile Phone Service), the original analog standard for mobile telephone service in the United States.

*Digital:* A mode of representing a physical variable such as speech using digits 0 and 1 only. The digits are transmitted in binary form as a series of pulses. Digital networks are rapidly replacing the older analog ones. Digital networks allow for higher capacity and higher flexibility through the use of computer-related technology for the transmission and manipulation of telephone calls. Digital systems offer lower noise interference and can incorporate encryption as a protection from external interference.

*DWDM (Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing):* Technology for multiplying and transmitting different wavelengths along a single optical fiber contemporaneously.

EDGE (Enhanced Data for GSM Evolution): Technology that increases the data transmission rate of the GPRS standard.

*ENTel (Empresa Nacional de Telecomunicaciones):* National Telecommunications Company which operated the telecommunications system in Argentina prior to the Transfer Date.

Envíos: Personal Envíos S.A.

FCR: France Cables et Radio S.A.

*February Agreement:* An agreement entered into on February 28, 1992 and subsequently ratified by Decree No. 506/92 between the Argentine government and Telecom Argentina. This agreement provides for the reduction of domestic long-distance rates from their then-current level. The reduction became effective on May 1, 1992.

*Fiber Optic:* Thin glass, silica or plastic wires, building the infrastructure base for data transmission. A Fiber Optic cable contains several individual fibers, and each of them is capable of driving a signal (light impulse) at unlimited bandwidth. Fiber Optics are usually employed for long-distance communication: it can transfer heavy data loads, and the signal reaches the recipient, protected from possible disturbances along the way. The driving capacity of Fiber Optics is higher than the traditional cable ones.

Fintech: Fintech Group

*Flat rate:* The rate applied by providers to users accessing the internet. It is usually a fixed monthly rate for a subscription to a specific Internet Service Provider, aside from the number of connection hours to the internet.

Frame Relay: A data transmission service using fast protocols based on direct use of transmission lines.

Free Pulses: The number of Free Pulses included in the monthly basic charge before the issuance of Decree No. 92/97.

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*FTT Home, FTT Curb, FTT (Fiber to the*) It is the term used to indicate any network architecture that uses fiber optic cables in partial or total substitution of traditional copper cables used in telecommunications networks. The various technological solutions differ in the point of the distribution network where the fiber connection is made, with respect to the end-user s location. In the case of FTT Curb (Fiber to the Curb or Fiber to the Cabinet), the fiber connection reaches the equipment (distribution cabinet) located on the pavement, from where copper connections are run to the customer; in the case of FTT Home (Fiber to the Home), the fiber connection terminates inside the customer premises.

Gbps: Gigabits per second, a data transfer speed.

GDP: Gross Domestic Product.

*GPRS (General Packet Radio Service):* An enhanced second-generation mobile technology used to transmit data over mobile networks. GPRS transmits and receives packets of data in bursts instead of using continuous open radio channels, and it is used to add faster data transmission speed to GSM networks. GPRS is packet-based rather than circuit-based technology.

*GSM* (*Global System for Mobile Communications*): A standard for digital mobile technology used worldwide, which works on 900 MHz and 1,800 MHz band.

HSPA (High-Speed Packet Access): Enhanced third-generation mobile telephony communications protocol which allows networks based on UMTS to have higher data transfer speeds and capacity.

HSPA+: Evolved HSPA that uses the spectrum more efficiently, allowing for higher peak data rates in data transmission.

IASB: International Accounting Standards Board.

*ICT (Information and Communication Technology):* Broad area concerned with information technology, telecommunications networking and services and other aspects of managing and processing information, especially in large organizations.

IFRS: International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

INDEC (Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos): The Argentine National Statistics and Census Institute.

Interactive: Allowing the user to change some aspect of the program.

*Internet:* The world s best-known data network. Initially used by the U.S. Department of Defense, the Internet now provides an interface for networks based on different technologies (LANs, WANs, data networks, etc.), but with the use of the TCP/IP protocol platform.

IP (Internet Protocol): A set of communications protocols for exchanging data over the Internet.

*IPTV (Internet Protocol Television):* The service provides the distribution of television channels over Internet connections using the IP protocol. More than just duplicating a distribution means, IPTV enables interactive services so that the viewer can interact with the show as it is broadcast.

ISP (Internet Service Provider): A vendor who provides access to the Internet and World Wide Web.

IT: Information Technology.

IVR: Interactive Voice Response (Respuesta de Voz Interactiva).

LAD (Ley Argentina Digital): Law No. 27,078, Argentina s Digital Law.

Law No. 25,561: Ley de Emergencia Económica y Reforma del Régimen Cambiario: See Public Emergency Law.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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Law No. 26,831 (Ley de Mercado de Capitales): Capital Markets Law

*List of Conditions:* The Privatization Regulations, including the *Pliego de Bases y Condiciones*, was approved by Decree No. 62/90, as amended. Pursuant to the List of Conditions, Telecom Argentina was required to comply with rate regulations and meet certain minimum annual standards regarding the expansion of its telephone system and improvements in the quality of its service to maintain and extend the exclusivity of its non-expiring license to provide fixed-line public telecommunications services and Basic Telephone Services in the Northern Region of Argentina. After the market was opened to competition, the outstanding obligations that continue in force are the rate regulations and those related to the quality of service; the obligations related to the expansion of the network are no longer required.

*Local Loop:* Copper wire-couple, through which the telephone connection reaches users; it is the foundation of traditional telephone lines and it is often called last mile.

LSC (Ley de Sociedades Comerciales): Argentine Corporations Law.

Micro Sistemas: Micro Sistemas S.A.

M2M: Machine to Machine, information exchange between two remote machines.

*MMS (Mobile Multimedia Services):* Represent an evolution of the SMS and the Enhanced Messaging Service (EMS) using various mono-medial elements (text, design, photos, video-clips and audio), which are synchronized and combined allowing them to be packed together and sent to GSM-GPRS platforms.

*Mobile service:* A mobile telephone service provided by means of a network of interconnected low-powered base stations, each of which covers one small geographic cell within the total cellular system service area.

*Modem:* Modulator/Demodulator. A device that modulates digital data to allow their transmission on analog channels, generally consisting of telephone lines.

MPLS-TP: Functionality and Management coincident with the operation of circuit-oriented transmission networks.

MPM: Best maintenance practices methodology.

*Multimedia:* A service involving two or more communications media (e.g., voice, video, text, etc.) and hybrid products created through their interaction.

*NDF* (*Non Deliverable Forward*) *Agreement:* A generic term for a set of derivatives that covers national currency transactions including foreign exchange forward swaps, cross currency swaps and coupon swaps in nonconvertible or highly restricted currencies. The common characteristics of these contracts are that they involve no exchange of principal, are fixed at a predetermined price and are typically settled in U.S. dollars (or sometimes in Euros) at the prevailing spot exchange rate taken from an agreed source, time, and future date.

*Network:* An interconnected collection of elements. In a telephone network, these consist of switches connected to each other and to customer equipment. The transmission equipment may be based on fiber optic or metallic cable or point-to-point radio connectors.

*NGN (Next Generation Networks):* A packet-based network able to provide services including telecommunication services and able to make use of multiple Broadband, QoS (Quality of Service)-enabled transport technologies and in which service-related functions are independent from underlying transport-related technologies.

Node: Topological network junction, commonly a switching center or station.

Nortel: Nortel Inversora S.A., the parent company of Telecom Argentina S.A.

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*Northern Region*: the Argentine government s privatization program as set forth in the State Reform Law approved in August 1989 and subsequent decrees, the Privatization Regulations provided for the division of the Argentine telecommunications network operated by ENTel into two regions, the northern region (the Northern Region ) and the southern region (the Southern Region ) of Argentina. Additionally, these two regions are set forth in Decree No. 1,461/93, which ratified the Resolution No. 575/93 which approved the list of conditions for the public tender for the provision of mobile telecommunication services.

*November Agreement:* An agreement between Telecom Argentina and the Argentine government providing for rates to be dollar-based and, at the election of each of Telecom Argentina and Telefónica, adjusted semiannually according to the U.S. consumer price index. The November Agreement was ratified by Decree No. 2,585/91 and became effective on December 18, 1991. Subsequently, in accordance with the Public Emergency Law, these rates were pesified at the exchange rate of US\$1.00 = P\$1.00. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates.

NPS: Net Promoter Score, methodology to measure customer feedback and its degree of loyalty.

*Outsourcing:* Hiring outsiders to perform various telecommunications services, which may include planning, construction, or hosting of a network or specific equipment belonging to a company.

Packs: Packages integrated by SMS and minutes that can be purchased or added to those plans that recharge credit.

PCS (Personal Communications Service): A mobile communications service with systems that operate in a manner similar to cellular systems.

PEN (Poder Ejecutivo Nacional): The executive branch of the Argentine government.

*Penetration:* The measurement of the take-up of services. As of any date, the penetration is calculated by dividing the number of subscribers by the population to which the service is available and expressed as a percentage.

Personal: Telecom Personal S.A.

Pesification: Modification of the exchange rate by the Argentine government pursuant to the Public Emergency Law.

*Platform:* The total input, including hardware, software, operating equipment and procedures, for producing (production platform) or managing (Management platform) a particular service (service platform).

*Presubscription of Long-Distance Service:* The selection by the customer of international and domestic long-distance telecommunications services from a long-distance telephone service operator.

*Price Cap:* Rate regulation mechanism applied to determine rate discounts based on a formula made up by the U.S. Consumer Price Index and an efficiency factor. The mentioned factor was established initially in the List of Conditions and afterwards in different regulations by the SC.

*Privatization Regulations:* The Argentine government s privatization program as set forth in the State Reform Law approved in August 1989 and subsequent decrees.

*Public Emergency Law:* The Public Emergency and Foreign Exchange System Reform Law No. 25,561 adopted by the Argentine government on January 6, 2002, as amended by Law No. 25,790, Law No. 25,820, Law No. 25,972, Law No. 26,077, Law No. 26,204, Law No. 26,339, Law No. 26,456, Law No. 26,563, Law No. 26,729 and Law No. 26,896. Among others, the Public Emergency Law grants the PEN the power to set the exchange rate between the peso and foreign currencies and to issue regulations related to the foreign exchange market and to renegotiate public service agreements.

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Pulse: Unit on which the rate structure of the regulated fixed line services is based.

*Rate Agreement:* The November Agreement, as supplemented by the February Agreement. The Rate Agreement, among other things, permits Telecom Argentina to effect aggregate rate reductions required pursuant to the List of Conditions by lowering rates for some or all categories of service, *provided* that the net reductions meet applicable targets.

*Rate Rebalancing:* The Rate Rebalancing established by Decree No. 92/97, of January 31, 1997, which provides for a significant reduction in domestic and international long-distance rates, an increase in basic telephone charges, the elimination of Free Pulses and an increase in urban rates.

Regulatory Bodies: Collectively, the SC and the CNC.

*Roaming:* A function that enables mobile subscribers to use the service on networks of operators other than the one with which they signed their initial contract. The roaming service is active when a mobile device is used in a foreign country (included in the GSM network).

*Satellite:* Satellites are used, among other things, for links with countries that cannot be reached by cable to provide an alternative to cable and to form closed user networks.

SC (Secretaría de Comunicaciones): The Argentine Secretary of Communications.

SCI (Secretaría de Comercio Interior): Secretary of Internal Commerce.

SCMA (Servicio de Comunicaciones Móviles Avanzadas): Mobile Advanced Communications Service.

SDH (Synchronous Digital Hierarchy): A hierarchical set of digital transport structures, standardized for the transport of suitably adapted payloads over physical transmission networks.

SEC: The Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States of America.

Service Provider: The party that provides end users and content providers with a range of services, including a proprietary, exclusive or third-party service center.

*SMS (Short Message Service):* Short text messages that can be received and sent through GSM-network connected mobile phones. The maximum text length is 160 alpha-numerical characters.

Sofora: Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A.

Southern Region: See Northern Region.

SRMC (Servicios de Radiocomunicaciones Móviles Celular): Cellular Mobile Radiocommunications Service.

STM (Servicio Telefónico Móvil): Mobile Telephone Service.

*Switch:* These are used to set up and route telephone calls either to the number called or to the next switch along the path. They may also record information for billing and control purposes.

Synchronous: Type of data transmission in which there is permanent synchronization between the transmitter and the receiver.

*TDM (Time-Division Multiplexing):* A type of digital (or rarely analog) multiplexing in which two or more bit streams or signals are transferred apparently simultaneously as sub-channels in one communication channel, but are physically taking turns on the channel.

*TDMA (Time Division Multiple Accesses):* A technology for digital transmission of radio signals between, for example, a mobile handset and a radio base station. TDMA breaks signals into sequential pieces of defined length, places each piece into an information conduit at specific intervals and then reconstructs the pieces at the end of the conduit.

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Telco S.p.A.: A joint company made up of the Generali group, Intesa San Paolo S.p.A., Mediobanca S.p.A. and Telefónica, S.A. (of Spain).

Telecom Argentina USA: Telecom Argentina USA, Inc.

Telecom Italia: Telecom Italia S.p.A.

Telecom Italia Group: Telecom Italia and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Telefónica: Telefónica de Argentina S.A.

Telefónica de España: Telefónica, S.A. (of Spain).

Telintar: Telecomunicaciones Internacionales de Argentina Telintar S.A.

Terms and Conditions: See Auction Terms and Conditions.

TLRD (Terminación Llamada Red Destino): Termination charges from third parties mobile networks.

*Transfer Date:* November 8, 1990, the date on which Telecom Argentina commenced operations upon the transfer from the Argentine government of the telecommunications system in the Northern Region of Argentina that was previously owned and operated by ENTel.

UMTS (Universal Mobile Telecommunications System): Third-generation mobile communication standard.

*Unbundling:* A process that allows telephone carriers (other than Telecom Argentina) to lease the last part of the telephone loop that is to say, the copper wire-cable, connecting Telecom Argentina central station to the user s home, by disconnecting the user from Telecom Argentina terminals and connecting him/her to the telephone carrier s terminals.

UNIREN (Unidad de Renegociación y Análisis de Contratos de Servicios Públicos): Renegotiation and Analysis of Public Services Contracts Division.

*Universal Service:* The availability of Basic Telephone Service, or access to the public telephone network via different alternatives, at an affordable price to all persons within a country or specified area.

*Value Added Services (VAS):* Services that provide a higher level of functionality than the basic transmission services offered by a telecommunications network such as video streaming, Personal Video, Nube Personal (Cloud services), M2M (Machine to Machine communication), social networks, Personal Messenger, content and entertainment (SMS subscriptions and content, games, music, etc), MMS and voice mail.

VDSL: Very high bit rate Digital Subscriber Line.

W de Argentina Inversiones: W de Argentina Inversiones S.L.

WAN (Wide Area Network): A private network that covers a wide geographic area using public telecommunications services.

Wi-Fi: A service for mobile Internet connection and high-speed access.

*Wi-Max (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access):* A technology that allows mobile access to Broadband telecommunications networks. It is defined by the Wi-Max Forum, a global consortium formed by major companies in the field of fixed and mobile telecommunications, which has the purpose to develop, test and promote the interoperability of systems.

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### PART I

### ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS

Not applicable.

### ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE

Not applicable.

### ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION

### **Selected Financial Data**

The following table presents our summary financial data for each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2014.

The selected consolidated income statement data for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 and the selected consolidated financial position data as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB (IFRS) and have been derived from our Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this Annual Report. The selected consolidated income statement data for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the selected consolidated financial position data as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 have been prepared in accordance with IFRS and have been derived from our consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 and for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 included in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2012, filed on April 15, 2013. The selected consolidated financial position data as of December 31, 2012, more than as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the selected consolidated for the years then ended included in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2011 and 2010 and for the years then ended included in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed on April 30, 2012.

Our audited consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2010 and for the year then ended were the first annual audited financial statements that are fully compliant with IFRS. Before December 31, 2010, our consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with Argentine GAAP.

The mandatory adoption of IFRS for public companies in Argentina was effective for fiscal years beginning January 1, 2012. Therefore, the consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 for filing with the CNV were prepared in accordance with Argentine GAAP, which differs in certain respects from IFRS. According to the CNV regulations, financial statements under IFRS for the years 2011 and 2010 were presented as additional information to the consolidated financial statements prepared under Argentine GAAP.

You should read the information below in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto, as well as Presentation of Financial Information and Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects.

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### CONSOLIDATED SELECTED INCOME STATEMENT AND FINANCIAL POSITION DATA

	2014		2012 on, except per share r ADS data in P\$)	2011 e and	2010
INCOME STATEMENT DATA					
Total revenues and other income	33,388	27,350	22,196	18,528	14,652
Operating expenses (without depreciation and					
amortization)	(24,686)	(19,786)	(15,626)	(12,535)	(9,785)
Operating expenses - depreciation and amortization	(3,243)	(2,873)	(2,612)	(2,158)	(1,712)
Gain /(Loss) on disposal of PP&E and impairment of					
PP&E	(16)	(173)	8	22	7
Operating income	5,443	4,518	3,966	3,857	3,162
Other, net (1)	253	528	229	80	(137)
Income tax expense	(1,967)	(1,792)	(1,463)	(1,395)	(1,076)
Net income	3,729	3,254	2,732	2,542	1,949
Net income attributable to Telecom Argentina	3,673	3,202	2,685	2,513	1,935
Net income attributable to Non-controlling Interest	56	52	47	29	14
Number of shares outstanding at year-end (in millions of					
shares) (2)	969	969	984	984	984
Net income per share (basic and diluted) (3)	3.79	3.27	2.73	2.55	1.97
Net income per ADS (4)	18.95	16.35	13.64	12.76	9.83
Dividends per share (5)	1.24	1.03	0.82	0.93	1.07
Dividends per ADS (6)	6.20	5.11	4.10	4.65	5.35
FINANCIAL POSITION DATA					
Current assets	6,393	9,751	6,986	5,450	3,624
PP&E and intangible assets	19,140	12,745	10,549	9,735	8,598
Other non-current assets	784	634	274	134	101
Total assets	26,317	23,130	17,809	15,319	12,323
Current liabilities	9,097	9,050	5,883	5,519	4,510
Non-current liabilities	2,451	2,029	1,768	1,635	1,302
Total liabilities	11,548	11,079	7,651	7,154	5,812
Total equity	14,769	12,051	10,158	8,165	6,511
Equity attributable to Telecom Argentina	14,418	11,783	9,959	8,021	6,404
Non-controlling Interest	351	268	199	144	107
Total Capital Stock (7)	984	984	984	984	984

<sup>(1)</sup> Other, net includes Finance income and expenses.

<sup>(2)</sup> Number of ordinary shares outstanding at year-end (as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 excludes treasury shares).

<sup>(3)</sup> Calculated based on the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during each period (969,159,605 shares and 978,939,079 shares for the years 2014 and 2013, respectively, and 984,380,978 shares for the years 2012, 2011 and 2010).

<sup>(4)</sup> Calculated based on the equivalent in ADSs to the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during each period (193,831,921 ADSs and 195,787,816 ADSs for the years 2014 and 2013, respectively, and 196,876,196 ADSs for the years 2012, 2011 and 2010).

The 2014 dividend per share Argentine peso amount translated into U.S. dollars using the ask rate published by the Banco de la Nación Argentina (National Bank of Argentina) as of the date when dividends were available is US\$0.15.

- (6) The 2014 dividend per ADS Argentine peso amount translated into U.S. dollars using the ask rate published by the Banco de la Nación Argentina (National Bank of Argentina) as of the date when dividends were available is US\$0.75.
- (7) Ordinary shares of P\$1 of nominal value each.

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### OTHER SELECTED DATA

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Number of installed fixed lines (thousands)(1)	4,763	4,700	4,851	4,793	4,689
Number of fixed lines in service (thousands)(2)	4,093	4,124	4,128	4,141	4,107
Fixed lines in service per 100 inhabitants(3)	19	19	20	20	20
Lines in service per employee (4)	370	375	371	373	379
ARBU (in P\$/month) (national + international)	57.4	52.5	48.2	45.7	42.8
Fixed Internet access lines (thousands)	1,771	1,707	1,629	1,550	1,380
Arnet subscribers (thousands)	1,749	1,687	1,622	1,540	1,377
ARPU ADSL (access + ISP) (in P\$/month)	153.0	124.7	102.3	87.0	76.1
Mobile subscribers in Argentina (thousands)	19,585	20,088	18,975	18,193	16,333
Subscribers at year-end per employee (4)	3,950	3,897	3,612	3,774	3,738
ARPU (in P\$/month)	74.2	66.8	57.7	51.4	44.4
Mobile subscribers in Paraguay (thousands)(5)	2,481	2,420	2,301	2,149	1,878
Subscribers at year-end per employee(4) (6)	6,158	5,696	5,226	4,945	4,512
ARPU (in P\$/month)	47.9	34.6	27.5	26.4	22.2
Telecom Group Headcount(7)	16,416	16,581	16,808	16,346	15,647

(1) Reflects total number of lines available in Switches.

(2) Includes lines customers, own usage, public telephony and ISDN channels.

(3) Corresponds to the Northern Region of Argentina.

(4) Excluding temporary employees.

(5) Including Wi-Max Internet customers.

(6) Excluding Wi-Max Internet customers.

(7) Including temporary employees.

#### **Exchange Rates**

The following tables show, for the periods indicated, certain information regarding the exchange rates for U.S. dollars, expressed in nominal pesos per dollar (ask price). See Item 10 Additional Information Foreign Investment and Exchange Controls in Argentina.

	High	Low	Average(1)	End of Period
Year Ended December 31, 2010	3.99	3.84	3.92	3.98
Year Ended December 31, 2011	4.30	3.97	4.15	4.30
Year Ended December 31, 2012	4.92	4.30	4.55	4.92
Year Ended December 31, 2013	6.52	4.98	5.55	6.52
Year Ended December 31, 2014	8.55	7.87	8.23	8.55
Month Ended October 31, 2014	8.50	8.45	8.48	8.50
Month Ended November 30, 2014	8.53	8.51	8.51	8.52
Month Ended December 31, 2014	8.56	8.53	8.55	8.55
Month Ended January 31, 2015	8.64	8.56	8.60	8.64
Month Ended February 28, 2015	8.73	8.66	8.69	8.73
Month Ended March 31, 2015	8.82	8.73	8.78	8.82

April 2015 (through April 21, 2015)	8.87	8.83	8.85	8.87

(1) Yearly data reflect average of month-end rates.

Sources: Banco de la Nación Argentina

On April 21, 2015, the exchange rate was P\$8.87= US\$1.00.

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### **Capitalization and Indebtedness**

Not applicable.

### Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

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#### **Risk Factors**

This Section is intended to be a summary of more detailed discussions contained elsewhere in this Annual Report. The risks described below are not the only ones that we face. Additional risks that we do not presently consider material, or of which we are not currently aware, may also affect us. Our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be materially and adversely affected if any of these risks materializes and, as a result, the market price of our shares and our ADSs could decline. You should carefully consider these risks with respect to an investment in Telecom Argentina.

**Risks Relating to Argentina** 

#### Overview

Substantially all of our property, operations and customers are located in Argentina, and a portion of our assets and liabilities are denominated in foreign currencies. Accordingly, our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows depend to a significant extent on economic and political conditions prevailing in Argentina and on the exchange rates between the peso and foreign currencies. In 2001 and 2002, the Argentine economy experienced a severe recession as well as a political crisis. The abandonment of dollar-peso parity in 2002 led to the significant devaluation of the peso against major international currencies. Argentina has experienced economic growth in the last decade, although it slowed down in 2014. Uncertainty remains as to whether the growth is sustainable, as well as how several factors would impact the Argentine economy, including among others, inflation rates, exchange rates, commodity prices, level of BCRA reserves, public debt, tax pressures and healthy trade and fiscal balances.

# Devaluation of the peso may adversely affect our results of operations, our capital expenditure program and the ability to service our liabilities and transfer funds abroad.

Since we realize a substantial portion of our revenues in pesos (our functional currency), any devaluation may negatively affect the U.S. dollar value of our earnings while increasing, in peso terms, our expenses and capital expenditures denominated in foreign currency. A depreciation in the Argentine Peso against major foreign currencies may also have an adverse impact on our capital expenditure program and increase the peso amount of our trade liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. Telecom seeks to manage the risk of devaluation of the peso by entering from time to time into certain NDF agreements to completely or partially hedge its exposure to foreign currency fluctuations caused by its liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. See Item 11 Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk. Additionally, after December 31, 2014, Personal entered into a loan with a foreign bank for a total amount of US\$40.8 million. See Item 4 Information on the Company Introduction Recent Developments Telecom Personal s financial debt.

The Argentine Peso has been subject to significant devaluation against the U.S. dollar in the past and may be subject to fluctuations in the future. According to the exchange rate published by the Banco de la Nación Argentina, in the year ended December 31, 2014 the devaluation of the peso against the U.S. dollar was 31.1% (32.5% and 14.4% in the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively).

In late 2011 the Argentine government implemented a series of measures aimed at maintaining the level of reserves of the BCRA which are often used to fulfill payment obligations of public debt. To that effect, during the last quarter of 2011 and throughout 2012, 2013 and 2014, new measures to limit the purchase of foreign currency by private companies and individuals, such as requiring the authorization of tax authorities to access the foreign exchange market, were implemented. Given the economic and political conditions in Argentina, we cannot predict whether, and to what extent, the value of the peso may depreciate or appreciate against the U.S. dollar, the euro or other foreign currencies. We cannot predict how these conditions will affect the consumption of services provided by the Telecom Group or our ability to meet our liabilities denominated in currencies other than the peso. Moreover, we cannot predict whether the Argentine government will further modify its monetary, fiscal, and exchange rate policy or if a unified exchange market (Mercado Único y Libre de Cambios or MULC) with significant regulation and restrictions for the purchase and transfer of foreign currency or

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if multiple exchange rates differentiated by nature of the transactions will be implemented. If any of these changes takes place we cannot anticipate the impact these could have on the value of the peso and, accordingly, on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows, and on our ability to transfer funds abroad in order to comply with commercial or financial obligations or dividend payments to shareholders located abroad.

#### Inflation could accelerate, causing adverse effects on the economy and negatively impacting Telecom s margins.

In the past, Argentina has experienced periods of high inflation. Inflation has increased since 2005 and has remained relatively high since then. There can be no assurance that inflation rates will not be higher in the future.

During the last few years there has been a substantial disparity between the inflation indexes published by the INDEC and those higher estimated by private consulting firms.

Since January 2014, a new consumer price index is published aimed at improving the accuracy of measurement of the evolution of the prices in the economy. The new index integrates a set of price indexes which allows the monitoring of the change in several prices in the economy (wholesale, commodities and construction costs, among others) by considering the price information from all the provinces of the country. In 2014 the new consumer price index (IPCNu) showed an increase of 23.8%. In addition, the IPCNu for January and February 2015 was 1.1% and 0.9%, respectively.

The INDEC estimates that the Argentine wholesale price index increased by 12.7% in 2011, 13.1% in 2012, 14.8% in 2013 and 28.3% in 2014.

The Argentine government continued implementing several actions to monitor and control prices for the most relevant goods and services. Despite such actions, the Argentine economy continues to experience inflation. If the value of the peso cannot be stabilized through fiscal and monetary policies, a significant increase in inflation rates could be expected.

Since the majority of our revenues are denominated in pesos, any further increase in the rate of inflation not accompanied by a parallel increase in our prices would decrease our revenues in real terms and adversely affect our results of operations. As discussed below under Risks Associated with Telecom and its Operations, Telecom Argentina s ability to increase its regulated rates and the Company s ability to increase its non-regulated rates is subject to the way the Argentine government or the Regulatory Bodies will regulate the new mechanism regarding price and tariff increases resulting from the LAD. We cannot guarantee that any possible rate increase will be sufficient to counter the effect of inflation, and we cannot assure you that any future increase of regulated rates of services provided by Telecom Argentina will be sufficient to restore its economic-financial equation.

Also, higher inflation leads to a reduction in the purchasing power of the population, mainly those unemployed and with low salary levels, thus increasing the risk of a lower level of service consumption from our fixed and mobile customers in Argentina.

# Future policies of the Argentine government may affect the economy as well as the operations of the telecommunications industry, including Telecom Argentina.

The Argentine government has historically exercised significant influence over the economy, and telecommunications companies in particular have operated in a highly regulated environment. Due to the economic crisis of 2001 and 2002, the Argentine government promulgated numerous, far-reaching regulations affecting the economy and telecommunications companies in particular. In this context, the CNC adopted new interpretations of applicable regulations and imposed fines on telecommunications companies, particularly incumbent operators including our company. Also, new regulations such as SC Resolution No. 5/13 regarding the quality of telecommunication services could further increase penalties imposed by the Regulatory Bodies. In addition, local municipalities in the regions where we operate have also introduced regulations and proposed various taxes and fees for the installation of infrastructure, equipment and expansion of fixed line and mobile networks. For example, municipalities usually restrict areas where antennas may be deployed; causing negative impact for the mobile service coverage, which in turn affects our quality of services. See Item 4 Information on the Company The Business Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services Mobile Telecommunication Services in Argentina Personal Personal s Network and Equipment. Provinces have increased, and are continuing to increase, their tax rates, particularly the turnover tax rates,

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resulting in the highest rates in history. Municipal and provincial tax authorities have also brought an increasing number of claims against us. We disagree with these proceedings and we are contesting them. See Item 8 Financial Information Legal Proceedings Tax Matters for more information.

In particular, in recent years the Argentine government has taken several actions to re-nationalize concessions and public services companies that were privatized in the 1990 s, such as Aguas Argentinas S.A. and Aerolíneas Argentinas S.A. Additionally, in May 2012, Law No. 26,741, established the expropriation of the 51% of the capital stock of YPF S.A. and the 51% of the capital stock of YPF GAS S.A., which were directly or indirectly owned by Repsol YPF S.A. (Repsol). After almost two years of negotiations, in February 2014 a final agreement was reached through which the Argentine government set the compensation for the expropriated capital stock in the amount of US\$5 billion to be paid with government securities. The agreement was timely approved by Repsol and its shareholders and by the Argentine Congress in April 2014 through Law No. 26,932.

Argentina s National election for President and Vice-President will take place in October 2015, and other relevant local and federal elections will also take place in 2015. We cannot guarantee that current programs and policies that apply to the telecommunications sector will remain in effect. Further claims may not be resolved in our favor, and changes to the existing laws and regulations may adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

#### The Argentine government may exercise greater intervention in private sector companies, including Telecom Argentina.

The global economic and financial crisis of 2008 has resulted in a significant reduction in global GDP growth and a loss in consumer confidence in the financial sectors of many countries. To improve the countries financial condition and assist certain troubled industries, some governments have responded with extraordinary intervention in the private sector. Certain governments of the leading industrialized nations have implemented various financial rescue plans outlining new regulatory frameworks that would be expected to remain in effect at least until market conditions and investor and consumer confidence have stabilized.

In November 2008, Argentina nationalized, through Law No. 26,425, its private pension and retirement system, which had been previously administered by the AFJP, and appointed ANSES as its administrator. Argentina s nationalization of its pension and retirement system constituted a significant change in the government s approach towards Argentina s main publicly traded companies. A significant portion of the public float of these companies was owned by the AFJP and is currently held by ANSES, such as the case of Telecom. See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions. The Government could exercise influence over corporate governance decisions of companies in which it owns shares by combining its ability to exercise its shareholder voting rights to designate board and supervisory committee members with its ability to dictate tax and regulatory matters. Additionally, since the AFJP were significant institutional investors in Argentina, the nationalization of the private retirement system affected the way to access financing in capital markets for publicly traded companies.

In addition during 2012, Decree No. 1,278/12 stated that the Secretary of Economic Policy and Development Planning of the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance is responsible for the implementation of policies and actions regarding the exercise of shareholder rights of the equity shares of companies where the Argentine government is a minority shareholder and approved for that purpose a Regulation of officers and directors appointed by the shares or equity interests of the Argentine government, establishing the rules that they must follow in performing their duties.

Subsequently, the Secretary of Economic Policy and Development Planning approved Resolution No. 110/12 which assigns the responsibilities, powers and duties set forth in Decree No. 1,278/12 to the *Dirección Nacional de Empresas con participación del Estado* (National Direction of Corporations with government participation). The person in charge of the Dirección Nacional de Empresas con participación del Estado acts as member of Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors. See Item 6 Directors, Senior Management and Employees The Board of Directors.

In January 2013, Law No. 26,831 came into effect, granting new intervention powers to the CNV. In September 2013, the CNV issued regulations pursuant to Law No. 26,831 through Resolution No. 622/13 that approved the new text of the CNV rules. See Item 9 The Offer and Listing The Argentine Securities Market Capital Markets Law Law No. 26,831.

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These matters could create uncertainties for some investors of public companies in Argentina, including Telecom Argentina.

#### Argentina s economy may contract in the future due to international and domestic conditions which may adversely affect our operations.

The effects of the global economic and financial crisis in recent years and the general weakness in the global economy may negatively affect emerging economies like Argentina s. Although Argentina has experienced economic growth in recent years, and a deceleration in 2014, global financial instability may impact the Argentine economy and cause Argentina a slowdown of the growth rate or could lead to a recession with consequences in the trade and fiscal balances and in the unemployment index.

Several international economic, social and political factors could affect the global economy, such as, among other factors, volatility in commodities prices, exposure to changes in the oil prices, a growing concern regarding government deficits, governments abilities to honor their respective sovereign debts, social unrest and general uncertainty about the global economic recovery.

Moreover, the growth trend that the Argentine economy has experienced in the most recent years, which slowed down in 2014, might be negatively affected by several domestic factors such as an appreciation of the real exchange rate which could affect its competitiveness, thus reducing exports. Also, the reduction in the price of soybeans and other commodities and the increase of energy imports could result in diminishing or even reversing the country s positive trade balance. All these factors, if coupled with an increase in capital outflows, might reduce consumption and private investment levels. In 2014 some of these effects were visible in Argentina. Additionally, abrupt changes in monetary and fiscal policies or foreign exchange regime could rapidly affect local economic output, while lack of appropriate levels of investment in certain economy sectors could reduce long term growth. Because access to the international financial market could be limited, an increase in public spending not correlated with an increase in public revenues could affect the country s fiscal results and generate uncertainties that might affect the economy s level of growth. In order to improve the trade balance and maintain BCRA reserves, the Argentine government may implement new measures to restrict imports of critical supplies for certain activities, that could have a negative effect on economic growth, including telecommunications sector due to its dependence on cutting edge technologies as well as handsets, especially regarding the deployment of 4G network.

If international and domestic economic conditions for Argentina were to worsen, Argentina could be negatively affected as a result of lower international demand and lower prices for its products and services, higher international interest rates, lower capital inflows and higher risk aversion, which may also adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

# Economic and legal conditions in Argentina remain uncertain which may affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Although general economic conditions have shown improvement in the last decade, and political protests and social disturbances have diminished considerably since the economic crisis of 2001 and 2002, the nature of the changes in the Argentine political, economic and legal environment over the past several years has given rise to uncertainties about the country s business environment.

In the event of any economic, social or political crisis, companies in Argentina may face the risk of strikes, expropriation, nationalization, forced modification of existing contracts, and changes in taxation policies including tax increases and retroactive tax claims. In addition, Argentine courts have issued rulings changing the existing jurisprudence on labor matters and requiring companies to assume increasing responsibility for, and assumption of costs and risks associated with, using sub-contracted labor and the calculation of salaries, severance payments and social security contributions. Since we operate in a context in which the governing law and applicable regulations change frequently, it is difficult to predict whether our activities will be affected positively, negatively or at all by such changes.

Substantially all of our operations, properties and customers are located in Argentina, and, as a result, our business is, to a large extent, dependent upon economic and legal conditions prevailing in Argentina. If economic and legal conditions in Argentina were to deteriorate, they would be expected to have an adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

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# Argentina s past fiscal problems and the incomplete restructuring of Argentina s sovereign debt could negatively affect the macroeconomic environment in which we operate.

Argentina has a history of fiscal deficits. Since almost all of the financial obligations of the Argentine government were denominated in foreign currencies at the time the dollar-peso parity was eliminated in early 2002, there was an increase in the cost of financial services (in terms of Argentine Pesos) of the debt of the Argentine government. Also, since the Argentine government s fiscal revenues were denominated in large part in Argentine Pesos, the Argentine government was severely affected in its ability to carry out its payment obligations using foreign currency and defaulted on a significant part of its public debt in 2002. The Argentine government s sovereign debt default and its consequences may continue to negatively affect the ability of private companies, including Telecom, to access the capital markets or other forms of financing.

After Argentina s default in 2001, the Government successfully restructured 92% of the debt through two debt exchange offers in 2005 and 2010. Nonetheless, a number of bondholders who held out from the exchange offers have initiated legal actions and obtained favorable rulings in the New York State Court of Appeals in the first and second instances. Argentina appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, but in June 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected Argentina s appeal. This decision obliged Argentina to pay in cash the original debt plus accrued, punitive and compensatory interest on the original agreements.

One holdout bondholder sought to have its New York ruling recognized by the judiciary in Argentina, in order to enforce it against the sovereign debtor. In March 2014, the Argentine Supreme Court held that such ruling affected public policy principles of Argentine Law and hence could not be recognized. Recognizing such a ruling would entail the circumvention, by the holdout bondholder, of the debt restructuring process arranged by Argentina, said the Court. Furthermore, the Court sustained that, under dire economic and financial conditions, the Argentine Republic had powers to limit, suspend or restructure debt payments to adequate them to its financial capabilities, the provision of public services and the fulfillment of basic public functions that cannot be abandoned.

In addition, in September 2014, the Argentine Congress enacted Law No. 26,984 which declares in the public interest the 2005-2010 restructuring of Argentina s sovereign debt, as well as the payments made to holders of the restructured debt under fair, equitable, legal and reasonable conditions. The objective of the law is to implement legal instruments to protect the payments to be made to all the holders of the restructured debt in order to safeguard Argentina s national public interest and the agreements reached in the framework of such restructuring.

As of today, based on that Law and the Argentine Supreme Court Argentina ruling, Argentina refuses to comply with the judgment of the New York State Court of Appeals. This situation prevents the proper payment process of the restructured debt under New York s, the United Kingdom s and Japanese legislation. Moreover a U.S. judge ruled Argentina to be in contempt of court. The situation could reduce the sources of funding and investment capital and could potentially impact the Government s ability to adopt measures that promote economic growth.

Additionally, in order to be able to repay its debt, the Argentine government may be required to continue adopting austere fiscal measures or additional extensive measures affecting private sector (such as higher taxes) that could adversely affect economic growth and the private consumer confidence.

As of June 30, 2014, according to the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance, the outstanding principal amount of Argentina s public debt was equivalent to US\$198.9 billion (of which approximately 68% was denominated in foreign currency) of which US\$11.9 billion were not tendered

in the exchange offers and are still pending to be restructured (approximately 42.8% of Argentina s GDP).

There can be no assurance that any event of default by the Argentine government will not lead to a new recession, higher inflation, restrictions on Argentine companies to access financing and funds, limit the actions on the operations of Argentine companies in the international markets, higher unemployment and social unrest, which would negatively affect our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, we have investments in sovereign Argentine bonds amounting to P\$258 million as of December 31, 2014, which could be restructured in a way that negatively affects their valuation and repayment terms. See Note 20 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

## The Argentine banking system may be subject to instability which could affect our operations.

The Argentine banking system has experienced several crisis in the past. Among those, the Argentine banking system collapsed in 2001 and 2002, when the Argentine government restricted bank withdrawals and required mandatory conversion of dollar deposits to pesos. From 2005 to 2007, a period of economic growth coupled with relative stability of the country s exchange rate and inflation resulted in the restoration of public confidence, a gradual accumulation of deposits in Argentine financial institutions, and improved liquidity of the financial system. However, since 2008 certain events like internal conflicts with certain sectors of the economy, the international financial crisis and finally, the increased regulation on the foreign exchange market, decreased depositors confidence. In recent years, the Argentine financial system grew significantly with a marked increase in loans and private deposits, showing a recovery of credit activity. In spite of the fact that the financial system s deposits continue to grow, they are mostly demand on short-term time deposits and the sources of medium and long-term funding for financial institutions are currently limited. In 2014, private deposits (28%). As a result, interest rates on placements (Private Badlar rate) performed at an average rate of 23%. Meanwhile, loans granted in pesos continued expanding but at a slower pace, in comparison with previous years, where personal loans

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and credit cards financing showed the highest increases. Despite improvements in stability since 2002 we cannot be certain that another collapse will not occur in the future.

Financial institutions are particularly subject to significant regulation from multiple regulatory authorities, all of whom may, amongst other things, establish limits on commissions and impose sanctions on the institutions. The lack of a stable regulatory framework could impose significant limitations on the activities of the financial institutions and could induce uncertainty with respect to the financial system stability.

Despite the strong liquidity currently prevailing in the system, a new crisis or the consequent instability of one or more of the larger banks, public or private, could have a material adverse effect on the prospects for economic growth and political stability in Argentina, resulting in a loss of consumer confidence, lower disposable income and fewer financing alternatives for consumers. These conditions would have a material adverse effect on us by resulting in lower usage of our services and the possibility of a higher level of uncollectible accounts or increase the credit risk of the counterparties regarding the Company investments in local financial institutions.

#### Shareholders may be liable under Argentine law for actions that are determined to be illegal or ultra vires.

Under Argentine law, a shareholder s liability for losses of a company is limited to the value of his or her shareholdings in the company. Under Argentine law, however, shareholders who vote in favor of a resolution that is subsequently declared void by a court as contrary to Argentine law or a company s bylaws (or regulations, if any) may be held jointly and severally liable for damages to such company, to other shareholders or to third parties resulting from such resolution. In connection with recommending any action for approval by shareholders, Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors occasionally obtains and plans to obtain opinions of counsel concerning the compliance of its actions with Argentine law and Telecom Argentina s bylaws (or regulations if any). Although, based on advice of counsel, Telecom Argentina believes that a court in Argentina in which a case has been properly presented would hold that a non-controlling shareholder voting in good faith and without a conflict of interest in favor of such a resolution and based on the advice of counsel that such resolution is not contrary to Argentine law or the Company s bylaws or regulations, would not be liable under this provision, we cannot assure you that such a court would in fact rule in this manner.

### The recent reform of the Argentine Civil and Commercial Code and the New Supply Law may materially impact our operations

The Argentine government has implemented extensive changes in laws and regulations which grant the Government increased power to intervene in commercial and civil activities such as the reform to the Argentine Civil and Commercial Code and the New Supply Law.

On October 1, 2014, the Argentine Congress passed Law No. 26,994 which approved the new Argentine Civil and Commercial Code (the Code) which will take effect from August 1, 2015. The new code introduces significant changes to the Argentine legal system, abrogates several laws and modifies others, including the Argentine Corporations Law No. 19,550 and the Consumer Protection Law.

Among the reforms introduced are the addition of new categories of contracts, such as adhesion contracts with standard form clauses and consumer contracts. The reform also includes a series of general principles with respect to consumer contracts which complement the Consumer Protection Law (Law No. 24,240). Practices that limit consumers freedom of contract, particularly practices that tie the provision of goods and

services to the simultaneous acquisition of other goods and services, are specifically regulated.

It also provides that contracts with payment denominated in foreign currency are to be regarded as contracts for goods which may be paid for in Argentine pesos.

The reform also creates modern contract forms such as commercial agency, commercial concession, distribution and franchise contracts which were not previously covered by existing law. It expands limitations on the assumption of freely bargained contracts which previously had only been applicable to consumer contracts; and it allows judges to modify unfair clauses in contracts.

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With respect to agency contracts, the Civil and Commercial Code assumes an indefinite duration period unless otherwise specified by the parties. The continuation of an agency relationship beyond the term of a contract would create a new contract for an indefinite period on the same terms. For either party to end the relationship, that party must provide advance notice of one month per year of the duration of the agreement. A party who fails to give such notice would be liable for consequential damages, lost profits and other damages.

The reform to the Civil and Commercial Code has introduced extensive changes that will require judicial interpretation, and the ultimate consequences of the reform may be unpredictable. The Company is reviewing, among other things, contractual guidelines with our suppliers and customers (for example, bundling offers), as well as payments under our contracts denominated in foreign currency. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Legal Framework New Federal Civil and Commercial Code.

In addition, Law No. 26,991 of Regulation of the Production and Consumer Relations came into force on October 2, 2014. This law materially modifies the provisions of the Supply Law No. 20,680. The new law provides that if economic agents undertake certain types of conduct (such as artificially increasing prices, accumulating raw material, unjustifiably restricting the sale of goods or services, etc.), the authorities will have wide powers to intervene issuing production and commercialization rules, fixing prices or revenue margins, granting subsidies, among others. The authorities will also have the power to impose penalties.

Management is currently analyzing the New Supply Law. As of the date of this Annual Report, we cannot predict the impact it may have on the Telecom Group. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Legal Framework New Supply Law.

#### **Risks Associated with Telecom and its Operations**

## The Pesification and freezing of rates may continue to adversely affect Telecom Argentina s revenues.

In accordance with the Public Emergency Law, in January 2002, rates for Basic Telephone Services and long distance services were converted to pesos and fixed at an exchange rate of P\$1.00=US\$1.00. The rates that Telecom Argentina could charge had to be determined by negotiations between Telecom Argentina and the Argentine government. According to the Public Emergency Law, while undertaking these negotiations, the Argentine government had to consider the effect of these rates on the competitiveness of the general economy, the quality of service and investment plans of service providers, as contractually agreed. The Argentine government had to also consider consumer protection, accessibility of the services and the profitability of public service providers such as Telecom Argentina. The Public Emergency Law has been subsequently extended through December 31, 2015. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates.

On March 6, 2006, Telecom Argentina executed a Letter of Understanding (the Letter of Understanding 2006) with the Argentine government pursuant to which Telecom Argentina would be permitted to raise certain rates and incorporate certain modifications to the regulatory framework. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates.

The Letter of Understanding 2006 contemplated the signing and effectiveness of the Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation upon the fulfillment of certain necessary steps by the National government, which has never occurred.

The LAD, which came into force on December 19, 2014, sets up a new legal framework for telecommunication services. With respect to rates, the LAD under Title VI - Article 48, established the rule on prices and rates, which states that licensees of ICT services may set their prices which shall be fair and reasonable, to offset the exploitation costs and to tend to the efficient supply and reasonable margin of operation. However, essential and strategic public service ICT tariffs that the Law has declared in competition, the tariffs of services that are under the Universal Service regime, and those tariffs that were stated to be of public interest by AFTIC could be regulated by such regulatory body.

As of the date of this Annual Report, Management of the Company is assessing the implementation of alternative courses of action according to the new regulatory and legal framework.

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Additionally, we cannot predict the way the Argentine government or the Regulatory Bodies will interpret the new mechanism regarding price and tariff increases. If rate restrictions for regulated services continue in the fixed services or new restrictions are imposed in non-regulated services, our operating margins could be negatively affected.

# We must comply with conditions in our license, and regulations and laws related thereto, and such compliance may at times be outside of our control.

We are subject to a complex series of laws and regulations with respect to most of the telecommunications services that we provide. Such laws and regulations are often governed by considerations of public policy. We provide telecommunications services pursuant to licenses that are subject to regulation by various regulatory bodies. Any partial or total revocation of the licenses would likely have a material adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Our dissolution and the declaration of bankruptcy, among others, are events that may lead to a revocation of our licenses.

Certain license conditions are not within our control. For example, any transfer of shares resulting in a direct or indirect loss of control in Telecom Argentina without prior approval of the regulatory authorities may result in the revocation of Telecom Argentina s license. See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Shareholders of Nortel. Pursuant to the provisions of Telecom Argentina s List of Conditions as amended by SC Resolutions No. 111/03 and No. 29/04: (i) any reduction of ownership of Nortel in our capital stock to less than 51% without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies; or (ii) any reduction of ownership of currently common shareholders in the capital stock with voting power of Nortel to less than 51% without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies, may result in the revocation of Telecom Argentina s telecommunications license.

Nortel owns all of Telecom Argentina s Class A Ordinary Shares (51% of our total capital stock) and approximately 7.64% of our Class B Ordinary Shares (3.74% of our total capital stock) which, in the aggregate, represents approximately 54.74% of our total capital stock as of the date of this Annual Report. Because Telecom Argentina owns 15,221,373 of its own Class B Shares as of the date of this Annual Report, Nortel s ownership of the outstanding shares amounts to 55.60% (51.80% consists of Class A Ordinary Shares and 3.80% of Class B Ordinary Shares). We are directly controlled by Nortel by virtue of Nortel s ownership of a majority of our capital stock; however, Nortel s controlling interest is subject to certain agreements among Sofora s shareholders and it is also subject to obligations and limitations defined by the Regulatory Authorities.

Compliance with conditions in our license and related regulations and laws may be affected by events or circumstances outside of our control, and therefore we cannot predict whether such events or circumstances will occur and if any do occur, this could result in an adverse effect on our financial condition, our operations and cash flows.

#### We operate in a competitive environment that may result in a reduction in our market share in the future.

We compete with licensed provider groups, composed of, among others, independent fixed line service providers, mobile and cable operators, as well as individual licensees, some of which are affiliated with major service providers outside Argentina.

Internet and mobile services, which we expect will continue to account for an increasing percentage of our revenues in the future, are characterized by rapidly changing technology, evolving industry standards, changes in customer preferences and the frequent introduction of new services and products. To remain competitive in the fixed telecommunications market, we must invest in our fixed-line network and information technology. Specifically, in the Internet services market, we must constantly upgrade our access technology and software in order to increase the speed, embrace emerging transmission technologies and improve the commercial offers and the user experience. Also, to remain competitive in the mobile telecommunications market, we must continue to enhance our mobile networks by expanding our 3G network and deploying our recently acquired 4G network. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 *Spectrum*. Future technological developments may result in decreased customer demand for certain of our services or even render them obsolete. In addition, as new technologies develop, equipment may need to be replaced or upgraded or network

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facilities (in particular, mobile and Internet network facilities) may need to be rebuilt in whole or in part, at substantial cost, to remain competitive. These enhancements and the implementation of new technologies will continue requiring increased capital expenditures.

We also anticipate that we will have to devote significant resources to the refurbishment and maintenance of our existing network infrastructure to comply with regulatory obligations and to remain competitive with the quality of our services in both Internet and mobile business. In addition, we must comply with the obligations arising from the acquisition of the 4G spectrum. We also expect to continue to devote resources to customer retention and loyalty in such segments.

The deployment of our wireless network requires authorizations from municipalities to enable the installation of new sites throughout the country, which if not obtained in a timely manner and form, limit the growth of our business and affect the quality of services provided by Personal. If Personal is not successful in obtaining those permissions and if its competitors do obtain them, this could result in a competitive disadvantage for Personal.

The macroeconomic situation in Argentina may adversely affect our ability to successfully invest in, and implement, new technologies, coverage and services in a timely fashion. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that we will have the ability to make needed capital expenditures and operating expenses. If we are unable to make these capital expenditures, or if our competitors are able to invest in their businesses to a greater degree and/or faster than we are, our competitive position will be adversely impacted.

Moreover, the products and services that we offer may fail to generate revenues or attract and retain customers. If our competitors present similar or better responsiveness, functionality, services, speed, plans or features, our customer base and our revenues may be materially affected.

Competition is and will continue to be affected by our competitors business strategies and alliances. Accordingly, we may face additional pressure on the rates that we charge for our services or experience a loss of market share of fixed and mobile services. In addition, the general business and economic climate in Argentina may affect us and our competitors differently; thus our ability to compete in the market could be adversely affected.

Even though the Company grew and developed in recent years in a highly competitive market, because of the range of regulatory, business and economic uncertainties we face, as discussed in this Risk Factors section, it is difficult for us to predict with meaningful precision and accuracy our future market share in relevant geographic areas and customer segments, the drop in our customer s consumption which could result in a reduction of our revenue market share, the speed with which change in our market share or prevailing prices for services may occur or the effects of competition. Those effects could be material and adverse to our overall financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

# The Auction Terms and Conditions established strict coverage and network deployment commitments which will require significant capital expenditures on the part of Personal in the near future.

The Auction Terms and Conditions established strict coverage and network deployment commitments which will require significant capital expenditures on the part of Personal. Certain external factors, some of which are described in this Risk Factor section, could significantly affect

our ability to timely and properly meet the demanding commitments established by the Terms and Conditions.

In addition, through Resolution No. 83/14 the SC partially awarded to Personal the frequency bands integrating Lot 8 of the Spectrum Public Auction established by SC Resolution No. 38/14. The awarded frequency bands are the 1,730-1,745 MHz and 2,130-2,145 MHz bands, while the 713-723 MHz and 768-778 MHz bands have not been awarded. The payment for Lot 8 was made on account of the single and total price offered for the referred Lot.

Personal requested that the awarding of the frequency bands for the SCMA Services forming Lot 8 should be completed, and it made the corresponding reservation of rights, stating that the demanding commitments established by the Auction Terms and Conditions be computed as from the date in which the remaining frequency bands were awarded. If those frequency bands were not awarded to Personal, the Auction commitments should be redefined to establish which commitments correspond to the frequency bands which were effectively awarded. However, despite Personal

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defense of its position, we cannot provide assurance that the commitments will be modified to meet Personal s request. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 *Spectrum*.

The recently enacted Law No. 27,078 Argentine Digital Law (LAD) substantially modified the telecommunications regulatory framework, the impact is uncertain.

On December 19, 2014, Law No. 27,078 (the Argentina Digital Law or LAD) came into force. The new Law declares the development of the ICT and its associated resources to be in the public interest and incorporates major amendments to the regulatory legal framework applicable to the provision of telecommunication services in Argentina. The Law also vests to the PEN with broad powers for its regulation. As of the date of this Annual Report, is still pending the regulation to implement the provisions of the Law. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates Other Regulations *Law No. 27,078 (LAD)*.

As a result, there is uncertainty regarding which will be the interpretations of the new regulatory framework for the Argentine telecommunications industry regarding price regulation, provision of infrastructure to other operators, sanctionary regime, asymmetric regulation for dominant operators, among others, as well as the operational, economic and financial impact that the LAD will have on the Telecom Group and its competitors in the following years.

# Actual or perceived health risks or other problems relating to mobile handsets or transmission masts could lead to litigation or decreased mobile communications usage.

The effects of, and any damage caused by, exposure to an electromagnetic field were and are the subject of careful evaluations by the international scientific community, but until now there is no scientific evidence of harmful effects on health. We cannot rule out that exposure to electromagnetic fields or other emissions originating from wireless handsets will not be identified as a health risk in the future.

Personal complies with the international security standards established by the World Health Organization and Argentine regulations -which are similar- and mandatory for all Argentine mobile operators. Our mobile business may be harmed as a result of any future alleged health risk. For example, the perception of these health risks could result in a lower number of customers, reduced usage per customer or potential consumer liability. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates Other Regulations Regulation applicable to mobile antenna radiation.

#### Operational risks could adversely affect our reputation and our profitability.

Telecom faces operational risks inherent in its business, including those resulting from inadequate internal and external processes, fraud, inability to perform certain operations required by the judiciary due to inadequate technology, employee errors or misconduct, failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations, failure to document transactions properly or systems failures. In addition, unauthorized access to the Company s information systems or institutional sites could cause the loss or improper use of confidential information, unauthorized changes in the Company s information and network systems or alterations to the Company s information published on these sites. These events could result

in direct or indirect losses, technical failures in the Company s ability to provide its services, inaccurate information for decision making, adverse legal and regulatory proceedings, and harm our reputation and operational effectiveness, among others.

Telecom s suppliers of goods and services are contractually obliged to comply with laws and regulations (including tax, labor, social security, anti-corruption, money laundering standards, etc.). Additionally, our suppliers shall comply with a set of conduct standards such as the Code of Ethics, established by the Telecom Group as well as they have to require its compliance to its employees and subcontractors. Despite these legal safeguards and monitoring efforts made in the Telecom Group in relation to its suppliers, we cannot ensure that they will comply with all applicable standards. As a result, Telecom could be adversely affected in a monetary, criminal or reputational way, despite our contractual rights to claim for compensations for damages that they could cause to us.

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Telecom has Risk Management practices at the highest levels (including a Risk Management Committee) designed to detect, manage and monitor the evolution of these kinds of operational risks.

However, there is no guarantee that these measures will be successful in effectively mitigating the operational risks that Telecom faces and such failures could have a material adverse effect on its results of operations and could harm its reputation.

Nortel, as our controlling shareholder, and Sofora, as Nortel s controlling shareholder, exercise control over significant matters affecting us.

Nortel is our direct controlling shareholder. Sofora owns 100% of the common stock of Nortel, which represents 78.38% of the total capital stock of Nortel as of the date of this Annual Report. Sofora is 51% owned by Telecom Italia Group, 32% owned by W de Argentina Inversiones and 17% owned by Fintech Telecom LLC.

Through their ownership of Sofora and the Shareholders Agreement between them, the Telecom Italia Group and W de Argentina Inversiones have, as a general matter, the ability to determine the outcome of any action requiring our shareholders approval, including the ability to elect a majority of directors and members of the Supervisory Committee. In addition, we have been informed that, pursuant to the Shareholders Agreement entered into between the Telecom Italia Group and the Werthein Group, the Telecom Italia Group and W de Argentina Inversiones have agreed among themselves to certain matters relating to the election of our directors and those of Nortel and Sofora and have given W de Argentina Inversiones veto power with respect to certain matters relating to us. See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Shareholders Agreement.

We have engaged in and will continue to engage in transactions with these shareholders of Nortel and, at the present time, of Sofora, and their affiliates. Certain decisions concerning our operations or financial structure may present conflicts of interest between these shareholders as indirect owners of Telecom Argentina s capital stock and as parties with interests in these related party contracts.

Nevertheless, all related party transactions are made on an arm s length basis and those which exceed 1% of Telecom Argentina s shareholders equity are subject to a prior approval process established by Law No. 26,831 and require involvement of the Audit Committee and/or an opinion of two independent valuation firms as well as subsequent approval by the Board of Directors to verify that the agreement could reasonably be considered to be in accordance with normal and habitual market practice. See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Related Party Transactions.

On November 14, 2013 Telecom Italia S.p.A. and Telecom Italia International N.V. (collectively, the Sellers) and Tierra Argentea S.A. (Tierra Argentea, a company controlled by the Sellers) announced their acceptance of the offer made by Fintech to acquire Telecom Italia s controlling stake in Telecom Argentina owned by the Sellers through their subsidiaries Sofora, Nortel, and Tierra Argentea.

On October 25, 2014, Telecom Italia S.p.A. announced the acceptance of an offer by Fintech to amend and restate the agreement announced on November 14, 2013. As a result: 1) on October 29, 2014 Telecom Italia International N.V. transferred 17% of the capital stock of Sofora to

Fintech; 2) it was confirmed that the transfer of the 51% controlling interest in Sofora is subject to the prior regulatory approval of the SC and closing of the transaction will not occur until such approval is obtained. It is expected that the transfer of such controlling interest will take place within the next two and a half years.

If the transaction is consummated, Fintech will have the ability to exert significant control over us, including the right to nominate, through our parent companies, Sofora and Nortel, the majority of our directors pursuant to the terms of the Shareholders AgreementSee Item 7 Major Shareholder and Related Party Transactions Shareholders of Nortel.

## Our operations and financial condition could be affected by union negotiations.

In Argentina, labor organizations have substantial support and have considerable political influence. In recent years, the demands of our labor organizations have increased mainly as a result of

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the increase in the cost of living, which was affected by increased inflation, higher tax pressure over salaries and the consequent decline in the population s purchasing power.

If labor organization claims continue or are sustained, this could result in increased costs, greater conflict in the negotiation process and strikes (including general strikes and strikes of the company employees and the contractors and subcontractors employees) that may adversely affect our operations. See Item 6 Directors, Senior Management and Employees Employees and Labor Relations.

# The Argentine government may order salary increases to be paid to employees in the private sector or changes in labor regulations, which would increase our cost of doing business.

The Argentine government has in the past and may in the future promulgate laws, regulations and decrees requiring companies in the private sector to maintain minimum wage levels and provide specified benefits to employees (including higher levels of severance payments to former employees dismissed without proper cause). We cannot guarantee that the Government will not adopt measures, as it did in the past, which will increase salaries or require us to provide additional benefits, which would increase our costs and, among other things, in the absence of increases of regulated rates in our fixed services segments, continue reducing our profit margins.

Moreover, there are certain bills pending in the Argentine Congress regarding modifications to labor regulations such as increasing severance payments or considering amounts paid to employees that are currently not subject to social security contributions as part of the normal and usual employees salaries, increasing liability of the companies for the contractor s and sub-contractor s employees in outsourced tasks and the implementation of a regime that would entitle employees to participate in the profits of companies that employ them.

If such bills are approved, the modifications in current labor regulations and conditions could materially impact our relationship with our employees by increasing the labor cost and in some cases decreasing the flexibility to provide services to our clients.

# The Regulatory Bodies may impose increased penalties on Telecom Argentina and Personal, which could result, in some circumstances, in the revocation of our licenses.

The Regulatory Bodies have increased the number of cases and the amount of fines applied to Telecom Argentina mainly in connection with alleged delays in repairing defective fixed lines and/or installing new fixed lines. Additionally, the Regulatory Bodies have initiated various administrative procedures against Telecom Argentina and Personal related to temporary interruptions of services caused by various incidents. Lately the authorities have threatened Personal with the applications of fines and the obligation to pay compensation to the clients involved. In many of these cases, we believe that the Authorities are misinterpreting the legal framework of our telecommunication license or exceeding the legal terms of the service provision. Neither final administrative nor judicial decisions on these cases have not been made yet.

Also, new regulations such as SC Resolution No. 5/13 regarding the quality of telecommunication services could further increase penalties imposed by the Regulatory Bodies. SC Resolution No. 5/13, issued in July 2013, has set new benchmarks for the quality of services provided by telecommunications operators, including Telecom Argentina and Personal, setting standards that are high as compared to international standards,

especially, considering the difficulties in obtaining municipal authorization to install antennas in the mobile business (See Item 4 Information on the Company The Business Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services Mobile Telecommunication Services in Argentina Personal Personal s Network and Equipment ). This resolution has a gradual implementation schedule. Telecom Argentina, Personal and other telecommunications operators have submitted technical comments for a review of the standards. However, if the technical comments are not taken into account, compliance with the standards could be difficult which may result in penalties for telecommunications operators, including Telecom Argentina and Personal, affecting our ability to execute our business plan since they could involve limitations to acquire new clients or restrictions to apply rates increases, among others. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework SC Resolution No. 5/13.

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Additionally, according to the Auction Terms and Conditions for the awarding of frequency bands approved by SC Resolution No. 38/14 for mobile operators, repeated or persistent breaches of obligations related to quality indicators of services provided under the terms of the Regulation for the Quality of Telecommunications Services approved by SC Resolution No. 5/13, qualifies as one of the circumstances under which the authorization to use radio electric spectrum (as defined in the Auction) will be revocable.

We cannot foresee whether the Regulatory Bodies based on the increased number of administrative complaints will seek to apply significant sanctions to Telecom Argentina or Telecom Personal, including the revocation of some of our licenses, any of which could have an adverse effect on Telecom Argentina or Personal's operations, financial situation, results of operations and cash flows. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Administrative complaint in connection with the service cuts affecting Telecom Argentina and Personal's customers.

## We are involved in various legal proceedings which could result in unfavorable decisions and financial penalties for us.

We are party to a number of legal proceedings, some of which have been pending for several years. We cannot be certain that these claims will be resolved in our favor. Responding to the demands of litigation may divert Management s time and attention and financial resources. As of December 31, 2014, the Company recorded provisions that it estimates are sufficient to cover those contingencies considered probable. See Notes 2 and 17 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

In recent years, certain changes in the treatment of employment matters under Argentine law have created new incentives for individuals to pursue employment-related litigation in Argentine courts.

Moreover, on May 21, 2014 the National Labor Court of Appeals ruled that nominal annual interest rate for personal loans with free use of the Argentine National Bank for 49 to 60 month term (currently 3% per month), shall be applied for matters under the Buenos Aires City Labor Courts, including those with pending sentences, instead of the monthly average interest rate for loans of the Argentine National Bank (currently 2.055% per month). This new disposition represents an increase in interest rate that was reflected prospectively in the estimation of the labor claims provisions. An additional risk exists since the court might intend to apply such rate retroactively to labor credits not yet acknowledged by a court sentence, which could result also in an increase of our financial costs. Although, there are solid legal arguments against the retroactive application of the new interest rate, if a disadvantageous resolution prevails, we estimate that it will not have a significant impact on the Group's financial position, result of operations and cash flows.

The Company is also exposed to claims of employees of contractors and subcontractors and commercial agents claiming direct or indirect responsibility of Telecom based on a broad interpretation of the rules of labor law.

Also, the Company is subject to various lawsuits initiated by some employees and former employees who claim wage differences arguing different reasons. The Argentine Supreme Court in a case against Cervecería y Malteria Quilmes ruled that non-remunerative items resulting from collective bargaining agreements should be considered as salaries for all purposes. Such ruling creates a negative precedent in this matter and could imply increased labor costs for us.

In the past, Personal was subject, and is currently subject, to claims by former representatives (commercial agents) who end their business relationship by making claims for reasons that are not always justified by contract terms.

Personal maintains agreements with VAS suppliers. Amounts billed to its customers resulting from these agreements are recorded as Personal s revenues while commissions paid to VAS suppliers as a percentage of services billed to customers are recorded as expenses (Costs of VAS). Personal s customers can subscribe to VAS services directly from the VAS supplier, who reports to Personal the services it provides to their customers. During 2013 and 2014 there was a significant increase of VAS revenues. Customers and consumers trade unions brought up different claims against Personal regarding these services. Although Personal has taken actions in connection with the VAS suppliers in order to reduce risks regarding the provision of non-authorized services to its customers, we cannot assure you that new and significant claims regarding VAS services will not be presented in the future.

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By the end of 2014, Personal has started the implementation of a new system to monitor the customer subscriptions to VAS, which is expected to be completed in year 2015.

Recently, there has been a growing trend of sanctions imposed by the Regulatory Bodies on Telecom Argentina for technical reasons, mainly related to the delay in repairing defective lines and/or installing new lines. In addition, there have been an increased number of sanctions on Telecom Argentina and Personal relating to service failures. Although penalties are appealed in the administrative stage, if the appeals are not solved in our favor in administrative or judicial stage for amounts over those recorded, or the penalties imposed by the CNC are increased in number and /or cost, it could have an adverse effect on our financial situation, results of our operations and cash flows.

In 2009, the environmental agency required Telecom Argentina to be registered in the National Registry of Generators and Operators of Hazardous Waste as a result of alleged problems with our liquid drainage at an underground chamber (as it had been previously required to do in 1999). This registration would require Telecom Argentina to pay an annual fee calculated in accordance with a formula that takes into consideration the extent of the hazard and the quantity of the waste. Telecom Argentina filed a request for administrative review seeking to obtain rejection of the environmental agency s ordinance. We cannot guarantee that the rejection will be obtained. In addition, changes in environmental legislation or the evolution of products and services we offer could require Telecom Argentina to be registered in the National Registry of Generators and Operators of Hazardous Waste. In that case or if the rejection of the environmental agency s ordinance is not obtained, Telecom Argentina would face increased costs which may include retroactive fees.

Telecom Argentina and Personal may face increased risk of employment, commercial, regulatory, tax and customers proceedings, among others. If this occurs, we cannot guarantee that it will not have an adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, despite the provisions that the Company has recorded to cover from these matters. See Item 8 Financial Information Legal Proceedings.

# The enforcement of the New Law for the Promotion of Registered Labor and Prevention of Labor Fraud may have a material adverse effect on us.

On June 2, 2014 Law No. 26,940 *Ley de Promoción del Trabajo Registrado y Prevención del Fraude Laboral* was published in the Official Gazette. The new norm, among other topics, establishes a Public Record of Employers with Labor Sanctions ( the Record ) and defines a series of labor and social security infringements by which an employer shall be included in said record.

The employers included in the Record shall be subject to different types of sanctions, such as: the inability to access public programs, benefits or subsidies, to access public banking credit, or to enter into contracts and licenses of property owned by the National government, or to participate in the awarding of concessions of public services and licenses. In turn, the employers who are repeat offenders for the same infringement for which they were added to the Record within a 3-year period after the first final sanction decision, shall not be able to deduct from the Income Tax the expenses related to their employees while the employers are included in the Record. This new regulation applies both to Telecom and its contractors and subcontractors, who could initiate claims to Telecom for direct or indirect responsibility. Depending on the way the Labor Ministry applies the new Law, the effects of this new labor regulation for the companies based in Argentina, including Telecom may vary and cannot be predicted.

The enforcement of regulations aimed at protecting consumers, including the new regime of conflict resolutions concerning consumer relations, may have an adverse effect on us.

The Consumer Protection Law No. 24,240 (the Consumer Protection Law) establishes a series of principles and rules for the protection of consumers and users. It states a sanctionary proceeding which foresees a conciliatory process before imposing any sanctions. The Consumer Protection Law applies to the telecommunications industry and to any other industry in which consumers and users are involved.

Telecom Argentina and Personal have received several customer complaints in connection with the provisions of the Consumer Protection Law that were filed with different law enforcement bodies

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(national, provincial or municipal). In the last few years there was also an increase in legal actions brought by consumer associations. See Item 8 Financial Information Legal Proceedings General Proceedings Consumer Trade Union Proceedings.

On September 19, 2014, the Argentine Congress passed Law No. 26,993 which approved a new Prior Mediation Service for Consumer Relations Conflict (COPREC). The purpose of this initiative is to give effective solutions to the consumers problems, by creating fast track proceedings.

Law No. 26,993 introduces two essential changes: i) it establishes that fines imposed on the basis of Consumer Protection Law must be previously paid in order to be appealed and judicially challenged, and ii) it creates a compensation system for consumers, consisting of a mediation phase, and an administrative and/or judicial process that takes place before the Auditor of Consumer Relations or the Federal Justice for Consumers Relations. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Legal Framework New Conflict Resolution Regime for Consumer Relations Matters. The new Regime is currently being implemented. As of the date of this Annual Report, we cannot foresee its effects on the Telecom Group.

This situation may entail risks for Telecom Argentina and Personal concerning, among others, the prices charged for its services, the obligation to return amounts charged for its services or penalties which may be excessive in relation to the revenues for the services rendered. If such were the case, any of such consequences could have an adverse effect on our financial situation, results of our operations and cash flows.

# The BCRA has imposed restrictions on the transfer of funds outside of Argentina in the past; some restrictions currently exist and may increase in the future, which could prevent us from making payments on dividends and liabilities.

In the past, the Argentine government has imposed a number of monetary and currency exchange control measures, including temporary restrictions on the free availability of funds deposited with banks and restrictions or limitations on the access to foreign exchange markets and transfers of funds abroad, including for purposes of paying principal and interest on debt, trade liabilities to foreign suppliers and dividend payments to foreign shareholders. Between the end of 2001 and 2002, the Argentine government implemented a unified exchange market (Mercado Único y Libre de Cambios MULC) with significant regulations and restrictions for the purchase and transfer of foreign currency.

Since late 2011 the Argentine government implemented a series of measures aimed to increase controls on the foreign trade and capital flows. To that effect, certain measures were implemented to control and limit the purchase of foreign currency, such as the prior approval of the AFIP for any purchase of foreign currency made by private companies and individuals for saving purposes. In addition, the BCRA expanded the controls and measures to make payments abroad accessing the local foreign exchange market, regarding trade payables and financial debt, and also established demanding procedures that must be met to pay certain trade payables with related parties. Although there are no regulations that prohibit making dividend payment to foreign shareholders, in practice authorities have substantially limited any purchase of foreign currency to pay dividends since these exchange controls were implemented. There can be no assurance that the BCRA or other government agencies will not increase controls and restrictions for making payments to foreign creditors or dividend payments to foreign shareholders, which would limit our ability to comply in a timely manner with payments related to our liabilities to foreign creditors or non-resident shareholders. See Item 10 Additional Information Foreign Investment and Exchange Controls in Argentina.

Pursuing the same objective, in October 2011 Decree No. 1,722 eliminated an exception for oil, gas and mining companies, and thus requires these companies to liquidate all their export receipts in the local foreign exchange market. Moreover, in October 2011 the National Insurance

Bureau issued Resolution No. 36,162 imposing the obligation for insurance companies to repatriate all investments and liquid assets allocated outside Argentina. We cannot ensure that similar measures will not be implemented for other private companies or other sectors in the future.

In addition, starting in February 2012 all import operations of goods and services must be filed and approved in advance by AFIP. Such procedure could also negatively affect our supply chain, generating delays in the provision of raw materials, equipment and handsets that are imported by our suppliers and/ or us. In the last case, the Company assumes trade payables in foreign currency with suppliers abroad, which require strict and complex approval procedures to access to foreign exchange market to make payments abroad. Moreover, as a result of the payment of the frequency bands

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awarded to Personal in the Public Auction at the end of 2014, the Company reduced significantly the financial assets in foreign currency that it maintained abroad, thus reducing our capacity to use those assets to make direct payments to foreign suppliers and shareholders, if needed.

# Operations of our subsidiary Núcleo could be affected depending on the way the Paraguayan government calls for a public auction for additional frequency bands to provide mobile services through 4G technology.

The provision of new mobile services through 4G technology will require the awarding of additional frequency bands in Paraguay (Band 1,700 MHz or AWS). As of the date of this Annual Report, there is no formal process initiated for this purpose. Neither a schedule for the frequency bands auction nor the conditions that the authorities will require to participate in the auction have been published. If the auction terms and conditions do not act as an incentive for competition and do not help to reduce the current concentration of the mobile telecommunication market (see Item 4 Information on the Company The Business Competition.) we cannot assure that the operational, economic and financial situation of Núcleo will not be negatively affected.

#### Fluctuations in Telecom Argentina s share price depend on various factors, some of which are outside of our control.

The market price of our shares is subject to change due to various factors which are outside of our control such as changes in market expectations, changes in the economic, financial and political situation in Argentina, the way the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance (in exercise of shareholders rights that belong to ANSES, according to Decree No. 1,278/12) will exercise its political rights and manage its share ownership in Telecom Argentina, and changes in measures used by investors or analysts to value our stock or market trends unrelated to our performance and operations. We cannot predict when such external factors will affect our stock price or whether their effects will be positive or negative.

In addition, currency fluctuations could impact the value of an investment in Telecom Argentina. Although Telecom Argentina s ADSs listed on the New York Stock Exchange are U.S. dollar-denominated securities, they do not eliminate the currency risk associated with an investment in an Argentine company.

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## ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY

## INTRODUCTION

The Company

Telecom is one of the largest private-sector companies in Argentina in terms of revenues, net income, capital expenditures and number of employees. Telecom Argentina has a non-expiring license (the License ) to provide fixed-line telecommunications services in Argentina, and it also provides other telephone-related services such as international long-distance service, data transmission, IT solutions outsourcing and Internet services. Through our subsidiaries, we also provide mobile telecommunications services and international wholesale services.

As of December 31, 2014, we had approximately 4.1 million fixed lines in service. This is equivalent to approximately 19 lines in service per 100 inhabitants in the Northern Region of Argentina and 370 lines in service per employee.

As of December 31, 2014, our Internet business reached approximately 1.8 million Accesses and our mobile business had approximately 19.6 million subscribers in Argentina and approximately 2.5 million subscribers in Paraguay.

#### **Business Strategy**

In the Telecom Group we focus on growth and profitability with the objective of generating value for our customers, investors, suppliers, employees and in a wider sense, for the communities we operate in. We are aware of the relevance of the services we commercialize in an era where connectivity and timely access to information are essential to improve people s quality of life, their education and the improvement of economic productivity.

In order to promote the achievement of its goals in a sustainable and consistent manner, the Telecom Group develops business plans according to the telecommunications market and macroeconomic environment and invests in products and services innovation aimed at improving its customers user experience by adding content, interactivity and convenience to communication.

Our priority focuses on operational efficiency and the effectiveness of planning and control processes. We view these as key competitive factors for our Company and its long-term corporate sustainability.

We invest in our human resources through communication, training and development programs, promoting work-life balance, enabling telecommuting and providing open and transparent relationships with individual employees and trade unions. We conduct our activities in accordance with the principles and values in our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which applies to all managers and employees in the Telecom Group, and which we extend to our suppliers, contractors, and consultants of the Company, who receive a copy of the Code. We have an experienced Management team that has demonstrated flexibility and aimed at achieving operational and economic goals.

We also consider the integrated vision of processes and technology to be a key factor of efficiency in our corporate Management and market competitiveness, thereby enabling us to provide high-value service options to the individual and business consumer.

Our investments in technology are designed to continuously adapt our coverage and capacity of our infrastructure and implement new service platforms. We aim to provide higher quality service to our increasing traffic volumes and demand for bandwidth, caused by the expansion of our customer base, the access to the network applications and to Value Added Services, access to social networks and content distribution. We intend to align these investments with cutting edge technologies and those that have been previously implemented in other parts of the world, capturing the benefits of international experience.

Through our Broadband and mobile Internet services, we offer our customers continuous Internet access, regardless of the users physical location. We also provide our consumers with mobile equipment and applications that enhance personal communication, social relations, entertainment and professional performance.

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For the corporate segment, we integrate communication solutions with information technology services by providing virtual access to applications and platforms at our datacenters.

We maintain affordable prices commensurate with the market s purchasing power, focusing on achieving our revenue growth by expanding and developing our customer base and by offering new services and products. We simplified our price structure by developing service packages targeted to different consumer profiles, which provide customers with a clear view and control over their communication expenses.

Even though the penetration of the communication services in the Argentine market has reached a certain level of maturity, new opportunities of market development may arise with a more favorable context for investment and competition of the sector, especially as of the assignment of new radio spectrum bands for the mobile business which shall enable to improve the current 3G services, and in particular to boost high speed data services through the 4G technology. Additionally, the recent approval of a new law regulating telecommunication services represents business challenges and opportunities which so far were off-limits for the operators entirely due to legal reasons. So, we have the opportunity to start offering our customers and the Argentine society all the potential our technological investments may provide.

We believe that the strategy implemented by our Management sets the foundations for the Telecom Group to reach its goals of continuous service quality improvement, strengthening its market position and increasing its operating efficiency in light of new regulations for telecommunications and other rules of general application affecting the private sector in Argentina.

#### **Organizational Structure**

The following chart shows our subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014, and jurisdiction of organization.

(\*) Dormant entity as of December 31, 2014.

(\*\*) On May 5, 2014 Núcleo s Board of Directors approved the creation of Personal Envíos S.A. (Envíos), a company which develops financial mobile services in Paraguay. Envíos was officially registered in the Commercial Public Register of Paraguay in October 2014 and commenced its operations in January 2015.

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### **Consolidated Subsidiary Information**

The following table presents information relating to our consolidated subsidiaries for the year ended as of December 31, 2014:

Subsidiary (1)	Activity	Segment	Percentage of Ownership	Percentage of Telecom s Total Revenues and other income (5)
Telecom Personal S.A.	Mobile Services	Personal Mobile Services	99.99	69.6
Núcleo S.A. (2)	Mobile Services	Núcleo Mobile Services	67.50	4.7
Personal Envíos S.A. (3)	Financial Mobile Services	Núcleo Mobile Services	67.50	
Telecom Argentina USA Inc.	International Wholesale Services	Fixed Services	100.00	0.3
Micro Sistemas S.A. (4)	Electronic Equipment Sales	Fixed Services	99.99	
Total				74.6

<sup>(1)</sup> Personal and Micro Sistemas are incorporated in Argentina, Núcleo and Envíos are incorporated in Paraguay and Telecom Argentina USA is incorporated in the United States.

(2) Interest held indirectly through Personal. The non-controlling interest of 32.50% is held by ABC Telecomunicaciones S.A. (a Paraguayan company).

(3) Interest held indirectly through Núcleo. Envíos commenced its operations in January 2015. The non-controlling interest of 32.50% is held by ABC Telecomunicaciones S.A.

(4) Dormant entity as of December 31, 2014.

(5) Includes service revenues, equipment sales and other income with third parties.

Our principal executive offices are located at Alicia Moreau de Justo 50, C1107AAB, Buenos Aires, Argentina, telephone number: 54-11-4968-4000.

Our authorized agent in the United States for SEC reporting purposes is Puglisi & Associates, 850 Library Avenue, Suite 204, P.O. Box 885, Newark, Delaware 19711.

## **Recent Developments**

Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors called for the Annual Shareholders Meeting

Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors, at their meeting held on March 17, 2015, called an ordinary shareholders meeting to be held on April 29, 2015, to consider among other issues the allocation of Telecom Argentina s retained earnings as of December 31, 2014 (P\$3,673

million) suggested by the Board of Directors to be allocated as follows: (i) P\$804 million (P\$0.83 per outstanding share) for distribution as cash dividends to be paid on May 11, 2015; (ii) P\$2,869 million to the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends and (iii) the delegation of authority to Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors to determine the allocation, depending on the performance of the business, in one or more installments, of an amount up to P\$649 million of the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends and its distribution to the shareholders as cash dividends during fiscal year 2015.

## Personal Annual Shareholders Meeting

Personal's ordinary and extraordinary shareholders meeting held on April 15, 2015, approved, among other items, the allocation of P\$2,931 million of retained earnings as of December 31, 2014 as follows: (i) P\$248 million to Legal Reserve and (ii) P\$2,683 million to the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends . The shareholders also approved the delegation of authority in Personal s Board of Directors to determine the amount, time, terms and conditions for allocating and distributing such reserve.

### Telecom Personal's financial debt

On January 28, 2015, Personal entered into a loan with a foreign bank for a total amount of US\$40.8 million. This new loan is a 27-months bullet loan with three-month interest payments at a weighted average rate of three-month LIBO plus 8.25%. The terms and conditions of the loan include covenants and events of default that are usual for this type of transaction, among those the limitation that Personal will not incur new indebtedness other than the permitted indebtedness if, as a result of the incurrence thereof, its consolidated total leverage ratio (consolidated debt to consolidated operating profit/loss before depreciation and amortization, including gain/loss on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E, as defined in the terms and conditions of the loan) is greater than 3.0 to 1.0 or its consolidated interest

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coverage ratio (consolidated operating profit/loss before depreciation and amortization, including gain/loss on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E, as defined in the terms and conditions of the loan to consolidated net interest) is lower than 3.0 to 1.0.

The funds are to be used for the acquisition of the remaining 3G and 4G licenses and the acquisition of PP&E and inventories.

#### History

Telecom Argentina was created by Decree No. 60/90 of the PEN dated January 5, 1990, and incorporated as Sociedad Licenciataria Norte S.A. on April 23, 1990. In November 1990, its legal name was changed to Telecom Argentina STET-France Telecom S.A. and on February 18, 2004, it was changed to Telecom Argentina S.A.

Telecom Argentina is organized as a corporation (*sociedad anónima*) under Argentine law. The duration of Telecom Argentina is 99 years from the date of registration with the Buenos Aires Public Registry of Commerce (July 13, 1990). Telecom Argentina conducts business under the commercial name Telecom.

Telecom Argentina commenced operations on November 8, 1990 (the Transfer Date ), upon the transfer from the Argentine government of the telecommunications system in the Northern Region previously owned and operated by ENTel. This transfer was made pursuant to the Argentine government s privatization program as set forth in the State Reform Law approved in August 1989 and subsequent decrees (the Privatization Regulations ), which specified the privatization procedure for ENTel.

The Privatization Regulations provided for:

• the division of the Argentine telecommunications network operated by ENTel into two regions, the Northern Region and the Southern Region of Argentina;

• the granting to Telecom Argentina and Telefónica of non-expiring licenses to provide basic telecommunication services in the Northern Region and Southern Region, respectively;

• the granting to Telintar and Startel, each joint subsidiaries of Telecom Argentina and Telefónica, of non-expiring licenses to provide international long distance and data transmission, respectively; and

• the transfer by ENTel of substantially all of its assets and certain contracts into Telecom Argentina, Telefónica, Telintar and Startel.

On the Transfer Date, pursuant to the terms and conditions of a transfer contract (the Transfer Agreement ), the Argentine government sold 60% of the common stock of Sociedad Licenciataria Norte S.A. to Nortel, a holding company formed by a consortium of investors including Telecom

Italia, among others. In 2003, Nortel s common stock was transferred to an Argentine company named SoforaPursuant to the provisions of Telecom Argentina s List of Conditions as amended by SC Resolutions No. 111/03 and No. 29/04: (i) any reduction of ownership of Nortel in our capital stock to less than 51% without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies; or (ii) any reduction of ownership of current common shareholders in the capital stock with voting power of Nortel to less than 51% without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies; any result in the revocation of Telecom Argentina s telecommunications license. In addition, through SC Resolution No. 111/03 the Telecom Italia Group and W de Argentina Inversiones (a company that is part of the Argentine Werthein Group) are each required to maintain direct ownership of at least 15% of the common stock of Sofora.

On November 14, 2013 Telecom Italia S.p.A and Telecom Italia International N.V. (collectively, the Sellers) and Tierra Argentea S.A. (Tierra Argentea, a company controlled by the Sellers) announced their acceptance of the offer made by Fintech to acquire Telecom Italia s controlling stake in Telecom Argentina owned by the Sellers through their subsidiaries Sofora, Nortel, and Tierra Argentea.

On December 10, 2013 Tierra Argentea completed the transfer to Fintech of (i) Class B Shares of Telecom Argentina, representing 1.58% of the capital stock of such company, and (ii) Nortel s ADRs representing 8% of the aggregate Series B Preferred Shares of Nortel.

On October 25, 2014, Telecom Italia S.p.A. announced the acceptance of an offer made by Fintech to amend and restate the agreement announced on November 14, 2013. Within the frame of this amendment agreement: 1) on October 29, 2014 Telecom Italia International N.V. transferred 17%

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of the capital stock of Sofora to Fintech; 2) it was confirmed that the transfer of the 51% controlling interest in Sofora is subject to the prior regulatory approval of the SC and closing of the transaction will not occur until such approval is obtained. It is expected that the transfer of such controlling interest will take place within the next two and a half years.

As of the date of this Annual Report, Telecom Italia Group holds 51% of Sofora, 32% is held by W de Argentina Inversiones (a holding company incorporated in the Kingdom of Spain, and a company of the Werthein Group) and 17% is held by Fintech Telecom LLC (a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, U.S.). See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Shareholders of Nortel.

The transfer of the 51% controlling interest held by the Telecom Italia Group in Sofora to Fintech is conditional upon prior approval by regulatory authorities. See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Shareholders of Nortel.

Pursuant to the Privatization Regulations, 10% of Telecom Argentina s common stock was transferred as Class C Shares to a Share Ownership Plan for certain former employees of ENTel and CAT by the Argentine government, and the remaining 30% of Telecom Argentina s common stock was sold to investors, principally in Argentina, the United States and Europe, in an offering completed in March 1992. A portion of the shares in the Share Ownership Plan has been sold in the public market, and the remaining shares resulting from the Share Ownership Plan are being gradually converted into Class B Shares. See Item 6 Directors, Senior Management and Employees Share Ownership Share Ownership Plan.

Through September 30, 1999, Telecom Argentina provided domestic and international communication services in the Northern Region on an exclusive basis. Commencing in October 1999, the Argentine government implemented a deregulation plan introducing competition into the Basic Telephone Services market. See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Liberalization of the Argentine Telecommunications Industry below. The Argentine telecommunications market was opened to full competition beginning in November 2000. As a result, Telecom Argentina now offers services throughout Argentina and competes with Telefónica and with a number of additional local operators.

### THE BUSINESS

#### General

As of the date of this Annual Report, we conduct our business through six legal entities, each representing a distinct operating segment. We aggregate these operating segments into three segments Fixed Telecommunications Services (Fixed Services), Personal Mobile Telecommunications Services (Núcleo Mobile Services) and Núcleo Mobile Telecommunications Services (Núcleo Mobile Services) according to the type of products and services provided and taking into account the regulatory and economic framework under which each entity operates.

The companies we aggregated to create the segments are as follows:

Segment	<b>Consolidated Company / Operating Segment</b>
Fixed Services	Telecom Argentina
	Telecom Argentina USA
	Micro Sistemas (1)
Personal Mobile Services	Personal
Núcleo Mobile Services	Núcleo
	Personal Envíos (2)

(1) Dormant entity as of December 31, 2014.

(2) Envíos was officially registered in the Commercial Public Register of Paraguay in October 2014 and commenced its operations in January 2015.

On February 10, 2014 Personal s Board of Directors approved the sale of its equity interest in Springville S.A., an Uruguayan subsidiary, which was completed on February 19, 2014.

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*Fixed Services*. Telecom Argentina owns a local telephone line network, public long-distance telephone transmission facilities and a data transmission network in the Northern Region. Since the market was open to competition, Telecom Argentina expanded its network in the Southern Region of Argentina providing nationwide services. Fixed services are comprised of the following:

• *Basic Telephone Services.* Telecom Argentina provides Basic Telephone Services, including local, domestic and international long-distance telephone services and public telephone services. As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina had approximately 4.1 million lines in service;

• *Interconnection services.* Telecom Argentina provides interconnection services, which primarily include Access, termination and long-distance transport of calls;

• Data transmission and Internet services. Telecom Argentina provides data transmission and Internet services, including traditional Broadband and mobile Internet, Internet dedicated lines, private networks, national and international video streaming, transportation of radio and TV signals and videoconferencing services. As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina had approximately 1.8 million Internet accesses;

• *Information and Communication Technology Services.* Telecom Argentina provides ICT services, datacenter services, telecommunications consulting and value-added solutions;

• *Other telephone services.* Other services provided by Telecom Argentina include supplementary services such as call waiting, call forwarding, conference calls, caller ID, voice mail, itemized billing and maintenance services; and

• Sale of equipment.

Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services. We provide mobile services through our subsidiaries in Argentina and Paraguay.

Personal s service offerings include voice communications, GSM, 3G and 4G mobile communications over UMTS / HSPA / HSPA + /LTE technology networks (including high-speed mobile Internet, content and applications download, multimedia messaging, online streaming, corporate e-mail, social network access and cloud backup services). In providing those services Personal also sells mobile communication devices (handsets and tablets).

We also provide mobile services in Paraguay through Núcleo, a subsidiary of Personal.

As of December 31, 2014, Personal had approximately 19.6 million mobile subscribers in Argentina and Núcleo had approximately 2.5 million subscribers in Paraguay.

See Note 28 to our Consolidated Financial Statements and Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 (B) Results of Operations by Segment for additional information as to our results of operations by segment.

### **Fixed Services**

Telecom Argentina is the principal provider of Basic Telephone Services in the Northern Region, and since late 1999 has also provided Basic Telephone Services in the Southern Region.

Since November 2000, the telecommunications sector in Argentina is completely open to competition. Our operations are subject to a complex series of laws and regulations of the Argentine government. In addition, we are subject to the supervision of the Regulatory Bodies. See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework below.

The Argentine government has taken certain measures that have affected revenues from the services we provide. Since the enactment of the Public Emergency Law in January 6, 2002, the rates charged by Telecom Argentina for fixed line services such as measured service, monthly basic charges, public telephone service, domestic, national and international long-distance, installation charges and most of supplementary services (except for lines and equipment maintenance) have been pesified (Regulated Services since the Transfer Date). See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates.

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On the other hand, interconnection services, data transmission, Internet services, ICT services and sale of equipment are not regulated services subject to a price cap regulation.

Telecom Argentina s Telephone Network

Telecom Argentina s fixed-line telephone network includes installed telephones and switchboards, a network of access lines connecting customers to exchanges and trunk lines connecting exchanges and long-distance transmission equipment. The following table illustrates the deployment of Telecom Argentina s telephone network:

	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
Number of installed lines (1)	4,763,336	4,699,254	4,850,554	4,792,530	4,688,977
Net lines installed (during each year)	64,082	(151,300)	58,024	103,553	93,934
Net lines installed cumulative (2)	3,192,372	3,128,290	3,279,590	3,221,566	3,118,013
Number of lines in service (3)	4,093,038	4,123,795	4,127,858	4,141,135	4,107,082
Net lines in service added for the year	(30,757)	(4,063)	(13,277)	34,053	46,822
Net lines in service added cumulative	2,691,069	2,721,826	2,725,889	2,739,166	2,705,113
Lines in service per 100 inhabitants (4)	19	19	20	20	20
Pending applications (5)	75,213	91,950	152,210	133,977	83,984
Public phones installed	29,957	33,650	36,813	40,079	44,846

<sup>(1)</sup> Reflects total number of lines available in Switches.

- (2) Cumulative net lines installed since the Transfer Date.
- (3) Includes lines customers, own usage, public telephony and ISDN channels.
- (4) Corresponds to the Northern Region of Argentina.
- (5) Corresponds to lines requested by clients, but not yet installed.

### Revenues

Fixed services include, among other charges, monthly basic charges, measured service charges, installation charges, public telephone services and interconnection services related to essential facilities. The rates for these charges are regulated by rules governing our license, which establish maximum prices that can be charged to clients. Telecom Argentina is able to charge prices below the maximum regulated prices as long as the discount is applied equally to clients who share the same characteristics (under the so-called principle of non-discrimination ). In accordance with this ability, Telecom Argentina charges lower prices than the maximum regulated prices for certain of the services offered.

The remaining services included in the Fixed Services segment are not subject to regulation and, as a result, Telecom Argentina is able to set the corresponding rates. Market conditions limit rate increases.

### a) Retail Residential and Business Customers

*Monthly Basic Charges*. Telecom Argentina bills a monthly basic charge to its customers. The charge is based on pulses, valued at the price per pulse prevailing during the periods included in the invoice. The number of pulses varies depending on the type of customer. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013 approximately 82% of lines in service were for residential customers and public telephony and approximately 18% were for professional, commercial and government customers. Additionally, due to the regulatory regime, Telecom Argentina is obliged to offer discounts to certain retired individuals and low-consumption residential customers.

*Measured Service Charges.* In addition to a monthly basic charge, Telecom Argentina bills a monthly measured service charge from almost all of its customers, which is based on telephone usage. Measured service is billed at the price per unit of time. Charges for local and domestic long-distance measured service vary with the price per unit of usage. The number of units of usage depends on the time of day, the day of the week, the distance traveled and the duration of calls. During the summer months (December through March), there is a decreased in the consumption due to the fact that many customers are on vacation. Additionally, due to competition, Telecom Argentina offers discounts to customers mainly for domestic long-distance service as semi-flat rate plans that include a set quantity of minutes for a fixed charge.

During 2014 and 2013, the volume of local minutes has decreased by approximately 7.6% and 6.5%, respectively, due to the strong growth in mobile telephony and the resulting migration of traffic to

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mobile service. During 2014, revenues from local traffic continued to increase leveraged by the growth of lines with volume of minutes included in the plan and subscription plans, despite the drop in traffic volume.

Total volume of domestic long-distance minutes decreased by approximately 6.6% and 6.0% in 2014 and 2013, respectively. Ever since the Northern Region was opened to competition in 1999, Telecom Argentina has maintained its position as the regional market leader for domestic long-distance traffic. During 2014, deploying a similar strategy to that which was adopted for local traffic, we maintained sales of targeted and selective flat-rate plans positioned to maintain average revenues generated by customers.

International Long-Distance Service. International long-distance traffic minutes increased approximately 5.6% and 0.9% in 2014 and 2013, respectively. Since 1992, international rates have been reduced annually as a consequence of the application of the Price Cap described in Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates Rate Regulations Price Cap. Telecom Argentina also has reduced international

long-distance rates in order to compete with the new providers of long-distance calling services.

*Installation Charges.* Revenues from installation charges consist primarily of fees levied for installation of new fixed lines. Telecom Argentina offers discounts in multiple localities to reduce the rate authorized by the government, with the aim of stimulating demand in those areas. The penetration of fixed-line telephony has been affected by the maturity of the Argentine market.

*Public Telephone Services.* As of December 31, 2014, there were 29,957 public lines installed of which 2,112 are in the Southern Region. Local and domestic long-distance traffic experienced a systematic reduction as a result of a strong development in the mobile industry in Argentina.

*Other Domestic Telephone Services.* Telecom Argentina provides dedicated lines to businesses. Dedicated lines are dedicated point-to-point leased lines. In addition to installation fees, Telecom Argentina receives revenues from dedicated analog urban/inter-urban lines. These revenues are calculated according to the price for long-distance codes of urban/interurban calls. Additionally, other domestic telephone services include charges for supplementary services (such as call waiting, call forwarding, conference calls, caller ID, voicemail and itemized billing).

*Data Transmission Services*. The data services business includes nationwide data transmission services, virtual private networks, symmetric Internet access, national and international signal transport and videoconferencing services. These services are provided mainly to corporations and governmental agencies. Telecom Argentina also provides certain Value Added Services, including electronic standard documents telecommunication software exchange and fax storage and delivery service. The data services business also includes the lease of networks to other providers, telecommunications consulting services, operation and maintenance of telecommunications systems, supply of telecommunications equipment and provision of related services. Corporate data transmission services are mainly Ethernet and IP services.

During 2014, we maintained our efforts on ICT solutions and the sale of data services and dedicated Internet accesses. This strategy is supported by the World Class multi-site network of Datacenters focused on communications, with over 7,000 square meters used to keep computer technology services throughout Argentina. Through this infrastructure, we offer a broad services portfolio including dedicated hosting and housing, connectivity, cloud services which enable our customers to optimize their costs by increasing the security of their information and avoiding hardware and software obsolescence issues. All the services are provided with support, security, connectivity and the ability to engage further management, professional, monitoring, storage and backup services.

In addition, we continued making additional investments at the major Datacenter in Pacheco, consolidating its position as leader in the market and enhancing the level of services supplied. Such investments will enable Telecom Argentina to support business growth in the next few years with the highest market standards.

*Internet*. Telecom Argentina has been providing residential Internet services under the brand name Arnet since 1998. Telecom Argentina mainly offers this service in the major cities of Argentina. In recent years, Telecom Argentina s Internet service has experienced higher demand and usage in less populated areas of the country. The Internet services include Access, Arnet service and Dial-Up. However, during the past several years we have seen a constant decrease in Dial-Up Access that has

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been more than offset by increased Broadband Accesses. As a result, Dial-up Access represents a marginal percentage of Telecom Argentina s revenues.

The following table illustrates the evolution of Internet services:

	December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012		
Fixed Internet access lines (1)	1,771,050	1,706,787	1,629,294		
Arnet subscribers	1,749,111	1,686,982	1,621,643		

(1) Includes Accesses in the Northern and Southern Regions.

The market for Broadband has experienced growth in 2012, 2013 and 2014 throughout the country, increasing 9%, 7% and 4%, respectively Broadband can be delivered through three technologies: cable modem, ADSL and mobile; cable modem and ADSL being the most widely used. In the local market, ADSL connections exceeded the number of cable modem and mobile connections. Telecom Argentina markets its ADSL service through its Arnet brand and in partnership with other Internet services providers.

During the last six years, Telecom Argentina continued to increase its customer base. As of December 31, 2014, we reached approximately 1.8 million Accesses. During 2014, our efforts to communicate effectively with our customers and special offers with competitive prices according to segment helped us to maintain the leadership of our products under the brand Arnet.

Continuing the evolution of Internet access services, during the year 2014 services focused on offering higher speed access to customers.

In 2014, Telecom Argentina expanded the bundling of Broadband and voice services, by launching a fixed monthly payment plan for residential customers which includes packs of calls from a fixed-line to a mobile phone.

Also, in 2014, Arnet Play (the video streaming service for Telecom Argentina s residential customers) was improved, increasing the video offers.

Internet revenues include both Internet access services and the provision of Internet service.

A small portion of Internet access services is provided by Telecom Argentina s 0610, 0611 and 0612 services. Internet dial-up service represents a marginal percentage of Telecom Argentina s revenues, we continue to provide this service to a small market where Broadband service is not available.

### b) Corporate Customers

The large customer segment includes leading companies in the Argentine market as well as the National government, Provincial governments and Municipalities. These customers demand cutting-edge technology and solutions tailored to their needs, including voice, data, Internet and Value-Added services.

In response to the constant changes demanded by the market, Telecom Argentina maintained its strategy to position itself as the integrated provider for large customers through the offer of convergence ICT solutions, including fixed and mobile voice, data, Internet, multimedia, ICT, datacenter and application services through sales, consulting, management and specialized and targeted post-sale customer services.

The main solutions and businesses developed during 2014 included:

• Completion of the implementation of a software to manage and control corporate mobile lines of an important national bank.

• Installation of a trunked communication network for security service calls for a subway network in the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires City.

- Renewal of a contract for the management of software services for emergency calls in a northern province of Argentina.
- Implementation of a key mobile services project in an important Argentine coastal region.

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Additionally, the following projects are underway and are expected to be completed in 2015:

- Relocation of the communication service system of the national airport of Argentina.
- Assessment study for the development of 911 emergency call systems for some provincial governments of Argentina.
- c) Wholesale

*Interconnection Revenues:* Telecom Argentina collects fees from other operators for interconnection services. These fees primarily include local Access, termination and long-distance transport of calls, rentals of network capacity and commissions on calling party pays fees. These fees are payable by mobile operators as well as fixed-line operators.

Additionally, Telecom Argentina remained one of the leading providers of wholesale telecommunications solutions for various fixed and mobile operators, independent operators, local operators, public telephony licensees, cable operators, ISP, TV and radio channels, production companies and other service providers. The services marketed by Telecom Argentina include, among others, traffic and interconnection resources, third-party billing, dedicated Internet access services, transport of video signals in standard definition and high definition, streaming audio and video, dedicated links, backhaul links for mobile operators, Internet Protocol Virtual Private Network and data center hosting services.

Telecom Argentina continued to strengthen its position as a provider of solutions for the broadcasting segment by offering transportation solutions for audio and video signals both as dedicated private links and on the Internet. We provided solutions to cable operators and TV channels for the distribution of video signals. In 2014, we continued to increase the number of clients connected to Telecom Argentina s video matrix located in the city of Buenos Aires.

In 2014 Telecom Argentina continued to execute a contract to transport and distribute signals in Open Digital TV (*Television Digital Abierta*) for ARSAT. Also Telecom Argentina has transmitted, among others, the video signal of 2014 FIFA World Cup, in high definition resolution, the video signal of the Four Nations Rugby Championship from the places where the events took place to central distribution in the British Telecom Tower in London, and has transmitted the Moto GP 2014, from Termas de Rio Hondo-Santiago del Estero State.

International Long-Distance Service: Telecom Argentina holds a non-expiring license to provide international telecommunications services in Argentina, including voice and data services and international point-to-point leased circuits.

Revenues from wholesale international long-distance service reflect payments under bilateral agreements between Telecom Argentina and foreign telecommunications carriers, covering virtually all international long-distance calls into or out of Argentina using our network. Revenues from international long-distance service therefore consist mainly of:

- amounts earned from foreign telecommunications carriers for connection to the Argentine telephone network;
- bandwidth capacity under an Indefeasible Right of Use ( IRU ) basis;
- international point-to-point leased circuits; and
- international data and IP transit services.

Operating revenues from international long-distance service depend on the volume of traffic, the rates charged to local customers and the rates charged by each party under agreements between the Argentine provider and foreign telecommunications carriers. Settlements among carriers are usually made on a net basis. Incoming traffic with carriers measured in minutes accounted for 593 million minutes in 2014, 588 million minutes in 2013 and 676 million minutes in 2012.

Telecom Argentina is connected to international telecommunications networks mainly through the following submarine Fiber Optic cables: Americas 2 (USA), Columbus 3 (Europe), Atlantis 2 (Brazil Europe), Sea-Me-We (Europe Asia), Bicentenario (Uruguay), Latin American Nautilus (LAN), a company in the Telecom Italia Group, and other minor cables.

In order to meet the growth in our Internet access base, Telecom Argentina has acquired several IRUs on a submarine facility of Latin America Nautilus (LAN) (a subsidiary of Telecom Italia), which

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connects Argentina with the U.S. (Miami) in a submarine fiber optic ring. These rights, which last for 15 years, allow the interconnection of the IP backbone of Telecom Argentina with IP Transit providers in Miami. Telecom Argentina has also contracted Transit IP in Buenos Aires to ensure better performance regarding regional traffic.

Through our wholly owned subsidiary in the United States, Telecom Argentina USA, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, we focus mainly on wholesale long-distance international traffic, video and data services.

Telecom Argentina USA, routes the majority of its wholesale traffic through its own switching capabilities. In 2014, Telecom Argentina USA, continued operating a node of high-definition video in Miami, thus extending the Telecom video matrix to the international market.

### Network and Equipment

In 2014, our network strategy continued to focus on the development of the capacity and availability of the network in order to improve the quality of the services.

Availability, security and capacity of the backbone core of the network improved by means of the implementation of the Red Centurión which is a network at 100 Gbps. This Red Centurion connects the cities of Cordoba, Rosario and Buenos Aires.

In that context, the deployment of the MPLS packet transportation network (PTN) at 10 Gbps continued. On the other hand, the plan to shorten the loop continued, which boosts the capacity of the current fixed Broadband enabling even higher speeds and the ability to offer value added services (VAS) that would demand wider bandwidth.

Additionally, further progress was made in the deployment of fiber optic rings for urban access in certain exchanges and locations enabling the connection of fiber optic close to the mobile access nodes -VDSL outdoor nodes- (Loop Shortening).

In 2014 the FTTH network infrastructure began deployment in predetermined areas with customers currently connected via copper pairs.

Additionally, the strategy of installing FTTB (*Fiber to the Building* or fiber up to the building) in new undertakings continued. The year 2014 ended with more than 180 undertakings.

#### Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services

We provide mobile services through our subsidiaries in Argentina and Paraguay.

#### Mobile Telecommunication Services in Argentina Personal

The market for mobile telecommunications services in Argentina is characterized by constant growth and intense competition. Operators are generally free from regulation to determine the pricing of services, with the limited exception of CPP charges for termination of calls originating on a fixed line network. See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Other Regulations Rates Calling Party Pays CPP. There are currently three mobile operators offering nationwide service. The penetration of mobile service in Argentina has increased from approximately 134.8% of the population as of December 31, 2012, to approximately 143.6% in 2013 and to approximately 140.2% in 2014. This information regarding penetration of mobile service is an estimate, as there are no official statistics published in Argentina, and only considers lines serviced by the three operators providing nationwide mobile telecommunications services (i.e., it does not include Nextel providing trunking telephony and other telecommunication services in Buenos Aires and cities in the interior).

Service providers in Argentina are making significant capital expenditures in new network infrastructure for the deployment of 4G, 3G (and HSPA+) technology, which allows for the higher transmission speeds required for Value Added Services such as data transfer, video calling and Internet browsing.

Our mobile telecommunications services in Argentina are provided through our subsidiary, Personal. We provide mobile services throughout Argentina via STM, SRMC, SCMA and PCS networks. Personal utilizes GSM and 3G technologies in its networks and primarily offers its services of STM and SRMC services on the 850 MHz frequency band and PCS service on the 1,900 MHz frequency band. In addition, since December 2014, Personal has offered LTE technology service through the frequency bands awarded to Personal in November 2014. See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 Spectrum.

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#### a) Residential and Business Customers

Personal subscribers are offered a variety of flexible pricing options for mobile services. These options include prepaid, post-paid and mixed plans.

*Prepaid Plans.* Under prepaid plans, the subscriber pays in advance for telephone calls and Value Added Services using prepaid credit. When the subscriber runs out of credit, he or she can purchase prepaid cards using a prepaid system or can purchase virtual credit on Personal s website, by phone, at ATMs and drugstores, or through authorized agents. When a subscriber places credit on the prepaid card, he is able to make and receive local, national and international calls. Since there are no monthly bills, prepaid plans allow subscribers to communicate with maximum flexibility while maintaining control over their consumption.

*Post-Paid Plans.* Personal offers a National Flat Rate post-paid plan and a Local Flat Rate post-paid plan. Post-paid plans include caller ID, voicemail and a personalized greeting, call forwarding, data services, a multimedia personalized greeting, telephone technical support and call waiting. The plans offer Personal Digital Invoicing, enabling subscribers to view, download and print their invoices from the web. Depending on the plan, and the monthly fee, they might include Value Added Services such as social network access, e-mail or data allowance for browsing the Internet, as well as specific contacts (on-net numbers) that can be contacted by voice or SMS for free.

Under both plans, National Flat Rate post-paid plan and a Local Flat Rate post-paid plan, a subscriber pays a monthly bill consisting of a monthly user fee plus Value Added Services and a charge for airtime used in excess of the amount included in the plan. These plans generally offer a specified number of free seconds per month. Once the free seconds have been used, the subscriber can continue using the mobile service at a set price per second. The charges for additional airtime will be added to the next month s bill. Under the National Flat Rate Plan, a subscriber can make calls to and from any location within Argentina at a constant rate because the airtime rate includes the local public network, national long-distance and national roaming. Under the Local Flat Rate Plan, where the airtime rate includes the Local Public Network and Roaming, a subscriber can make local calls within any locality in the country but calls from one locality to another are charged at an extra rate.

*Cuentas Claras*. Under the Cuentas Claras plans, a subscriber pays a set monthly bill and, once the contract credits per month have been used, the subscriber can obtain additional credit by recharging the phone card through the prepaid system. Under this plan, a subscriber can use its monthly credit or its pre-paid credits for calls, social network access, e-mail or data allowance for browsing the Internet, as well as specific contacts (on-net numbers) that can be contacted by voice or SMS on a free basis.

The following table presents information regarding Personal s post-paid, prepaid, Cuentas Claras and Mobile Internet dongle subscribers bases for the periods indicated:

	2014	% of Total	2013	% of Total	2012	% of Total
<u>Mobile subscribers</u> :						
Prepaid (1)	13,262,265	67.7	13,539,423	67.4	12,720,001	67.0
Post-paid (2)	2,155,258	11.0	2,417,344	12.0	2,386,656	12.6
Cuentas Claras (2)	3,993,349	20.4	3,878,962	19.3	3,476,512	18.3

Mobile Internet dongle	174,711	0.9	252,188	1.3	392,081	2.1
Total	19,585,583	100.0	20,087,917	100.0	18,975,250	100.0

(1) Lines with at least one recharge in the last thirteen months as of December 31 of each year.

(2) Lines with payment modality through the billing to the customer.

*New products and services.* Personal continued to deepen its strategy based in the concept *Cada Persona es un Mundo* Each Person is a World with the launch of various products, promotions and benefits to meet the diverse communication needs of different types of customers. The quality in customer experience continued as the strategic axis that crossed all the initiatives developed by Personal during 2014.

Personal also increased the granting of benefits in recharges and service packages for its customers, optimizing their plans convenience.

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In October 2014, Personal launched an innovative offer called *Día Full* (Full day), which consists **o**fnew rate per day scheme for Post-Paid Plan, giving the possibility of one day with a high limit of communications and connections consumption (up to 10 thousand of seconds and 1,000 SMS per day) after the first fixed charge is expensed. Customers can choose between *Día Full* plan or the traditional rate scheme that Personal has offered since 2011, which offers unlimited internet mobile per day.

Furthermore, Club Personal, the loyalty program which continues to grow reaching approximately 6.2 million members as of December 2014 (+11% as compared to 5.6 million as of December 2013) and over more than 500 participating businesses, continued to evolve in widening benefits for its members.

In relation to the strategy of contacts with customers, Personal presented a new model of personal assistance in commercial offices through the country, which is based on the experience and education of each customer, to respond to their needs and increase its satisfaction. During 2014, two sales offices were opened with the new model across the country. Thus, the sales network of Personal reached 67 offices with a presence in several major cities.

Finally, Personal continued its strategy of repositioning its brand, with the realization of the 10th edition of *Personal Fest*, the most important international music festival in Argentina, which attracted more than 50,000 people over two days.

Personal s ARPU was approximately P\$74.2 per month for 2014 and P\$66.8 per month for 2013.

b) Wholesale

*International Business.* During 2014, Personal continued to position itself as a benchmark in international roaming services, expanding 3G data coverage in order to provide a better user experience to its subscribers.

Personal entered into over 310 data agreements (GPRS/EDGE) reaching over 125 3G launchings of a total of 365 international roaming agreements, which provide service in 165 countries.

In order to increase the number of roaming destinations Personal implemented a second Roaming Hub which expanded international coverage.

Also, Personal enhanced the coverage of destinations reached by the International SMS service through two contracted SMS Hubs, which enable greater flexibility and reliability of the service.

The IPX technology was implemented by Personal, with the aim to improve customers data roaming service experience. Through this technology, the interconnection is made by signaling and GRX solution which allows Personal to more efficiently and quickly satisfy customers demands for increased bandwidth.

In order to reveal data consumption by customers abroad and to be in line with the global policies of the GSM Association, during 2014 Personal continued providing the following features to its international services:

- Warning notifications via SMS to customers regarding their consumption.
- Implementation of daily data consumption cap which is automatically reset.
- Communication updates via text messages received abroad by our customers (SMS Welcome).

Personal participated in events organized by foreign groups in Argentina, increasing its position in international services with tailored offerings for different demographic segments.

*Domestic Business*. During 2014, Personal continued to strengthen its relationship with operators and suppliers of telecommunication services, cooperative federations and clearing house services suppliers. Personal renewed contracts with existing operators of such services or entered into new ones. Also, Personal signed new agreements with cooperatives to install new sites in their towns in order to achieve or improve mobile coverage in those areas. On the other hand, Personal continues to contract non-conventional sites for the same purpose. In addition, Personal expanded agreements with other operators of resources and facilities (data links and transmission, interconnection resources, origination, termination, minutes transport, conventional and non-conventional site leases and domestic roaming) that contributed to the development of Personal mobile network.

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#### Personal s Network and Equipment

Personal is the operator of mobile networks at a national level, and uses world-class technology providing GSM, third-generation services and fourth-generation services.

The mobile network infrastructure and the fixed network infrastructure are complementary. Therefore, the development strategy for Personal s network aims to maximize the synergies of investments of the Telecom Group as an integrated operator group.

In 2014 the strategy of improving the coverage and capacity of the mobile access network continued. To this end, the extension of the network 2G (especially for voice traffic) continued, exceeding 3,700 sites with 2G radio bases distributed across the country at the end of 2014.

Regarding coverage and capacity improvement, it should be noted that municipalities usually impose restrictions on the construction of base station towers or other infrastructure, alleging visual contamination and neighbors complaints. Those situations may hinder the completion of network build-outs affecting the quality of services, the launching of new services and generally requiring additional investments and operating expenses.

On the other hand, because of the results of the auction of spectrum SCMA, the deployment of the LTE technology began. Also, the new spectrum PCS and SRMC acquired in said auction started to be equipped with 3G technology. See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 Spectrum

Personal also continued with its strategy of increasing the number of radio bases connected with fiber optics and full IP connectivity, in order to ensure the availability of Broadband for covering current and future customer needs.

#### Mobile Telecommunications Services in Paraguay Núcleo

We provide nationwide mobile telecommunications services in Paraguay through our subsidiary, Núcleo, under the commercial name of Personal. Núcleo is 67.5% owned by Personal and 32.5% owned by ABC Telecomunicaciones S.A., a Paraguayan corporation. Núcleo has been granted licenses to provide commercial mobile services, Internet access and videoconference and data transmission services in Paraguay.

During 2014, the telecommunications sector in Paraguay showed good performance, with growth levels above 3% compared to 2013. The subscriber base increased 2.5% as compared to the previous year. As of December 31, 2014, Núcleo had 1,999 thousand pre-paid subscribers, 319 thousand subscribers with the service plan *Plan Control*, 29 thousand post-paid subscribers and 129 thousand mobile Internet subscribers.

The communication strategy of Núcleo in early 2014 focused on the launching of the Whatsapp *gratis con todas tus recargas* (free *Whatsapp* with all your recharges) campaign which granted the pre-paid subscribers the possibility of free Whatsapp application service every time they make a recharge, and for post-paid and Plan Control subscribers, the application included in their mobile Internet plan.

Later on, aiming at differentiation, Núcleo focused on a new concept *Multiplicate* (Multiply yourself) whose objective is to make it possible for the customer to obtain up to fourfold promotional balance for making calls, sending messages, or using Internet.

In the second semester, Núcleo worked on a renewal process of its products, always focusing on the same concept; this is how the *Era de la Multiconexión* (Age of Multi-connection) was born, with the objective of positioning Núcleo as a functional multi-connections company that would make people s life easier through Connectivity and Entertainment.

At VAS level, Núcleo signed an agreement for offering Spotify ; this is the world brand leader for music streaming. In this way, Núcleo was the first operator to offer a prepaid music streaming service.

As to the mobile financial services, the Board of Directors meeting of Núcleo held on May 5, 2014, approved the incorporation of Envíos, a new company whose objective is the delivery of mobile financial services in Paraguay. The shareholding structure of Envíos corresponds 97% to Núcleo, 2% to Personal and 1% to ABC Telecomunicaciones S.A. Envíos was officially registered in the

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Commercial Public Register of Paraguay in October 2014 and commenced its operations in January 2015.

#### Núcleo s Network and Equipment

Núcleo continued with the upgrading of the Access network initiated in 2012, completing the last Stage of the project, through the swap of 58 mobile sites in departments of the interior of the country. The Circuit Core and packet Core were expanded, performing the upgrading and Hardware and Software extensions of all the network nodes. Additionally, a new MGW (*Media Gateway*) node was incorporated to the network increasing the swap capacity of the Circuit Core.

In addition, traffic capacity and quality were improved by means of the incorporation to the network of 107 new mobile sites in Paraguay. Extensions in all the mobile network have taken place to be able to face the growth of the data traffic, for which 1,339 new 3G cells were activated. On the other hand, the use of the available spectrum was optimized, extending the network by 20%. Additionally, the coming into operation of a new section of optic fiber in the Paraguayan Chaco was completed with the incorporation of 500 km of wiring to ensure the traffic ring of this region and of the northern area.

#### Competition

Fixed Services

*Basic Telephony and International Long-Distance Services.* Before November 1999, Telecom Argentina held an exclusive license to provide Basic Telephone Services to the Northern Region. The Argentine telecommunications market has been open to full competition since November 2000. As of the date of this Annual Report, the main licensees providing local and/or fixed long-distance telephone service are Techtel (commercially known as Telmex), Impsat (commercially known as Level 3 Communication formerly Global Crossing ), IPlan, Telecentro, Telefónica (principally in the Southern Region) and Telecom Argentina (principally in the Northern Region). Telefónica has the dominant market share for provision of telecommunications service in the Southern Region. Some of these competitors may be better capitalized than us and have substantial telecommunications experience. Accordingly, if economic conditions in Argentina improve and competitors increase their presence in the Northern Region, Telecom Argentina expects that it will face additional pressure on the rates it charges for its services and experience limited loss in market share in the Northern Region.

*Internet and Data Services.* We face nationwide competition in the Internet service market in Argentina from Telefónica, Gigared, Cablevisión (Fibertel) and Telecentro (providing a triple-play offer), among others. Our data services business faces competition from Telefónica, Grupo Telmex Argentina and from several providers of niche data services such as Impsat, IPlan and others.

Mobile Telecommunications Services

*Mobile Telecommunications Services in Argentina.* The mobile telecommunications market in Argentina has been open to competition since 1993 and was expanded to include PCS services in 1999. In addition, GSM technology has created intense competition for subscribers among the various service providers, including giving rise to severe pricing pressure, significant handset subsidies and increased sales incentives provided to dealers. The introduction of 3G technology since May 2008 has allowed operators to focus competition on Value Added Services.

Currently, there are three operators providing nationwide mobile telecommunications services. These three operators are Personal, Telefónica Móviles Argentina and América Móvil. Nextel competes on a limited level, offering trunking telephony services in Buenos Aires and selected cities in the interior, in addition to offering mobile telecommunication services in those cities.

América Móvil, operating in Argentina under the trade name Claro (formerly CTI), is one of the country's largest mobile operators in terms of number of subscribers and has provided STM cellular services in the Northern and Southern Regions outside of the AMBA since 1994 through the 850 MHz band (25 MHz in each region). Claro also holds a 40 MHz license for its PCS services in the AMBA and a 20 MHz license for PCS in each of the Northern and Southern Regions. In addition, as a result of the Spectrum Public Auction, Claro was awarded the PCS frequency bands 1,867.5-1,870 MHz and 1,947.5-1,950 MHz for the Southern Region, 1,892.5-1,895 MHz and 1,972.5-1,975 MHz for the

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Northern Region and 1,870-1,875 MHz and 1,950-1,955 MHz for the AMBA and SCMA frequency bands 1,720-1,730 MHz and 2,120-2,130 MHz, while the SCMA 723-738 MHz and 778-793 MHz have not been yet awarded.

Telefónica Móviles, operating in Argentina under the trade name Movistar, is another of the largest mobile operators in Argentina in terms of number of subscribers. Movistar is the result of Telefónica s merger of Unifón and Movicom in 2005. Movistar operates in the AMBA through the 850 MHz band with a total of 30 MHz, and a total of 20 MHz for PCS. It also holds a total of 50 MHz for its PCS licenses for the Northern Region, and a total of 25 MHz for its PCS license in the Southern Region. This Southern Region is Unifon s original service area, where it also holds a 25 MHz license for STM. In addition, as a result of the Spectrum Public Auction, Movistar was awarded the SCMA frequency bands 1,710-1,720 MHz, 2,110-2,120 MHz, while the 703-713 MHz and 758-768 MHz have not been yet awarded.

Nextel Argentina provides trunking telephony and other telecommunications services in Buenos Aires and cities in the interior. Nextel Argentina s service currently focuses on business subscribers in the main cities of Argentina.

Meanwhile Personal holds a non-exclusive, non-expiring license to provide mobile telephony services (STM) in the Northern Region of Argentina holding 25MHz in 850MHz frequency bands, and licenses to provide data transmission and VAS throughout the country, as well as registration for national and international long distance services. In addition, Personal holds non-expiring licenses to provide mobile radio communication services (SRMC), holding 12,5MHz in 850MHz frequency bands in AMBA, and non-expiring licenses to provide PCS services nationwide. To provide PCS Personal holds 30MHz in 1900 frequency band in the AMBA, 20 MHz in the Northern Region, and 40 MHz in the Southern Region.

As a result of the Spectrum Public Auction, Personal was awarded additional frequency bands 830,25-834 MHz and 875,25-879 MHz for SRMC in AMBA (7,5MHz), and PCS frequency bands in 1890-1892,5 MHz and 1970-1972,5 MHz in the Northern Region (5 MHz) and 1862,5-1867,5 MHz and 1942,5-1947,5 MHz in the Southern Region (10MHz). Personal was also awarded 30 MHz for SCMA in 1730-1745 MHz and 2130-2145 MHz frequency bands, while the SCMA bands 713-723 MHz and 768-778 MHz, have not been yet awarded. All these frequencies were awarded for the term of 15 years.

The acquisition and retention of high-value customers continues to be a key factor to Personal s strategy, which is focused on maintaining customer s consumption through the launch of new products and services that enable retention of existing customers.

See Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 for additional details on Personal s license.

*Mobile Telecommunications Services in Paraguay.* Currently, there are four participants in the mobile telecommunications services market in Paraguay. As of December 31, 2014, Núcleo s major competitor was Tigo (a Millicom International Cellular subsidiary). The operators provide services through 2G and 3G technology. The Paraguayan market is highly competitive, where Tigo holds a great portion of the market (more than 50% of market share). In addition, in August 2012, Tigo acquired the major TV cable operator - which in turn held a portion of the 2,600 MHz band available for 4G Services - , thus widening its business and strengthening its position in the industry. Although the governmental authorities have expressed their intention to call for an auction for the awarding of additional frequency bands to provide 4G services throughout Paraguay, as of the date of this Annual Report there is no formal process initiated for this purpose.

### **REGULATORY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

### **REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

### **Regulatory Bodies and General Regulatory Framework**

Telecom Argentina and Personal operate in a regulated industry. Regulation not only covers rates and service terms, but also the terms on which various licensing and technical requirements are imposed.

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Law No. 27,078 (Ley Argentina Digital or LAD) was published in the Official Bulletin on December 19, 2014, and has been in force since its publication. The new law incorporates major amendments to the regulatory framework applicable to the provision of telecommunication services in Argentina and creates the AFTIC, as a decentralized and autonomous agency within the scope of the PEN which shall act as the Regulatory Authority of the LAD.

Amendments to the regulatory framework include rules relating to prices and rates, for more information see Item 3 Risk Factors Risks associated with Telecom and its Operations The Pesification and freezing of rates may continue to adversely affect Telecom Argentina s revenues. As of the date of this Annual Report, Management of the Company is assessing the alternatives provided by the new law.

AFTIC will replace the SC and the CNC as its function is the regulation, control, supervision and verification concerning Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in general, and in particular of the telecommunications, postal service and all those matters integrated to its field in accordance to the text of the LAD and the applicable regulations and the policies set by the National government. In addition, Article 87 of LAD establishes the transfer, under the scope of competence of the AFTIC, of the SC, of the CNC, of Argentina Soluciones Satelitales S.A. (ARSAT), of the *Correo Oficial de la República Argentina S.A.* (CORASA) and of the national plan *Argentina Conectada*.

However as of the date of this Annual Report, the AFTIC has not yet been established.

Until the LAD came in force, the activities of Telecom Argentina and Personal were supervised and controlled by the CNC as Control Authority, a governmental agency under the supervision of the SC (which was in turn supervised by the Ministry of Federal Planning, Public Investments and Services). The CNC was in charge of general oversight and supervision of telecommunications services. The SC had the power to develop, suggest and implement policies, which were applicable to telecommunications services, to ensure that these policies are applied, to review the applicable legal regulatory framework, to approve the frequency band scheme, to act as the enforcing authority with respect to the laws governing the relevant activities, to approve major technical plans, to approve tariffs for basic fixed services and to resolve administrative appeals filed against CNC resolutions, among others.

The principal features of the Telecom Group s regulatory framework in Argentina have been created by:

- the Privatization Regulations, including the List of Conditions;
- the Transfer Agreement;
- the Licenses granted to Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries;
- the Rate Agreements; and

• various governmental decrees, including Decree No. 764/00, establishing the regulatory framework for licenses, interconnection, universal service and radio spectrum management.

Law No. 27,078 states that Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments shall remain in full force to the extent that the provisions of such Decree do not conflict with such Law until the Regulatory Authority has drawn up the regulations concerning the Licensing Framework for ICT Services, the Interconnection Regulation, the Universal Service Regulation and the Administration, Management and Control of the Spectrum Regulation. Also, the LAD states that Law No. 19,798 (*Ley Nacional de Telecomunicaciones* passed in 1972) and its amendments shall only prevail in respect of those regulations not opposing its provisions.

Núcleo, Personal s Paraguayan controlled company, is supervised by the Comisión Nacional de Telecomunicaciones de Paraguay, the National Communications Commission of Paraguay (CONATEL) and its subsidiary Envíos is supervised by the National Central Bank of Paraguay. Additionally, Telecom Argentina USA, Telecom Argentina s subsidiary in the United States, is supervised by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

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#### Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014

#### To Telecom Argentina

As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina has been granted the following non-expiring licenses to provide the following services in Argentina:

- local fixed telephony;
- public telephony;
- domestic and international long-distance telephony;
- domestic and international point-to-point link services;
- domestic and international telex services;
- VAS, data transmission, videoconferencing and transportation of audio and video signals; and
- Internet access.

#### To the Company s subsidiaries

As of December 31, 2014, the Company s subsidiaries have been granted the following licenses:

• Personal has been granted a non-exclusive, non-expiring license to provide mobile telecommunication services (STM) in the Northern Region of Argentina and data transmission and Value Added Services throughout the country. In addition, Personal owns licenses to provide mobile radio communication services (SRMC) in the Federal District and Greater Buenos Aires areas, as well as a non-expiring license to provide PCS services throughout the country, and it is registered to provide national and international long-distance telephone services. Additionally, from November 2014, Personal has been granted 15-year licenses for the use of the frequencies resulting from the Public Auction.

• Núcleo has been granted a renewable five-year period license to provide mobile telecommunication services (STM) in Paraguay as well as PCS services in certain areas of that country. In addition, Núcleo has been granted a five-year renewable license to provide Internet services, data transmission and videoconferencing throughout the country.

### Spectrum

### Decree No. 671/14

Decree No. 671/14, published in the Official Bulletin on May 14, 2014, annulled Sections 2 and 3 of Decree No. 2,426 issued on December 13, 2012 which provided that the remaining spectrum in the 850 MHz and in 1,900 MHz bands had to be assigned to the state-owned operator ARSAT. Such remaining spectrum had been subject to a public auction process called for by SC Resolution No. 57/11, which later became ineffective for reasons of opportunity, merit and convenience.

Decree No. 671/14 also readjusts the previous assignments of the new spectrum bands, instructing the SC to implement the applicable measures to assign 108 MHz of the bands contained between 698-806 MHz as well as 120 MHz between the 1,710-1,770 and 2,110-2,170 MHz bands exclusively to the Land Mobile Service.

In addition, Decree No. 671/14 instructs the SC to call a public auction for this new spectrum plus the remaining spectrum in the 850 and 1,900 MHz bands mentioned above (band 1,900 MHz: 30 MHz in the Northern Region and AMBA; 35 MHz in the Southern Region, and band 850 MHz: 7.5 MHz in AMBA).

### SC Resolution No. 17/14

SC Resolution No. 17, published in the Official Bulletin on May 16, 2014, assigns 120 MHz of the 1,710-1,770 MHz and 2,110-2,170 MHz bands to the Land Mobile Service. Previous assignments are considered ineffective.

In addition, SC Resolution No. 17 ratifies the suspension to make new assignments of frequencies in the band segments next to those from 1,770-850 MHz and from 2,170-2,200 MHz, a suspension that had been in effect since 2001.

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The Resolution also states that systems which are currently operated by other operators in the newly assigned bands must migrate within a two-year period away from the use of those bands. Those operators must contact the applicable Regulatory Authority, within 60 days from the publication of such Resolution, to coordinate their systems migration.

#### SC Resolution No. 18/14

SC Resolution No. 18, published in the Official Bulletin on May 19, 2014, assigns 108 MHz of the 698 to 806 MHz band to the Land Mobile Service, leaving previous assignments (broadcasting and fixed systems) without effect.

In addition, this Resolution, as well as Resolution No. 17/14 referred to above, provides that systems which are currently operated by other operators in the 698 to 806 MHz band must migrate within a two-year period away from the use of this bands, for which purpose they must contact the applicable Regulatory Authority, within 60 days of the publication of this Resolution, to coordinate their systems migration.

#### SC Resolution No. 37/14

SC Resolution No. 37, published in the Official Bulletin on July 7, 2014, approved the General Regulations for the Advanced Mobile Communications Service (Servicio de Comunicaciones Móviles Avanzadas or SCMA). This service is defined as a telecommunications wireless service which, by the use of digital access technology, supports low and high user mobility, high rates of data transfer, interoperability with other fixed and mobile networks, with capability for international roaming. The focus of the service is on the switch of packages that allow the use of a broad range of applications, including those based on multimedia content.

The SCMA shall be provided by using the 698 to 806 MHz band (108 MHz) and the 1,710 to 1,770 MHz and 2,110 to 2,170 MHz bands (120 MHz). A 60 MHz spectrum cap exists for each provider and all the national territory is considered as a sole Area of Use of this service.

The network technology and architecture may be chosen by each provider. However, certain minimum parameters are established such as supporting bandwidth channels of 10, 15 and 20 MHz, and reaching theoretical high peak speeds of 100 and 50 Mbps, for the descending and ascending connections respectively, for a 20 MHz channel and support high spectral efficiencies (5 and 2.5 bps/MHz, respectively, for each direction of transmission). It also sets forth minimum speeds of 14Mbps for the descending connections and 6Mbps for the ascending connections.

The SCMA shall be subject to the rules set forth in these Resolutions, the List of Conditions issued for the frequency bands auctions to be used for the provision of this service and the regulations to be approved to such effect.

On July 7, 2014, SC Resolution No. 38 was published in the Official Bulletin. Such Resolution establishes: (i) a call for a Public Auction process (the Auction process) for the awarding of the remaining frequencies of the Personal Communication Services (Servicio de Comunicaciones Personales or PCS), of the Cellular Mobile Radiocommunication Services (Servicio de Radiocomunicaciones Móvil Celular or SRMC), as well as those of the new spectrum for the SCMA recently created and (ii) the approval of the Auction Terms and Conditions for simultaneous auction of the aggregate of the remaining spectrum in the 850 and 1,900 MHz Bands, and the 698 to 806 MHz bands, plus 90 MHz of the 1,710/1,770 2,110/2,170 MHz bands for the SCMA service (remaining out of the auction and available for further use, 30 MHz corresponding to the 1,755-1,770 sub-band and 2,155-2,170), respecting the corresponding spectrum caps (50 MHz for SRCM + PCS and 60 MHz for SCMA).

The above mentioned Terms and Conditions set forth the general principles and conditions of the auction, the applicable rules, the auction timetable, the Terms and Conditions purchase price (P\$200,000 pesos), the economic capacity (Equity of P\$1,500 million) and conditions of the offerors (they shall be telecommunications licensees), the economic-financial and technical documentation to be submitted for the prequalification, the coverage compliance obligations of the successful bidders, the base values of the frequency bands to be auctioned, and the procedures and formalities of the public auction.

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The Terms and Conditions organized the aggregate of the spectrum to be auctioned in 10 Lots:

• The first one, to be auctioned exclusively among entering operators who shall qualify for the public auction, shall be comprised of 20 MHz in the 1,900 MHz band for each of the three Regions, plus 20 MHz in the 700 MHz band and other 20 MHz in the 1,700/2,100 MHz band.

• Another six lots comprised by spectrum segments in the 850 and 1,900 MHz bands, which would allow Personal and the mobile operator Claro, to complete their respective spectrum caps taking into account that Movistar has already reached its cap in each of the Regions of operation of the SRMC and PCS services: Personal could acquire up to 5 MHz in the Northern Region, up to 7.5 MHz in the AMBA and up to 10 MHz in the Southern Region, while Claro could acquire up to 5 MHz in the Northern Region, up to 10 MHz in AMBA and up to 5 MHz in the Southern Region.

• And three final lots, comprised, each one, by combinations of segments of 20 or 30 MHz of new spectrum in the 700 and 1,700/2,100 MHz. bands (creating two lots of 50 MHz and the last one of 40 MHz, respectively).

The MHz base price for the bandwidth to be auctioned was fixed in U.S. dollars, as detailed below:

BAND	MHZ BASE PRICE (in millions of US\$)
SCMA (700 MHz)	9.87
SCMA (1.7/2.1 GHz)	9.44
SRMC	6.00
PCS Area I	1.00
PCS Area II	4.40
PCS Area III	0.60

The selection procedure for the best economic offer will consist of an auction of each of the Lots ( The Public Auction ).

The authorizations for the use of the frequencies subject to the public auction are granted for a fifteen (15) year period starting on the date on which the administrative act of choosing a bidder is notified. Once such period ends, the SC may extend it if expressly requested by the successful bidder (which extension shall be subject to the price and conditions to be determined by the SC).

The Terms and Conditions provide for certain coverage obligations to be reached within a five year period: localities of up to 500 inhabitants in the whole country and almost all the corridors of relevant federal and provincial roads, setting forth various intermediate stages for complying with such unfolding. It also imposes certain obligations of domestic roaming (which are not taken into account in the calculation of the coverage obligations) and for sharing of passive infrastructure with the incoming operators (in up to 50% of the sites that the latter must unfold). In addition, as consideration for the acquisition of even only one of the six lots corresponding to the SCRM or PCS services, the current mobile operators must guarantee that all their sites provide mobile Internet of at least 1Mbps (descending), by the end of the fifth year.

On July 24, 2014, Personal acquired a copy of the Auction s Terms and Conditions, and on August 28, 2014 and September 4, 2014, made inquiries to the SC and requested clarifications on some of the provisions set forth in the Terms and Conditions. The Terms and Conditions were also acquired by Telefónica Móviles, AMX Argentina S.A. (Claro), Nextel S.A., Cablevisión S.A. and Arlink S.A., who also made several inquiries.

SC Resolution No. 62/14 issued on September 10, 2014 and published in the Official Bulletin on September 11, 2014, approved Amending Circular No.1 of the Terms and Conditions (and its Exhibit), pursuant to which the SC responded to inquiries made by the acquirers of the Terms and Conditions and amended some of the provisions included in it.

In addition, SC Resolution No. 64/14 issued on September 16, 2014 created a Pre-qualification Commission, consisting of CNC and SC representatives, which was in charge of issuing the prequalification reports regarding the offerors and any challenges that may arise.

On September 18, 2014, Personal submitted Pre-qualification and Background Forms in order to participate in the Public Auction, and the Pre-qualification Commission as provisioned in the Terms and Conditions requested and received from the CNDC a report which concludes that the potential awarding of frequencies to the four companies who tender offers in the Public Auction (Telecom

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Personal, Telefónica Móviles, Arlink and Claro) would not represent a situation which might threaten free competition in the current circumstances of the mobile telecommunications market, without any questionings or exceptions on this respect.

Based on said report of the CNDC and on the Opinion of the Pre-qualification Commission, the SC provided for Resolution No. 65/14, pre-qualifying Personal, as well as Telefónica Móviles Argentina S.A., Arlink S.A. and AMX Argentina S.A., to participate in the Auction process.

On October 31, 2014 the Public Auction process corresponding to the tender was held. Personal submitted its bids and won in the following Lots:

• For the SRM service, in Lot No. 2 (Band: 830.25-834 / 875.25-879);

• For the PCS service, in Lot No. 5 (Band: 1,890-1,892.5 / 1,970-1,972.5) and in Lot No. 6 (Band: 1,862.5-1,867.5 / 1,942.5-1,947.5); and

• For the SCMA service, in Lot No. 8 (Band: 1,730-1,745 / 2,130-2,145 and Band: 713-723 / 768-778).

For the acquisition of these frequency bands, Personal has committed US\$ 658 million (currency of offer) in the Public Auction and its economic offer for the Lot No. 8 resulted the highest one offered in the Public Auction. In accordance to Article 48 of the Terms and Conditions, within the 20 days following the Public Auction, the SC will issue the act of awarding of the frequency bands to the winning companies.

Through SC Resolution No. 79/2014 the SCMA service was awarded to Personal, while SC Resolutions Nos. 80/2014, 81/2014, 82/2014 and 83/2014, that were published in the Official Bulletin of Argentina on November 27, 2014, provided that the following frequency bands are awarded to Personal:

SC Resolution	Lot No.		Frequency Band	Exploitation area/ (Service)	Amount paid millions of US\$	Capitalized cost of acquisition (in millions of P\$)
80/14	5	PCS	1890-1892.5 Mhz and			
			1970-1972.5 Mhz	Northern (3G)	5.0	43
81/14	2	SRMC	830.25-834 Mhz and 875.25-879			
			Mhz	AMBA (3G)	45.0	387
82/14	6	PCS	1862.5-1867.5 Mhz and			
			1942.5-1947.5 Mhz	Southern (3G)	6.0	51
83/14	8	SCMA			354.7	3,049

1730-1745	Mhz	and	2130-2145	

Country (4G) partial awarding

410.7

(\*) Includes P\$18 million corresponding to the tax on debits to bank accounts/ that were capitalized in the cost of the licenses.

Mhz

On December 17, 2014, Personal made the payment of the auction amounts corresponding to the awarded frequency bands and provided the corresponding compliance guarantees. In the case of Lot 8, the payment was made on account of the single and total price offered for the referred Lot which amounted US\$ 602 million. Personal requested that the awarding of the frequency bands for the SCMA Services forming Lot 8 partially awarded to Personal by means of SC Resolution No. 83/2014 should be completed, and it made the corresponding reservation of rights, stating that the demanding commitments established by the Auction Terms and Conditions be computed as from the date in which the remaining frequency bands were awarded. If those frequency bands were not awarded to Personal, the Auction commitments should be redefined to establish which corresponds to the frequency bands effectively awarded.

The full awarding of Lot 8 becomes essential for the compliance with the commitments included in the Auction Terms and Conditions. Once such awarding that shall enable to access Frequency Bands SCMA 713-723/768-778 takes place, Personal shall pay the equivalent to US\$247.3 million (the remaining balance of the bid amount), and shall provide compliance guarantees for 15% of said amount.

The Auction Terms and Conditions established strict coverage and network deployment commitments which will require significant investments on the part of Personal.

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Some of the obligations stated in the Terms and Conditions are the following:

• Extend the SRMC, STM and PCS coverage in such a way that it reaches all locations with at least 500 inhabitants in a time period that shall not exceed 60 months.

• Upgrade the network infrastructure in a time period that would not exceed 60 months, in such a manner that in all the network locations where mobile Internet services are offered a minimum of 1 Mbps per user be guaranteed in the downlink for SRMC, STM and PCS.

• For the SCMA (Annex III of Terms and Conditions) progressive coverage obligations in the Argentine Republic territory are established, in five differenced stages, completed in the 60-month-period with coverage in locations with more than 500 inhabitants.

Taking into account that the awarding of SC Resolution No. 83/14 has been partial, Personal requested the SC that said terms be computed as from the awarding date of the 713-723 to 768-778 MHz band, thus completing the awarding of Lot 8.

#### **Revocation of the License**

Telecom Argentina s license is revocable in the case of non-compliance with certain obligations, including but not limited to:

- an interruption of all or a substantial portion of service;
- a modification of corporate purpose or change of domicile to a jurisdiction outside Argentina;
- a sale or transfer of the license to third parties without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies;

• the sale, encumbrance or transfer of assets which has the effect of reducing services supplied without the prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies;

• a reduction of ownership of Nortel in the capital stock of Telecom Argentina to less than 51%, or the reduction of ownership of Sofora in the capital stock with voting power of Nortel to less than 51%, in either case without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies (as of December 31, 2014 all Nortel s ordinary shares belong to Sofora);

• any transfer of shares resulting in a direct or indirect loss of control in Telecom Argentina without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies; and

• the bankruptcy of Telecom Argentina.

If Telecom Argentina s license is revoked, Nortel must transfer its interest in Telecom Argentina s capital stock to the Regulatory Bodies, in trust for subsequent sale through public auction. Once the sale of the shares to a new management group is performed, the Regulatory Bodies may renew the license of the Company under the terms to be determined.

Personal s licenses are revocable in case of non-compliance with certain obligations, including but not limited to:

- repeated interruptions of Personal s services as set forth in the List of Conditions;
- any transfer of the license and/or the related rights and obligations, without the prior approval of the regulatory authority;
- any encumbrance of the license;
- any voluntary insolvency proceedings or bankruptcy of Personal; and
- a liquidation or dissolution of Personal, without the prior approval of the regulatory authority.

According to the Auction Terms and Conditions for the awarding of frequency bands for SCMA (and some bands for SRMC and PCS), approved by SC Resolution No. 38/14, the authorization to use radio electric spectrum (as defined in the Auction) will be revocable under the following circumstances:

• repeated or persistent breaches of obligations related to quality indicators of services provided under the terms of the Regulation for the Quality of Telecommunications Services approved by SC Resolution No. 5/2013;

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• repeated or persistent failure of infrastructure sharing obligations and the conditions set for automatic roaming agreements established in the Terms and Conditions;

repeated or persistent failure of the coverage obligations set in Annex III of the List;

• assignment, transfer, encumbrance, lease or sale to third parties of the authorization for the use of the awarded bands, without prior authorization from the Regulatory Authority.

Núcleo s licenses are revocable mainly in the case of:

- repeated interruptions of the services;
- any voluntary insolvency proceedings or bankruptcy of Núcleo; and
- non-compliance with certain obligations.

#### Liberalization of the Argentine Telecommunications Industry

In March 1998, the Argentine government issued Decree No. 264/98, introducing a plan for the liberalization of the Argentine telecommunications industry, (or the Plan ). Decree No. 264/98 provided for the extension of the period of exclusivity with respect to the provision of Basic Telephone Services until sometime between October 8, 1999, and November 8, 1999, depending on the particular region. The Plan also provided for: (i) the immediate liberalization of paid telephone services and (ii) during July 1998, the liberalization of telephone service in rural areas. In addition, the Plan contemplated that in January 1999, data transmission services within the countries included in Mercosur would be open to competition, subject to the following conditions: (i) each of the Mercosur countries enters into agreements providing for the liberalization of these services and establishing similar regulatory bodies and (ii) reciprocity exists between countries with respect to the granting of licenses. Beginning in late 1999, two new operators, formed by independent operators, mobile operators and cable television operators were permitted to offer services. These new operators, together with the existing licensees of Basic Telephone Services, allowed customers to choose from four operators until the full liberalization of services occurred. The Plan also granted data transmission operators existing before the privatization of ENTel the right to operate domestic and international long-distance services by the end of 2000. Finally, the full liberalization of local, domestic and international long-distance services took place in November 2000. See Decree No. 764/00 below.

During the Transition Period (1998-1999), new regulatory obligations were also introduced with respect to quality and service targets applicable to both Telecom Argentina and Telefónica.

As long-distance services were liberalized, competition was introduced by pre-subscription of long-distance service for locations with more than 5,000 clients. Following the introduction of Presubscription of Long-Distance Service, a call-by-call selection service will be installed. These requirements obligated the telephone companies to make significant investments and modifications to their networks.

During 1999, competition in local, national and international long-distance services was established among Telecom Argentina and Telefónica and Compañía Telefónica del Plata (CTP, Movicom Bell South) and Compañía de Telecomunicaciones Integrales S.A. (CTI, now Claro), the two new national operators permitted to offer services by Decree No. 264/98. Some provisions of Decree No. 264/98 and related resolutions were modified by Decree No. 764/00, mainly provisions related to licensing conditions, interconnection and Universal Service. Decree No. 764/00 established the general regulation of licenses and provided that each licensed company was allowed to launch its services in November 2000 when the full liberalization of the telecommunications market began. As of the date of this Annual Report, the main licensees providing local and/or fixed long-distance telephone service are Techtel (Telmex), Impsat (Level 3 Communication formerly Global Crossing), IPlan, Telecentro, Telefónica and Telecom Argentina.

Pursuant to the Plan, the liberalization of public telephone services began. On December 9, 1998, Telecom Argentina was granted (upon the subsequent issuance of SC General Resolution No. 2,627/98) a license to provide public telephone services in the Southern Region.

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#### Decree No. 764/00

Law No. 27,078 states that Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments shall remain in full force to the extent that the provisions of such Decree do not conflict with the law until the Regulatory Authority has drawn up the regulations concerning the Licensing Framework for ICT Services, the Interconnection Regulation, the Universal Service Regulation and the Administration, Management and Control of the Spectrum Regulation.

On September 5, 2000, the PEN issued Decree No. 764/00 which enacted four new regulations:

- the regulation of licenses for telecommunications services;
- the interconnection regulation;
- the regulation governing the administration, management and control of the radioelectric spectrum; and
- the Universal Service (SU) regulation.

The basic guidelines for these regulations are as follows:

<u>1. General Regulation of Licenses</u>. This regulation establishes a single nationwide license for the provision of all telecommunication services to the public, including fixed-line, mobile, national and international, irrespective of whether these services are provided through telecommunications infrastructure owned by the service provider. Under the regulation, a license s corporate purpose does not need to be exclusively the provision of telecommunications services and there are no restrictions on participation by foreign companies. In addition, the regulation does not establish any minimum investment or coverage requirements. Broadcasting service companies may also apply for a license to provide telecommunications services. The regulation further authorizes the resale of telecommunications services subject to obtaining a license. This regulation governs the license through which Telecom Argentina offers services in the Southern Region and supplements Telecom Argentina s obligations pursuant to its preexisting licenses.

<u>2. Interconnection Regulation</u>. Compared to the prior interconnection regulation (Decree 266/98), this regulation provides for a reduction in the reference interconnection prices in effect at the time. The regulation also increases the number of infrastructure elements and services that the dominant operator is required to provide, including interconnection at the local exchange level, billing services and unbundling of Local Loops. This regulation also introduces interconnection for number translation services (NTS) such as Internet, audiotext, collect calling and the implementation of number portability.

3. <u>Regulation Governing the Administration, Management and Control of the Radioelectric Spectrum</u>. This regulation establishes the principles and requirements governing the administration, management and control of the radioelectric spectrum. According to the regulation, authorizations or permissions will be granted subject to SC s right to substitute, modify or cancel them without any grantee right to indemnification. New grants of authorizations will have a minimum duration of five years. The authorizations or permissions for use of frequencies may not be transferred, leased or assigned, in whole or in part, without prior authorization by the SC.

<u>4. Universal Service (SU) Regulation.</u> Decree No. 764/00 required entities that receive revenues from telecommunications services to contribute 1% of these revenues (net of taxes) to the Universal Service Fiduciary Fund (the SU fund). The regulation adopted a pay or play mechanism for compliance with the mandatory contribution to the SU fund. The regulation established a formula for calculating the subsidy for the SU liability which takes into account the cost of providing this service and any foregone revenues. Additionally, the regulation created a committee responsible for the administration of the SU fund and the development of specific SU programs.

On June 8, 2007, the SC issued Resolution No. 80/07 which stipulated that until the SU Fund was effectively implemented, telecommunication service providers, such as Telecom Argentina and Personal, were required to deposit any contributions accrued since the issuance of such Resolution into a special individual account held in their name at Banco de la Nación Argentina. CNC Resolution No. 2,713/07, issued in August 2007, established how these contributions are to be calculated.

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• SU Regulation established by Decree No. 558/08

Decree No. 558/08, published on April 4, 2008, introduced certain changes to the SU Fund regime created by Decree No. 764/00. Decree No. 558/08 established that the SC would assess the value of service providers direct program contributions in compliance with obligations promulgated by Decree No. 764/00. It would also determine the level of funding required in the SU Fund for programs pending implementation. In the same manner, in order to guarantee the continuity of certain projects, the SC was given the choice to consider as SU contributions certain other undertakings made by telecommunication services providers and compensate providers for these undertakings.

In defining Universal Service, the new regulation established two categories: (a) geographical areas with uncovered or unsatisfied needs and (b) customer groups with unsatisfied needs. It also determined that the SC would have exclusive responsibility for the issuance of general and specific resolutions regarding the new regulation, as well as for its interpretation and application.

It also established that the SC will review SU programs which were established under the previous regulation, guaranteeing the continuity of SU programs already being administered and implementing programs that had been under review. The financing of SU ongoing programs which were recognized as such will be determined by the SC, whereas telecommunications providers appointed to participate in future SU Programs will be selected by competitive auction.

The Decree requires Telecom Argentina and Telefónica to extend the coverage of their fixed line networks, within their respective original region of activity, within 60 months from the effective date of the Decree s publication.

The Decree requires telecommunications service providers to contribute 1% of their revenues (from telecommunication services, net of taxes) to the SU Fund and keeps the pay or play mechanism for compliance with the mandatory monthly contribution to the SU Fund or, to claim the corresponding receivable, as the case may be.

Providers of telecommunications services shall rely on the assistance of a technical committee made up of seven members (two members appointed by the SC, one member appointed by the CNC, three members appointed by the telecommunication services providers two of which shall be appointed by Telecom Argentina and Telefónica and one by the rest of the providers and another member appointed by independent local operators). This technical committee is informed by the SC of the programs to be financed and is responsible for managing and controlling the SU Fund, carrying out technical-economic evaluations of existing projects and supervising the process of competitive auction and adjudication of new SU programs, with prior approval by the SC.

The technical committee has been created and it is fully operative. Additionally, telecommunications service providers had already sent the proposed Fiduciary agreement to the SC. The SC approved it in January 2009 through Resolution No. 7/09.

On April 4, 2009, by means of SC Resolution No. 88/09, the SC created a program denominated Telephony and Internet for towns without the provision of Basic Telephone Services that will be subsidized with funds from the SU Fund. The program seeks to provide local telephony, domestic long-distance, international long-distance and Internet services in towns that did not provide Basic Telephone Services. The proposed

projects approved by the SC would be sent to the technical committee of the SU Fund so that availability of funds can be evaluated and they can be included in an auction process provided for in Decree No. 558/08.

On December 1, 2010, the SC issued Resolutions No. 147/10 and No. 148/10, approving Internet for educational institutions and Internet for public libraries programs, respectively. These programs aim to provide the Broadband Internet service to state-run educational institutions and public libraries, respectively, and would be implemented using SU Fund resources, through public biddings. The first bid for the Internet for educational institutions program for 4,900 schools, was awarded to Telecom Argentina, among others. Telecom Argentina is finishing the installation of the last project facilities, which will reach 1,540 schools and generate revenue to us from the FFSU of approximately P\$5 million per year for a period of 5 years. On the other hand, the auction Internet for towns without provision of Basic Telephone Service took place according to Resolution No. 88/09, which involved the service provision in 430 locations. Personal presented its offer to the auction. As of the date of this Annual Report, the auction program has yet to be drawn up.

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On November 11, 2010, the SC issued Resolution No. 154/10 adopting the methodology for the deposit of the SU contributions to the trustee s escrow account. The Resolution includes several provisions related to the determination of the contributions that correspond to the periods before and after Decree No. 558/08 was issued. It also states that telecommunication providers may discount the amounts incurred in the implementation of the SU Initial Programs from the contributions to the SU Fund until the SC determines if those Initial Programs qualify as such. However, if as a result of the SC s verification some amounts are not recognized as Initial Programs, those amounts would have to be contributed into the SU Fund or would have to be allocated to develop SU projects previously approved by the SC.

On December 30, 2010, the trustee notified Telecom Argentina and Personal of the trustee s escrow account number in which they shall deposit the SU contributions under the provisions of SC Resolution No. 154/10.

On January 26, 2011, the SC issued Resolution No. 9/11 establishing the Infrastructure and Facilities Program. The Resolution provides that telecommunication service providers can contribute to the projects in this program only the amounts corresponding to their pending SU contributions under Annex III of Decree No. 764/00, before the effective date of Decree No. 558/08.

•SU Fund in Telecom Argentina

By the end of 2002, the SC formed a working group responsible for analyzing the method to be applied for measuring the net costs of SU performance particularly, the application of the Hybrid Cost Proxy Model (the HCPM Model), based on the incremental cost of a theoretical network. The working group was also tasked with defining non-monetary benefits and determining the methodology for its calculation, in order to assess the costs that would be offset due to performance of SU obligations. The working group decided that, given the complexity of this methodology, efforts should be made to continue the initial programs independently from application of the HCPM Model, and that there was a need to carry out a comprehensive review of the present general regulations relating to SU to ensure that these regulations were operative in the near term considering the existing social needs.

Several years after the deregulation of the market and effectiveness of the first SU regulations, incumbent operators have not received any set-offs for the services rendered under the SU regime.

Pursuant to SC Resolutions No. 80/07, SC No. 154/10 and CNC No. 2,713/07, Telecom Argentina has filed its monthly calculations since July 2007 for the review of the Regulatory Authority and estimated a receivable of \$1,742 (unaudited). This receivable has not yet been recorded as of December 31, 2014 since it is subject to the approval of the SU programs, the review of the SC and the availability of funds in the SU Trust.

On April 8, 2011, the SC issued Resolution No. 43/11 notifying Telecom Argentina that investments associated with High-Cost Areas amounting to approximately P\$1,496 million since July 2007 through March 2, 2015 (the date of issuance of the consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2014), and included in the above-mentioned receivables are not considered an Initial Indicative Program. Such resolution was appealed by Telecom Argentina. As of the date of this Annual Report, the outcome of this appeal is still pending.

Telecom Argentina was notified of SC Resolutions No. 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 69 and 70/12, pursuant to which the Special Service of Information 110, the Discounts for Retired People, Pensioners and Low Consumption Households, the services of Social Public Telephony and Loss-Making Public Telephony, the Services and Discounts relating to the Information Society Program argentin@internet.todos, the Services for Deaf-Mute People, the Free Access to Special Emergency Services and Special Community Services, the Value Added Service 0611 and 0612 and the Long Distance Semipublic Service, respectively, did not qualify as an Initial Indicative Program, pursuant to the terms of Article 26 of Annex III of Decree No. 764/00, and that, they did not constitute different services involving a SU provision, and therefore they cannot be financed with SU funds, pursuant to the terms of Article 2 of Decree No. 558/08.

Telecom Argentina s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, has filed appeals against SC Resolutions Nos. 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 69 and 70 presenting legal arguments based on which such resolutions should be revoked. The deductions that were objected to by the SC Resolutions amount to approximately P\$633 million and are included in the credit balance mentioned in the third paragraph of this Section.

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On September 13, 2012, the CNC required Telecom Argentina to deposit approximately P\$208 million. Telecom Argentina has filed a recourse refusing the CNC s request on the grounds that appeals against the SC Resolutions are still pending of resolution. However, it cannot be assured that these issues will be favorably resolved at the administrative stage, or, later at a judicial stage.

On March 19, 2014 the CNC notified Telecom Argentina of a claim in connection with an alleged breach of Resolution No. 2,516/13 (as amended Resolution No. 3,998/13) stating that Telecom Argentina had omitted to submit the SU calculations corresponding to the period January 2001 - June 2007 and ordering Telecom Argentina to submit such calculations and, if applicable, to make the corresponding penalty payments.

As of the date of this Annual Report, Telecom Argentina has filed a response to defend its rights and requested that the CNC rescind the claim.

•SU Fund in Personal

Since January 2001, Personal has recorded a liability related to its obligation to make contributions to the SU Fund. In addition, since July 2007 and in compliance with SC Resolution No. 80/07 and No. 154/10 and CNC Resolution No. 2,713/07, Personal deposited the correspondent contributions of approximately P\$112 million into an account held under their name at the Banco de la Nación Argentina.

During the first quarter of 2011, the above-mentioned funds were transferred to the trustee s escrow account, in compliance with the provisions of SC Resolution No. 154/10 previously described. Since January 2011, the SU Fund monthly contributions are now being made into such escrow account.

On January 26, 2011, the SC issued Resolution No. 9/11 establishing the Infrastructure and Facilities Program. The Resolution provides that telecommunication service providers can contribute to the projects in this program only the amounts corresponding to their pending SU contributions under Annex III of Decree No. 764/00, before the effective date of Decree No. 558/08.

In March 2011, Personal submitted to the SC a P\$70 million investment project, pursuant to SC Resolution No. 9/11, for the development of network infrastructure in locations in the Northern Region of Argentina with no mobile coverage. Personal submitted its calculations from 2001/2007 related to the mentioned project to be financed through its own SU contribution of such periods as required by the SC.

On April 9, 2014 Personal filed an amended proposal for the project pursuant to the SC s request. This new filing consists of additional detailed information about the project s scope. As of the date of this Annual Report the Project is pending of approval.

On July 5, 2012, the SC issued Resolution No. 50/12 pursuant to which it notified that the services referred to by the Mobile Communications Services Providers, which were filed as High Cost Areas or services provided in non-profitable areas, services provided to clients with physical

limitations (deaf-mute and blind people), rural schools, and the request relating to the installation of radio-bases and/or investment in the infrastructure development in various localities, do not constitute items that may be discounted from the amount of contributions to the SU pursuant to the last part of Article 3, of Resolution No. 80/07, or Article 2 of Decree No. 558/08. It also provides that certain amounts already deducted may be used for investment projects within the framework of the Program of SC Resolution No. 9/11, or deposited in the SU Fund, as applicable.

Personal has filed an administrative action against SC Resolution No. 50/12 requesting its nullity. As of the date of this Annual Report, this matter is still pending.

On October 1, 2012, responding to an SC s requirement, Personal deposited under protest approximately P\$23 million in the SU Fund, corresponding to the assessment of the SU services provided by Personal since the issuance of Decree No. 558/08, reserving its right to take all actions it may deem appropriate to claim its reimbursement, as informed to the SC and the CNC on October 15, 2012. Since August 2012, Personal has paid its monthly calculations under protest of those concepts.

It cannot be assured that this issue would be favorably resolved in the administrative stage, or, later at a judicial stage.

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•Amendments of Law No. 27,078 ( LAD ) to the SU

The LAD introduced substantial modifications to the SU regulations pursuant to Decree No. 558/08. Among its provisions the LAD establishes the creation of a new FFSU and the fact that the investment contributions corresponding to the SU programs be managed through said fund, whose assets shall belong to the National government.

The licensees of ICT services shall be obliged to make investment contributions to the FFSU equivalent to one per cent (1%) of the total accrued revenues for the provision of the ICT services included in the scope of application of the law, net of imposed taxes and charges. The investment contribution shall not be transferred to the users whatsoever. In turn, the Regulatory Authority may dispose of, once the SU objectives are reached, the total or partial, permanent or temporary exemption, of the obligation to perform said investment contributions.

The Law also establishes that by virtue of that set forth by Sections 11.1 and 11.2 of the Management Trust Agreement of the FFSU of Decree No. 558/08, the resources therein foreseen in Section 8 of Annex III of Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments shall be integrated to the FFSU created by the LAD in the conditions determined by the Regulatory Authority.

The SU funds will be applied by means of specific programs. Its content and the corresponding awarding mechanisms shall be defined by the Regulatory Authority who may entrust the execution of these plans directly to the entities included in Section 8, paragraph b, of Law No. 24,156, or, complying with the selection mechanisms that may correspond, respecting publication and competition principles, to other entities.

As of the date of this Annual Report, the new FFSU has not been established.

#### Administrative complaint in connection with the service cuts affecting Telecom Argentina and Personal s customers

In the normal course of business, telecommunication service providers face the possibility of incidents in their networks or other assets which could have varying impacts on the services provided to customers. The regulatory framework applicable to Telecom Argentina and Personal provides for the possibility of interruptions in the provision of services and also allows for the suspension of service in case of unforeseen circumstances or force majeure. In particular, the list of conditions of the Mobile Telephony Service (approved by Decree No. 1,461/93) and the General Regulation of Individual Communications Service (approved by SC Resolution No. 60/96) provide for a penalty regime taking into account the period of the service interruption, exempting from any sanction the total service provision interruption of no more than 24 hours and partial service interruptions for periods of less than seven days. The Telecom Group seeks to prevent such incidents, and, in case of any occurrence, ensure their resolution as soon as possible.

However, the CNC has initiated various administrative procedures against Telecom Argentina and Personal related to various network incidents, including some originated by cases of unforeseen circumstances or force majeure, imposing penalties of various amounts for the companies of the Telecom Group.

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The more relevant administrative sanctions are as follow:

Date of the incident	Company	Approximate duration of the incident and impact	Sanctions
06/12/2012	Telecom Argentina	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> hours (affecting certain services in some cities)	Fine of approximately P\$0.6 million.
06/12/2012	Personal	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> hours (affecting certain services in some cities)	Fine of approximately P\$0.6 million and P\$10 of reimbursement to each customer affected, with a penalty of P\$4,690 for each day of delay in complying with the reimbursement.
03/08/2013	Personal	2 hours (affecting certain services in some cities)	Fine of P\$6 million and P\$30 of reimbursement to each customer affected, with a penalty of P\$140,700 for each day of delay in complying with the reimbursement.
04/02/2013	Personal	Service provision affected by the flooding of La Plata city.	Fine of approximately P\$2 million and P\$60 of reimbursement to each customer affected, with a penalty of P\$140,700 for each day of delay in complying with the reimbursement.
05/10/2013	Personal	10 hours (affecting certain services in some cities)	Fine of approximately P\$0.6 million and a daily fine of P\$1,407 per day of delay in complying with reporting required by the CNC with respect to the incident.

Telecom Argentina and Personal have filed their defenses against such penalty procedures in the administrative stage, arguing that these penalties should not be imposed. As of the date of this Annual Report, these penalty procedures are not final. However, it cannot be assured that a favorable result will be obtained at the administrative stage.

#### SC Resolution No. 1/13

On April 8, 2013, SC Resolution No. 1/13 was published in the Official Bulletin, requiring that all mobile operators guarantee the availability of network service, even in emergency situations, in which case the normal provision of mobile services must be restored in a maximum period of one hour. Mobile operators must, in all cases, prioritize the access to emergency services in the affected areas.

In addition, SC Resolution No. 1/13 established that mobile operators provide, within 45 days, a contingency Plan for emergency situations, for purposes of guaranteeing the continuity of services in such circumstances.

As of the date of this Annual Report, Personal has appealed SC Resolution No. 1/13 stating that the resolution should be repealed. However, Personal has met its commitment to present a Contingency Plan for emergency situations under the requirements of the resolution.

On January 26, 2015, the CNC provided comments on Personal s Contingency Plan and also required the reporting of the measures chosen to implement the Plan and the status thereof. As of the date of this Annual Report, Personal is analyzing the comments received by the CNC and the amendments to be made to the Contingency Plan which had been timely submitted.

### SC Resolution No. 5/13

On July 2, 2013, SC Resolution No. 5/13 was published in the Official Bulletin. This resolution approved a telecommunication service quality regulation , establishing, among others, new quality parameters required for telecommunication services provided through mobile and fixed public networks, for all the operators in Argentina, as well as the obligation to provide periodic information to the CNC.

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CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13 was published in the Official Bulletin on November 13, 2013, supplementing SC Resolution No. 5/13 and approving the Audit Procedures and Technical Verification of Service Quality Regulation of Telecommunications Services Manual.

Pursuant to the provisions of CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13, Telecom Argentina and Personal have submitted their respective Technical Reports (detailed technical specifications of the measurement process) and have made their submissions providing the required information pursuant to the provisions of SC Resolution No. 5/13.

On August 14, 2014 the CNC notified Telecom Argentina and Personal that the audits and technical verifications that the Regulatory Authority shall perform on the supply of services regarding licenses of Telecom Argentina and Personal will be performed following the processes and methods of measurement exhibited in the respective presentations of the Technical Reports. The CNC also notified the Company that these shall be carried out using the principles set forth in SC Resolutions No. 5/13 and CNC No. 3,797/13. Notwithstanding, the CNC is developing verification tasks of the mobile services by means of tests of calls and data with measuring mobile devices in different locations of the country using procedures different from those defined in the Quality Regulation and is also making available the results by publishing them at www.quenosecorte.gob.ar.

Within the scope of said verifications, the CNC has initiated penalty processes against Personal for alleged non-compliance with CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13. The Management of Personal has in a timely basis submitted its defense against these claims.

Since the enforceability of this Resolution is subject to the compliance of certain steps for its implementation with the previous approval of the CNC, the Company and Personal have carried out the corresponding reservations of their rights in each of their submissions. In addition, the Company has stated in its different submissions that, due to the special circumstances that affect its tariff structure, the compliance of the burdensome operative and customer service parameters set forth in SC Resolution No. 5/13 should not apply.

#### New Regulation implementing billing per second.

Resolution No. 26/13 issued on December 17, 2013 changed the billing unit of pricing for calls originating on mobile services and the mechanism for informing the CNC of the conditions of existing commercial plans. The new resolution establishes that calls originated by users of mobile communications will be charged per second and the billing of each call will consist of a fixed value corresponding to the initial communication block (including up to the first 30 seconds), plus additional charges per second after the 30th second of communication has elapsed.

Personal has made the necessary implementations to comply with the new provisions. Also, the CNC has initiated audits designed to verify the compliance of Personal with the implementation of the new billing method. The CNC has initiated compliance-related sanctions to which Personal has already responded. Personal does not anticipate an unfavorable outcome from this sanction process.

#### **Disclosure of Mobile Communication Services Information**

On June 11, 2014, Joint Resolution No. 29 of the SC and No. 81 of the Secretary of Commerce was published in the Official Bulletin, establishing new rules concerning the information that mobile communication services providers must disclose to consumers, regularly and free of charge. The Resolution became effective at the end of July, 2014.

Personal has made the necessary developments in its systems, in accordance with the timetable submitted to the CNC on July 22, 2014. However, the CNC has begun audits for purposes of verifying compliance with such Resolution, initiating a sanctioning procedure in which Personal has filed its response in defense of its rights.

### Increase in the Regulator s Penalty Activities

Telecom Argentina is subject to various penalty procedures, in most cases promoted by the Regulatory Authority, for delays in the reparation and installation of service to fixed-line customers. Although generally a penalty considered on an individual basis does not have a material effect on Telecom Argentina s equity, there is a significant disproportion between the amounts of the penalty imposed by the Regulatory Authority and the revenue that the affected customer generates to Telecom Argentina.

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Since fiscal year 2013, the CNC significantly increased its penalty activities, increasing the amount of charges and sanctions, as well as the individual amount of each of the latter. In several cases the sanctions imposed on during 2013 had twice the economic value of those imposed to Telecom Argentina in previous periods for the same alleged infringements and this trend continued during 2014. As a result of the above, and notwithstanding the defense arguments submitted by Telecom Argentina at the administrative stage, sanctions and charges received (measured in terms of alleged infringements) increased 74% and 175%, respectively (2014 vs. 2013).

In determining the provisions for regulatory charges and sanctions, the Telecom Argentina s Management, with the assistance of its legal counsel, determines the likelihood of such sanctions being imposed, the amount thereof based on historical information and judicial precedents, also contemplating various probable scenarios of statute of limitation for charges and sanctions received, the current levels of execution of sanctions and the eventual results of legal actions that Telecom Argentina has undertaken to demonstrate, among other things, the disproportionate sanctions imposed by the Regulatory Authority since 2013.

Telecom Argentina has recorded certain provisions that it deems sufficient to cover the above mentioned sanctions and charges, for further information see Note 2.k) to the Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2014.

#### Rates

#### **Rate Regulations**

<u>Rate Rebalancing</u>. At the time of ENTel s privatization, the need for a future amendment of rates to rebalance the pricing of domestic and international charges was foreseen. Subsequent agreements established the right of licensees to a Rate Rebalancing and set forth some methods to implement a new rate structure.

Decree No. 92/97 provided for a significant reduction in domestic and international long-distance rates, an increase in basic telephony charges, the elimination of Free Pulses and an increase in urban rates. The Rate Rebalancing was undertaken as part of the Argentine government s plan to create a competitive environment in the Argentine telecommunications industry. One of the main principles of the Rate Rebalancing was to have a neutral effect on the licensee s revenues.

The new rate schedule was intended to reduce cross-subsidies (particularly those existing between urban and long-distance services) to create a competitive environment beginning in the year 2000. Decree No. 2,585/91 established that the Rate Rebalancing should have a neutral effect on the licensees revenues. In developing the rate structure implemented by Decree No. 92/97, the Argentine government relied on studies which demonstrated that because of the elasticity of demand for telephone service, an increase in demand for lower-priced services would compensate for the rate reductions. Decree No. 92/97 established corrective methods to facilitate neutral results on revenues.

The variation in revenues resulting from the Rate Rebalancing for the two-year period beginning February 1997 was determined to amount to an increase of P\$9.5 million in accordance with SC Resolution No. 4,269/99. As a result, during fiscal year 2007, Telecom Argentina recorded a liability on the CNC final results, which was shown as a deduction from the Resolution No. 41/07 receivables. In April 2009, the CNC notified

the offsetting of the P\$9.5 million Rate Rebalancing amount with the Resolution No. 41/07 receivables (See Rates Regulations Tax Stability: Social Security Contribution Variations ), thus ratifying the registration made by Telecom Argentina.

*<u>Historical Rates</u>*. The following table sets forth certain of our maximum monthly rates for various components of local service and domestic long-distance service which have been in effect since 1999:

	Maximum rate (1)	
Residential:		
Installation charge per line	P\$	150
Monthly Basic Charge per line	U.S. Dollars (2)	13.23
Commercial:		
Installation charge per line	U.S. Dollars (2)	150
Monthly Basic Charge per line	U.S. Dollars (2)	27.30
Prices:		
Price per pulse (nominal)	U.S. Dollars (2)	0.0469

(1) Figures shown do not include value added tax charged to customers.

(2) In accordance with Public Emergency Law, these rates were pesified at the exchange rate US\$1.00 to P\$1.00.

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*Price Cap.* The List of Conditions required that rates undergo an annual reduction until the Regulatory Bodies determine that there is effective competition in the markets we serve. The Price Cap was a regulation method applied in order to calculate changes in Telecom Argentina s rates, based on changes in the U.S. C.P.I. and an efficiency factor. A 2% (measured in real U.S. dollar terms) reduction in the prior year s rates was required for each of the third through the seventh year following the Transfer Date (through November 7, 1997). In addition, following the extension of the exclusivity period, rates were required to be 4% lower (measured in real dollar terms) than the prior year s rates. This requirement was maintained pursuant to the Rate Agreement, whereby Telecom Argentina was permitted to effect aggregate rate reductions by lowering rates for some or all categories of service, provided that net reductions meet the applicable targets. The application of annual reductions to the general level of rates established in the List of Conditions (Price Cap) has been implemented mainly by reducing the long-distance rates and (in Price Cap 1998) discounts to certain public entities, including the fire departments and public libraries. The CNC notified Telecom Argentina of the completion of the Price Cap 1998 audit which did not show any balance that needed to be applied. As a result of the 1999 Price Cap audit process and Telecom Argentina s reviews, the Regulatory Authority notified us, in August 2009, of the existence of an outstanding balance of P\$3.1 million plus interest. Telecom Argentina has offset this amount with the credit resulting from SC Resolution No. 41/07. See Rates Regulations Tax Stability: Social Security Contribution Variations.

On April 6, 2000, the Argentine government, Telefónica and Telecom Argentina signed an agreement (Price Cap 2000) that set the Price Cap efficiency factor at 6.75% (6% set by the SC and 0.75% set by Telecom Argentina and Telefónica) for the period of November 2000 to October 2001.

The 2000 Price Cap audit results are still pending. Should the outcome of these audit results yield a payable by Telecom Argentina, this payable can be offset with the receivables generated by Resolution No. 41/07. See Rates Regulations Tax Stability: Social Security Contributions Variations.

In April 2001, the Argentine government, Telefónica and Telecom Argentina signed an agreement (2001 Price Cap) that set an efficiency factor for reduction of rates at 5.6% for the period from November 2001 to October 2002.

However, in October 2001, a preliminary injunction against Telecom Argentina disallowed Telecom Argentina to apply rate increases by reference to the U.S. C.P.I. Telecom Argentina appealed this injunction arguing that if one part of the formula could not be applied, the Price Cap system should be nullified. Finally, Public Emergency Law No. 25,561 explicitly prohibited rate adjustments, resulting in the Pesification and the freezing of the regulated rates.

*Installation Charges.* Under the Rate Agreement, Telecom Argentina was required to gradually reduce installation charges so as to achieve pricing levels equal to those for internationally mature networks (estimated in the Rate Agreement to be US\$250) and to eliminate distinctions between residential and commercial users. Decree No. 92/97 established that, beginning in November 1997, installation charges could not exceed the amount charged in mature international markets. According to this decree, the current maximum permitted charge is US\$150 (pursuant to the Public Emergency Law, this charge was pesified at the exchange rate of US\$1.00=P\$1.00).

<u>Monthly Basic Charges</u>. Until the effective date of Decree No. 92/97, customers were entitled to a certain number of Free Pulses per line depending on the category of each customer and the number of lines in the area. As a result of the application of Decree No. 92/97 and in order to offset rate reductions for domestic and international long-distance services, Free Pulses were eliminated for all categories of customers and monthly basic charges were equalized throughout the country. Decree No. 92/97, however, provided for a special reduced rate that is available to certain retired people and low-consumption residential customers.

*Long-Distance Rates.* Decree No. 92/97 reduced the average weighted domestic long-distance rate by approximately 33%. Under this revised rate schedule, interurban rates were significantly reduced, with maximum long-distance rates reduced by 56%. Calls within Provincial Code 1 (up to 30 km) made within provincial cities are billed at an urban rate.

*Letter of Understanding Relating to Basic Services.* Pursuant to the Letter of Understanding 2006, described under Letters of Understanding (LOU) with the UNIREN the government has agreed

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that Telecom Argentina can increase the termination charges applied to incoming international calls and reduce the time bands for off-peak local rates.

<u>Tax on Deposits to and Withdrawals from Bank Accounts (IDC)</u>. On February 6, 2003, the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance, through Resolution No. 72/03, defined the method to allow, going forward, rate increases on Basic Telephone Services reflecting the impact of the IDC. The amount of tax charged must be shown separately in customers bills. Telecom Argentina has determined the existence of a remaining unrecovered amount of approximately P\$23 million that arose before the issuance of Resolution No. 72/03. Telecom Argentina planned to claim such amount within the rate renegotiation process. In April 2007, Telecom Argentina provided the CNC with supporting documentation about this amount for its audit. Telecom Argentina had access to the CNC s audit documentation which corroborates the amounts claimed by Telecom Argentina and its application of a similar offsetting method pursuant to Resolution No. 41/07 described below. As a result, the Company recorded as Non-current Other receivable a total of P\$23 million.

<u>Tax Stability: Social Security Contribution Variations</u>. On March 23, 2007, the SC issued Resolution No. 41/07 relating to the impact of variations in social security contributions occurring over the past several years and the proposed use for the resulting savings and increases in contribution rates that have occurred. Pursuant to Resolution No. 41/07, Telecom Argentina may offset the impact of costs caused by increases in social security contribution rates that have been implemented in accordance with the applicable regulations against the savings caused by reductions in the levels of social security contributions initially earmarked for the argentina@internet.todos Program.

Telecom Argentina s implementation of Resolution No. 41/07 was subject to CNC audits, which were carried out during the third quarter of 2007. Telecom Argentina gained access to the documentation related to the CNC s audits and it showed no significant differences as compared to the net amounts that Telecom Argentina had determined.

Consequently, Telecom Argentina recorded a receivable from increases in social security contributions and canceled payables stemming from reductions in social security contribution rates and other fines due by Telecom Argentina. As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina has a net receivable of P\$62 million which, in addition to the receivable of P\$23 million corresponding to the IDC, is included in the line item Other receivables as non-current receivables.

Since Resolution No. 41/07 gives Telecom Argentina the right to offset receivables with existing and/or future regulatory duties and, given its intention to exercise this right, the receivable was recorded net of provisions. As of December 31, 2014, the provisions corresponding to these regulatory duties amounted to P\$85 million.

In 2014, Telecom Argentina continued its practice of billing customers for the increases in its social security contribution rate accrued from October 2008, applying the same method used to bill the IDC.

#### Renegotiation of agreements with the Argentine government

Telecom Argentina s tariff scheme and procedures are detailed in the Tariff Agreement entered into by Telecom Argentina and the Argentine government in November 1991, as amended in February 1992 (the Tariff Agreement ). Pursuant to the Tariff Agreement, all rates were to be calculated in U.S. dollars and converted into Argentine pesos at the time the customer was billed using the exchange rate existing at that time. Under the Convertibility Law that was effective until January 2002, the applicable exchange rate was P\$1 to US\$1. Rates were to be adjusted twice a year in April and October based on a variation of the U.S. Consumer Price Index (CPI). These adjustments were not applied since 2000 according to a resolution of the SC.

Additionally, in January 2002, the Argentine government enacted Law No. 25,561, *Ley de Emergencia Pública y Reforma del Régimen Cambiario* (the Public Emergency Law ), which provided, among other aspects, for the following:

- The pesification of rates;
- The elimination of dollar or other foreign-currency adjustments and indexing provisions for rates;
- The establishment of an exchange rate for dollar-denominated prices and rates of P\$1 =US\$1; and

• The renegotiation of the conditions of the contractual agreements entered into between privatized companies and the Argentine government.

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The Argentine government is entitled to renegotiate these agreements based on the following criteria:

- The overall impact of rates for public services on the economy and income levels;
- Service quality and investment plans, as contractually agreed;
- The customers interests and access to the services;
- The security of the systems; and
- The profitability of the service providers.

Decree No. 293/02, dated February 12, 2002, entrusted the Ministry of Economy with the renegotiation of the agreements. Initially, the contractual renegotiation proposals were to be submitted to the Argentine government within 120 days after the effective date of the Decree, although this term was further extended for an additional 180-day period. Telecom Argentina filed all information as required by the Argentine government, which included information on the impact caused by the economic crisis on Telecom Argentina s financial position and its revenues, the pre-existing mechanisms for tariff adjustments, operating costs, indebtedness, payment commitments with the Argentine government and future and on-going investment commitments.

Furthermore, in July 2003, Decree No. 311/03 created the *Unidad de Renegociación y Análisis de Contratos de Servicios Públicos*, (Division for the Renegotiation and Analysis of Contracts of Public Utilities Services or UNIREN ), a special division within the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Federal Planning, Public Investments and Services, pursuant to which the contractual relationships between the Argentine government and service providers were to be revised and renegotiated. In October 2003, the Argentine government enacted Law No. 25,790 pursuant to which the original term to renegotiate the contracts was extended through December 31, 2004. As from that date, the Argentine government enacted subsequent laws pursuant to which this term was extended through December 31, 2015.

#### Letters of Understanding ( LOU ) with the UNIREN

In May 2004, Telecom Argentina signed a LOU with the Argentine government pursuant to which it committed not to modify the current rate structure through December 31, 2004 and to continue with the tariff renegotiation process, which was expected to be concluded before December 31, 2004. Telecom Argentina also committed to offer phone services to beneficiaries of governmental welfare programs and to extend Internet services in the interior of the country at reduced prices.

Telecom Argentina has fulfilled its commitments under the LOU.

On March 6, 2006, Telecom Argentina signed a new LOU (the Letter ) with the UNIREN, within the framework of the renegotiation of its license, which had been initiated in 2004. Upon the fulfillment of the procedures set forth in the rules and regulations in effect, the Letter

provides the framework for the signing of the *Acta Acuerdo de Renegociación del Contrato de Transferencia de Acciones* or Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation of the Transfer Agreement (the Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation ) approved by Decree No. 2,332/90, as stated in Article 9 of the Public Emergency Law.

The main terms and conditions of the Letter include:

• The CNC and UNIREN have determined that Telecom Argentina satisfactorily complied with most of the requirements contemplated in the Transfer Agreement and by the regulatory framework. Isolated violations were satisfactorily remedied through fines and/or sanctions. Other matters arising in the normal course of business are still pending resolution, which was originally expected by June 30, 2006 (some of these matters are described below). Despite such expectation, the Regulatory Authority continues to analyze such open issues, the outcome of which would be disclosed when the analysis is completed;

• Telecom Argentina s commitment to invest in the technological development and updating of its network;

• Telecom Argentina s commitments to the achievement of its long-term service quality goals;

• The signing parties commitment to comply with and maintain the terms set forth in the Transfer Agreement, and in the regulatory framework in effect;

• The Argentine government s commitment to create an appropriate and standardized regulatory framework for telecommunications services and to give Telecom Argentina fair and equivalent treatment to that given to other telecommunications providers that shall take part in the process;

• Telecom Argentina s commitment and the commitment of its indirect shareholders Telecom Italia S.p.A. and W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L., to suspend for a period of 210 working days

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any and all claims, appeals and petitions already filed or in the process of being filed, in administrative, arbitral or judicial offices, in Argentina or in any other country, that are founded in or related to any act or measure taken after the issuance of the Public Emergency Law with respect to the Transfer Agreement and the License. The suspension will take effect after the 30th day from the end of the public hearing convened to deal with the Letter. Once the Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation is ratified, any and all claims, appeals and/or proceedings will be disregarded;

• An adjustment shall be made to increase the termination charge of international incoming calls to a local area to be equivalent to international values, which are at present strongly depreciated;

• Off-peak telephone hours corresponding to reduced rates shall be unified with regards to local calls, long distance domestic and international calls.

On May 18, 2006, the Letter was subject to a public hearing procedure, with the purpose of encouraging the participation of the users and the community in general, taking into consideration that the Letter's terms and conditions will provide the framework for the signing of the Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation. These Minutes of Agreement of Renegotiation shall be in effect once all the requirements stipulated in the regulatory framework are complied with, which among other things, requires that a Telecom Argentina Shareholders' Meeting be held to approve said Minutes. Both Telecom Argentina and its indirect stockholders Telecom Italia S.p.A. and W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L. have timely fulfilled the Agreement's commitments.

#### Filings of Telecom Argentina during 2014

On June 18, 2014, Telecom Argentina made a filing before the SC requesting the adjustment of the SBT lines connection fee, in order to obtain an urgent restoration of the balance that must reasonably exist in the operative costs incurred for the provision of the public service under its charge, recomposing the connection fee in an equitable manner and pursuant to the legal provisions that govern the licenses granted to Telecom Argentina, taking into account that the revenues currently obtained for the installation of the Basic Telephone Service lines is much lower than the direct costs that Telecom Argentina incurs to connect new customers. In addition, Telecom Argentina requested that, until such adjustment takes place, such installations become excluded from the sanctioning regime provided by Decree No. 1,185/90, Decree No. 62/90, and SC Resolution No. 5/13.

On July 23, 2014, the Company made a second filing before the SC pursuant to which it requested, among others matters: (i) an adjustment of the monthly basic charges of all the SBT categories set forth in the tariffs general structure; (ii) the determination of a social tariff; (iii) the adjustment of the telephonic pulse value; (iv) the adaptation of the international long distance tariff to the current value of the gold franc; and (v) the tariff deregulation of the commercial service category. In addition, and until such adjustments are made, Telecom Argentina also requested that the SBT be excluded from the sanctioning regime provided by Decrees Nos. 1,185/90 and No. 62/90 and SC Resolutions No.10,059/99 and SC No. 5/13. It is worth mentioning that such adjustments would have relevant effects on Telecom Argentina s ability to finance the technological updating of its networks and infrastructure, which would in the end result in the provision of better services to its customers.

Following these presentations, on December 19, 2014 the LAD (under Title (VI) Prices, rates and levies ), established a general rule (Article 48) by setting up a new legal framework. As of the date of this Annual Report, Management of the Company is assessing the implementation of alternative courses of action according to the new regulatory and legal framework.

### **Other Regulations**

<u>Buy Argentine Act</u>. In December 2001, the Argentine government passed Public Law No. 25,551, the Buy Argentine Act ( *Compre Trabajo Argentino* ), and in August 2002, Decree No. 1,600/02 approved and brought such Act into effect.

The Act requires Telecom Argentina to give priority to national goods and services, as defined in Public Laws No. 25,551 and No. 18,875, in any procurement related to the rendering of Basic Telephone Services. Priority must be given to national goods and services as long as the price of such goods is equal to or lesser than the price of a foreign good (including customs duties, taxes and other

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expenses that are linked to the nationality of goods) increased by 7% (when the Argentine offeror is a small-or medium-size company) or 5% (when the Argentine offeror is any other company).

The Buy Argentine Act also mandates that Telecom Argentina publish any bid for services in the Official Bulletin in order to provide any and all prospective offerors with information necessary for them to participate. This mandatory publication requires considerable lead time before the issuance of the purchase order and has had the result of extending the period needed to complete certain purchases. Non-compliance with the Act is subject to criminal sanctions.

Public Law No. 18,875 establishes the obligation to exclusively contract services, as defined by such law, with local companies and professionals. Any exception must receive the prior approval of the relevant Ministry.

In August 2004, CNC Resolution No. 2,350/04 enacted the Procedure for the fulfillment of the Buy Argentine Act, which requires Telecom Argentina to present biannual returns addressing its compliance with these rules. Non-compliance with this obligation is subject to administrative sanctions. Since this regulation requires Telecom Argentina to make bids for goods and services and/or to obtain any necessary approvals by a relevant authority, and given the higher administrative expenses derived from the obligation to present biannual returns, this regulation reduces Telecom Argentina s operating flexibility.

<u>Calling Party Pays</u> <u>CPP</u>. As from April 15, 1997, pursuant to Decree No. 92/97 and SC General Resolutions No. 263/97 and No. 344/97, mobile telephone services apply the CPP system, whereby the party placing a call from a fixed-line to a mobile phone pays for the air-time charges for the call. As an exception to this rule, traffic originating from public telephones does not pay CPP, and is instead charged according to the Mobile Party Pays or MPP system, whereby the mobile party pays for the call received.

In March 2002, Personal started entering into agreements with the telephone operators to charge CPP for calls made by calling cards. Mobile operators have also agreed to pay for traffic terminated in each other s networks at agreed prices.

In accordance with SC General Resolution No. 124/02, since January 2003, mobile operators can charge the CPP for international calls whereby overseas calls that terminate in mobile telephones in Argentina pay for CPP charges. In order to identify these calls, customers dialing from outside must add a prefix 54 + 9 +area code to the mobile number.

The price per minute for the CPP (for fixed-line to mobile calls) is regulated by the SC based on average traffic volume and costs, as reported by the mobile operators under SC Resolution No. 623/02 which approved the calculation mechanism for the reference value of the TLRD costs for CPP modality. SC Resolution No. 48/03 fixed the values for the TLRD at P\$0.335 per minute for peak-hours and P\$0.22 per minute for off-peak hours, but these values had to be revised by the SC a month after their approval, with a second revision during the subsequent six months that was to be in turn followed by quarterly revisions. However, the SC has yet to complete these revisions.

The CPP price per minute for international calls has been agreed upon by the mobile operators and currently stands at US\$0.18.

<u>Regulation of Virtual Mobile Operators</u>. SC Resolution No. 68/14, published in the Official Bulletin on October 28, 2014, approved the Regulation of Virtual Mobile Operators (VMO) and the Basic Requirements for VMO Agreements. Among its provisions, the Resolution states that the Network Mobile Operators (NMO) that have spectrum and infrastructure, shall annually file a reference offer for those interested in providing services as VMO, in which they will set forth the technical and economic conditions, which shall be reasonable and non-discriminatory. The Resolution also provides the modalities and procedures for the provision of such services.

<u>Regulation applicable to mobile antenna radiation</u>: With respect to the regulation which governs antenna radiation in Argentina, Resolution No. 202/95 of the Ministry of Health and National Social Services establishes the maximum permissible value of non-ionized radiation emissions, which is a regulatory requirement in compliance with SC Resolution No. 530 of December 20, 2000.

Also, to ensure compliance with these standards, CNC Resolution No. 3,690/04 states that, the holders of licenses of radio electric radio-communication stations and the licensees of radio-diffusion stations have to demonstrate that the radiation produced by the antennas of their respective stations do not affect the population in close proximity to these sites, by carrying out an evaluation in line with

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the procedures established in Annex 1 of the regulation ( Protocol for the Evaluation of Non-Ionized Radiation ) or, to make a declaration by means of an affidavit as prescribed under Annex II of this Resolution (see in the Annex *conditions which must be completed by a radio-electric station enabling an evaluation which permits an owner to disclaim the presence of non-ionized radiation at their station* ).

In 2014, the SC issued Resolution 11/2014, which creates the National Monitoring System for Non-Ionized Radiation (SiNaM), which, in conformity with the law, will have as its purpose the measuring of electromagnetic emissions, compliance with the National Security Standard for the Exposure of Radio-Frequencies, the pronouncement of policies among the relevant bodies and their adequate communication. The Resolution states that the operator of SiNaM will be the CNC and creates the Working Group for the Common Control of Non-Ionized Radiation under the supervision of the SC, which will draw up a Regulation for Internal Functions, with the purposes of articulating strategies and forming recommendations, in order to adequately comply with standards set out in the law. All mobile operators have been called to participate in that group.

Law No. 27,078 (LAD). On December 19, 2014, LAD was published and came into force. The new law declares the development of the ICT and its associated resources to be in the public interest, recognizing the essential character of essential public service of ICT under competitive conditions and for the use and access to the telecommunications networks for and between licensees of ICT services.

LAD establishes and guarantees the total neutrality of the networks in order to guarantee each user the right to access, use, send, receive and offer any content, application, service or protocol by Internet without any type of restriction, discrimination, distinction, blockage, interference, hindrance or degradation.

To this end, LAD prohibits lenders from blocking, interfering, discriminating, hindering, degrading or restricting the use, sending, receipt, offer or access of any content, services, protocols or applications, except by judicial order or an express request by a user. It also prohibits price fixing of content-based internet access, and access to services, protocols or applications which are may be used or offered, as well as arbitrary restrictions of the user s right to use whichever hardware or software they may choose to access the Internet, so long as the user s do not harm themselves or the network.

Telecommunications Law No. 19,798 (passed in 1972) and its amendments remains in force only to the extent that it does not conflict with the provisions set out under the new LAD (among those, e.g., Section 39 of Law No. 19,798 regarding the exemption of all levies on land use, subsoil and airspace for telecommunication services). The new LAD also repeals Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments, notwithstanding, however, the mentioned decree shall be in force in all that is not opposed to the LAD for the time required by the Regulatory Authority to draw the regulations of Licenses, Interconnection, Universal Service and Spectrum.

With respect to current licensees, operators, providers and authorized users under the regime instituted by Decree No. 764/00 and amendments thereto, LAD establishes that the Single Digital Argentine License regime will apply to said parties from the moment of its enactment without further action being required by those parties where they currently fall under the Telecommunications Single Service License. The regime will apply without modification to the content, scope and effect of the new regime.

Among the most relevant provisions of LAD, which amends the regulatory framework in force as regards telecommunications are:

• The recognition as an essential and strategic public service of ICT as regards the use and access to the telecommunications networks, for and between licensees of ICT services.

• The rule on prices and rates established in Article 48 of the LAD states that the licensees of ICT services shall set their prices which shall have to be fair and reasonable, cover the exploitation costs and tend to the efficient supply and reasonable operation margin. The tariffs on essential and strategic public services of ICT which remain subject to competition, the tariffs of operators regarding Universal Service, and those tariffs that were qualified as of public interest for the AFTIC could be regulated by such regulatory body.

• The exemptions of encumbrances, establishing that rate exemptions or reductions, prices and encumbrances of ICT in general and telecommunications in particular may be set on a precarious basis when the nature of certain activities so warrant.

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- The amendments as regards Universal Service.
- The asymmetric regulation as universalization tools towards the development of an effective competition.

The new Law sets forth that the licensees of the ICT services may supply audiovisual communication services with the exception of those provided through satellite link, the corresponding license being processed before the proper authority, and exempts the licensees of public services related with their scope of application of the restrictions imposed by Sections 24 paragraph i) and 25 paragraph d) of Law No. 26,522, as said regulations prevented public services companies from being licensees of audiovisual communication services.

In addition, the Law establishes the framework for suppliers entering the audiovisual communication services market setting forth that the Federal Authority of Audiovisual Communication Services shall determine the go-to-market conditions of audiovisual communication services for the suppliers and licensees of ICT. The law also states a gradual implementation plan through the setting up of promotion areas for limited periods of time determined according to public interest, within which the licensees of ICT services with significant market power shall not be able to provide audiovisual communication services.

It also sets forth that the ICT service shall be provided throughout the national territory, considered for that end as a unique area of exploitation and supply, and the modification of the interconnection schedule, imposing higher obligations to the operators and more rights to the State for the regulation in this sense of the wholesale market.

The LAD, in turn, establishes that the Basic Telephone Service holds its status of public service (Section 54), and it defines it as the service for the supply of national and international telephone voice service, through the local networks, notwithstanding the technology used for its transportation, provided that it complies with the objective of allowing its users to communicate with one another (Section 6 paragraph c). In addition, in Section 90 of Title XI, it establishes that said definition, comprises the aspects of the definition established in the Bidding Terms and Conditions for the International Public Bidding process for the Privatization of the Supply of the Telecommunications Service timely approved by Decree No. 62/90.

With regards to the sanction regime, LAD establishes a new regime which will be regulated by the Application Authority, in conformity with principles and provisions that are established by law. Among the most important principles of LAD, it is important to note that the Application Authority may impose precautionary measures in line with (a) the immediate termination of unauthorized radio-electronic emissions, (b) the immediate termination of any other activity presumed to violate the law which could cause irreparable harm to end-users of services and (c) the sealing-off of equipment or facilities used in the provision of ICT services.

Any precautionary measures which have been issued will no longer have any effect once action is taken to remedy the prohibited acts.

The following types of penalties are included in LAD: warnings, fines, suspension of advertising, de-commissioning, disqualification, the confiscation of equipment and materials used for the provision of services, the de-commissioning and forfeiture of licenses, registration or the revocation of authorization or permits.

At the same time, the Law establishes that penalties which are imposed prior to the verification of an offence will be adjusted by taking into account the gravity of the offence, the income of the offender and the degree of harm to public interest, as well as considerations of aggravating or mitigating circumstances.

As of the date of this Annual Report the provisions to be set forth by the Regulatory Authority are still pending. The Company s Management hopes that said provisions shall clarify certain controversial aspects of the new law, so as to be able to complete the evaluation of the operational, economic and financial impact the LAD shall have on the business of the Telecom Group in the following years.

Additionally, we cannot predict the way the Argentine government or the Regulatory Bodies will interpret the new mechanism regarding price and tariff increases. If rate restrictions for regulated services continue in the fixed services or new restrictions are imposed in non-regulated services, our operating margins could be negatively affected.

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### LEGAL FRAMEWORK

#### New Law of Promotion of Registered Labor and Prevention of Labor Fraud

On June 2, 2014, Law No. 26,940 of Promotion of Registered Labor and Prevention of Labor Fraud was published in the Official Bulletin. This new Law, among other issues, creates a Public Registry of Employers with Labor Penalties (the Registry) and defines a range of labor and social security offenses pursuant to which an employer is to be included in such Registry.

The employers included in the Registry shall be subject to various kinds of penalties, such as: not being allowed to participate in public programs, benefits or subsidies, not having access to public banks credit, not being allowed to enter into agreements or receive authorizations to use state owned assets, or not being authorized by the Government to provide public services nor be granted licenses. In addition, those employers who commit the same offence pursuant to which they were included in the Registry within three years of the penalty will not be allowed to deduct their labor costs from their income tax, as long as they remain included in the Registry.

Regulation to implement the law was passed by the PEN on September 30, 2014. As a result, as of the date of this Annual Report, the Law is already effective. Exceptions to the penalty regime provided in its regulations are very limited and have no practical effect to restrict its application. Taking into account that the Law has become effective recently and depending on the way in which the authorities Ministry of Labor choose to enforce it, as of this date we cannot estimate the impact of this new labor rules on the financial condition and results of operations of the companies domiciled in Argentina.

### New Federal Civil and Commercial Code

On August 8, 2014, Law No. 26,994 was published in the Official Bulletin, pursuant to which a new Federal Civil and Commercial Code was approved, which will become effective on August 1, 2015.

The Code is a new legal body that codifies Argentine private law and modifies certain specific laws such as the LSC and the Consumers Defense Law.

The Company s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, is currently analyzing the various topics contained in the Federal Civil and Commercial Code in order to assess the effects that such Code will have on the Group s operations, once it becomes effective.

New Supply Law

On September 19, 2014, Law No. 26,991 of Regulation of the Production and Consumer Relations was published in the Official Bulletin, which materially modified the provisions of the Supply Law No. 20,680. Law No. 26,991 became effective on October 2, 2014.

The new law provides that if economic agents undertake certain types of conduct (such as artificially increasing prices, accumulating raw material, unjustifiably restricting the sale of goods or services, etc.), the authorities will have wide powers to intervene issuing production and commercialization rules, fixing prices or revenue margins, granting subsidies, among others. The authorities will also have the power to impose penalties.

As regards penalties, the maximum amount for fines was increased up to P\$10 million, authorizing a further increase of such amount up to three times the earnings obtained while violating the law. In addition, other penalties are included, such as closing down facilities, disqualification for the use or renewal of credits, seizure of merchandise, disqualification to perform acts of commerce, suspension in Government suppliers registries and loss of concessions, privileges and tax or credit special regimes. The new law excludes prison, which was contemplated as a penalty in the prior regime.

The law introduces the *solve et repete* (pay now, appeal later) principle as a necessary condition to appeal before the courts any administrative resolutions that impose a fine, condition that may only be exempted if the affected party proves that complying with it causes severe hardship to the appellant.

In the case of a shortage or scarcity of goods or services that satisfy basic or essential needs concerning the general welfare of the population, the Regulatory Authority will have the power by passing a resolution to instruct the sale, production, distribution or provision of those goods or services, regardless of who owns this property. In the event of non-compliance with the Law, penalties could be imposed.

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The law does not apply to small and medium sized companies as long as they do not hold a dominant market position pursuant to the parameters and definitions set forth in Law No. 25,156 (the Antitrust Law).

The Company s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, is currently analyzing the above referred regulation to assess the effects that it may have on the Group s operations.

#### New Conflict Resolution Regime for Consumer Relations Matters

On September 19, 2014, Law No. 26,993 was published in the Official Bulletin, establishing a legal regime applicable to conflict resolution for consumer relations matters. The law became effective on October 2, 2014.

This new law creates new procedures and institutes for consumers to file their complaints, which are described below.

First, Law No. 26,993 creates the Prior Mediation Service for Consumer Relation Conflict Resolution (in Spanish, COPREC) to intervene in complaints made by consumers or users which arise in the consumer relations field, and for complaints involving amounts which do not exceed an amount equivalent to 55 (fifty five) the Minimum, Vital and Flexible Salaries (*Salario Mínimo Vital y Móvil*, the minimum wage to be paid to an employee as set by the Government). The participation of COPREC is mandatory and prior to any complaint before the Audit in Consumer Relations (new entity created by the above referred law), or, if applicable, to any claim filed before the Federal Justice in Consumer Relations (*Relaciones de Consumo*).

An Audit in Consumer Relations entity (the Audit ) was created to exist within the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. Such entity is defined as an independent authority and considered an administrative court for all claims within its jurisdiction. The Audit will have the competence to decide conflicts on damage liability, claimed by consumers or users, up to an amount of 15 (fifteen) the Minimum, Vital and Flexible Salaries. As in the case of the COPREC, the above referred law regulates the procedure applicable to all disputes submitted before the Audit. Resolutions issued by the Audit may be challenged through a direct appeal to the Federal Court of Appeals in Consumer Relations or before the applicable Courts of Appeals.

Finally, the law also creates the Federal Justice in Consumer Relations that in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires will be responsible for the Federal Courts of First Instance in Consumer Relations, and the Federal Court of Appeals in Consumer Relations. In the rest of the country, it will be responsible for the applicable Courts of Appeals. The Federal Justice shall be competent in Consumer Relations cases relating to consumer relations in which the claim amount, as of the time of filing such claim, does not exceed an amount of 55 (fifty five) Minimum, Vital and Flexible Salaries.

This law also introduces amendments to the Law of Consumer s Defense No. 24,240, to Antitrust Law No. 25,156 and to Law No. 22,802 of Commercial Loyalty. Thus, it provides that any acts imposing penalties for violations of the provisions of the above referenced laws may be challenged through a direct appeal before the Federal Court of Appeals in Consumer Relations or before the applicable Courts of Appeals of the Argentine provinces, as applicable. In case the penalties include a fine, the filing of recourse before the courts shall be subject to the previous

payment of such fine.

The law also modifies the penalties set forth in Law No. 22,802 and the powers of the regulatory authority provided by Law No. 25,156 to be determined by the PEN and provides that all rules included in the latter that refer to the Antitrust Federal Court must be interpreted as referring to the regulatory authority to be appointed.

The Company s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, is currently analyzing the above referred regulation to assess its scope and the effects that it may have on the Group s operations.

# DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO SECTION 219 OF THE IRAN THREAT REDUCTION AND SYRIA HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2012 (ITRSHRA)

Section 219 of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 added Section 13(r) to the Exchange Act. Section 13(r) requires an issuer to disclose in its annual or quarterly reports filed with the SEC whether the issuer or any of its affiliates has knowingly engaged in certain activities, transactions or dealings with the government of Iran, relating to Iran or with designated natural persons or entities involved in terrorism or the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction during the period covered by the annual or quarterly report. Disclosure is required even when the activities were

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conducted outside the United States by non-U.S. entities and even when such activities were conducted in compliance with applicable law.

In accordance with our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, we seek to comply with all applicable laws.

#### Activities relating to Iran

### **Telecom Group**

We have, to our knowledge, two activities relating to Iran: i) our roaming agreement (mobile services) with Mobile Company of Iran (MCI) (formerly TCI), which allow our mobile customers to use their mobile device on a network outside their subscriber s home network (see Glossary of Terms Roaming) and ii) our international telecommunications services agreements with international carriers (fixed services), which cover delivery of traffic to Iran through non-Iranian carriers.

*i. Roaming agreements (mobile services)* 

Like all major mobile networks, in response to the competition and customers demands, Personal has entered into roaming agreements with many foreign mobile networks, including MCI, to allow their customers to make and receive calls abroad.

Roaming agreements are entered into using standard terms and conditions including the one relating to Iran. Entering into roaming agreements is an activity carried out in the ordinary course of business by a mobile network operator.

Roaming agreements are generally reciprocal. Pursuant to a roaming agreement, when our mobile customers are in a foreign country covered by the network of an operator with which we have a roaming agreement (the Foreign Operator ), our mobile customers may make and receive calls on their mobile phone using the Foreign Operator s network. Likewise, the Foreign Operator s customers may make and receive calls using our networks when these customers are in Argentina.

The Foreign Operator bills us for the calls made and received by our roaming customers at the rate agreed upon in the applicable roaming agreement. We then bill these customers according to the specific roaming fees in their subscription agreement. Likewise, we bill the Foreign Operator at the roaming rate agreed upon in the applicable roaming agreement. The Foreign Operator bills its clients for the calls made and received using our networks according to their customer agreements. Roaming agreements do not, generally, contemplate other fees or disbursements.

In 2014, the consolidated impact on net profit (loss) arising from our roaming agreements with MCI was as follows:

- our total revenues under roaming agreements with MCI were approximately P\$5 thousand.
- our total charges paid under roaming agreements with MCI were approximately P\$9 thousand.

These revenues and charges are immaterial to our consolidated revenues and operating expenses. Because we do not separately allocate costs directly attributable to the service provision or other overhead costs to these transactions, the amount of our consolidated net profits earned under these agreements is not determinable, but it does not exceed our gross revenues from the agreements.

Also, as of December 31, 2014, the amount for receivables for these concepts pending to collect were approximately P\$3 thousand.

The purpose of our roaming agreements is to provide our customers with coverage in areas where we do not own networks. For that purpose, we intend to continue maintaining our roaming agreements.

*ii.* Commercial Agreements with International Carriers (fixed services):

We maintain commercial agreements with international carriers from countries other than Iran, which permit those carriers to deliver traffic from Iran to our networks and from our networks to Iran. Telecom Argentina s total charges paid under commercial agreements with international carriers regarding delivery of traffic to Iran were approximately P\$3 thousand.

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### **Telecom Italia Group**

We are also required to disclose our affiliates activities relating to Iran. We have been informed that other members of the Telecom Italia Group also have entered into roaming agreements with Iranian telecommunications operators. The information in this Section is based solely on information provided to us by our Parent Telecom Italia S.p.A. for purposes of complying with our obligations under Section 13(r) of the Exchange Act. Information set forth below is for the consolidated Telecom Italia Group and includes the impact of our revenues and charges described above.

The Telecom Italia Group operates one of the largest mobile networks in Italy. Through its foreign subsidiaries, Telecom Italia also has large mobile operations in Brazil (Tim Participações S.A. by means of its subsidiary TIM Celular S.A.) and Argentina and Paraguay (Telecom Argentina through its subsidiaries Telecom Personal and Núcleo).

Telecom Italia informs us that the only activities that Telecom Italia has that, to its knowledge, relate in any way to Iran are:

• roaming agreements with the following Iran mobile phone operators: Taliya, KFZO TKC, Irancell (MTN) and Mobile Company of Iran (MCI); and

• a commercial relationship for the delivery of traffic from Iran to its networks and from its networks to Iran ( International Carrier Agreements ). To this end, its subsidiary Telecom Italia Sparkle S.p.A. ( TI Sparkle ) entered into agreements with Telecommunication Company of Iran. In addition, Telecom Italia S.p.A. has also entered into certain agreements (of a small amount) for the provision of TLC services (marine radio traffic) with Telecommunication Company of Iran and Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines.

*Roaming.* Telecom Italia informs us that in 2014, the impact on Telecom Italia Group net profit (loss) arising from such roaming contracts is analyzed as follows:

- its total revenues from roaming agreements with Iranian networks were approximately 360 thousand euros; and
- its total charges from roaming agreements with Iranian networks were approximately 305 thousand euros.

The purpose of these roaming agreements is to provide Telecom Italia's customers with coverage in areas where Telecom Italia does not own networks. For that purpose, it intends to continue maintaining these roaming agreements.

*International Carrier Agreements.* As a rule in the modern telecommunication business, when traffic from a specific network is placed to or transported through another carrier s network (the Host Network ), the Host Network receives a fee from the incoming network.

Telecom Italia informs us that in 2014, the impact on its net profit (loss) arising from the above International Carrier Agreements is analyzed as follows:

- its total revenues from traffic from networks located in Iran to its networks were approximately 4 thousand euros; and
- its total charges from traffic to networks in Iran from its networks were approximately 56 thousand euros.

The purpose of this agreement is to allow exchange of international traffic. Consequently, Telecom Italia intends to continue maintaining this agreement.

According to Telecom Italia information, all such amounts of revenues and charges are de minimis with respect to Telecom Italia consolidated revenues and operating expenses, respectively.

### Activities relating to Syria, Sudan and Cuba

In addition to the mandatory disclosure regarding the activities related to Iran described above, below we describe our activities that directly or indirectly relate to Syria, Sudan and Cuba (designated by the U.S. Department of State as state sponsors of terrorism and are subject to U.S. economic sanctions and export controls) ( Designated Countries ):

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#### *i. Roaming agreements (mobile services)*

Operators of mobile telecommunications networks, including Telecom Personal and Núcleo, enter into roaming agreements with other operators of mobile telecommunications networks in the ordinary course of business. See Activities relating to Iran Telecom Group for a description of roaming agreements.

We maintain roaming agreements with Telecomunicaciones Celulares del Caribe S.A. (Cubacel), in Cubad TN Sudan Co. Ltd, in Sudan; and Spacetel Syria (now MTN Syria), in Syria. The purpose of all of these roaming agreements is to provide our customers with coverage in areas where we do not own networks. In order to remain competitive and maintain such coverage, we intend to continue maintaining these agreements.

As of December 31, 2014, the approximate revenues, expenses, receivables and payables from roaming agreements with the Designated Countries were as follows:

	December 31, 2014			
Roaming agreements (mobile services)	Revenues (*)	Expenses	Receivables (*)	Payables
		In thousan	nds of P\$	
Syria	(a)	1		2
Sudan	1	(a)	3	
Cuba	88	7,259		1,159
Total (*)	90	7,260	3	1,161
% of respective consolidated total amounts	<i>(b)</i>	0.026%	<i>(b)</i>	0.019%

(a) Less than P\$ 0.5 thousand.

(b) Less than 0.001%.

(\*) Revenues and receivables from roaming agreements are received in U.S. Dollars and have been converted into Argentine Pesos using the average exchange rate for each period shown. Argentine Peso amounts are influenced by the devaluation of the Peso against the U.S. Dollar over the years/periods presented.

#### *ii.* International Telecommunications Services (fixed services):

Telecom Argentina has entered into an agreement with ETEC S.A. for the delivery of traffic from Cuba to our network and from our network to Cuba. We do not have traffic agreements with operators in the Designated Countries other than Cuba.

The purpose of these agreements is to allow the uninterrupted exchange of international traffic. Consequently, we intend to continue maintaining these agreements.

As of December 31, 2014, the approximate total revenues, expenses and payables from traffic with and to ETEC S.A. were as follows:

		December 31, 2014	
International Telecommunications Services (fixed services)	Service rendered	Service received (*) In thousands of P\$	Payables
Cuba - ETEC S.A.	561	13,789	754
% of respective consolidated total amounts	0.002%	0.049%	0.012%

As shown in the table above the revenues and expenses generated by these transactions with ETEC S.A. are wholly immaterial for each of the periods presented. The Company expects to continue incurring such costs and generating such revenues in the ordinary course of the Company s business, although, based on prior experience, the Company believes that its business dealings with telecommunications operators in Cuba are currently and will continue to be financially immaterial, both on a quantitative and qualitative basis. Thus, the Company believes that a reasonable investor would not deem these transactions important in making an investment decision and that these transactions will not materially affect the Company s reputation or share value.

*iii.* Commercial Agreements with International Carriers (fixed services):

We also maintain commercial agreements with international carriers from countries other than the Designated Countries which permit those carriers to deliver traffic from the Designated Countries to our networks and from our networks to such countries. In addition to the above-mentioned International Telecommunications Service agreement with ETEC S.A., if Telecom exceeds the

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monthly quota of traffic agreed between ETEC S.A. and Telecom it may place traffic to Cuba through other operators rather than subscribe for additional capacity from ETEC S.A.

Regarding outgoing traffic, during 2014, Telecom has sent traffic to the Designated Countries mainly through, Latinatel S.A. (Uruguay), Telecom Italia S.p.A. (Italy), Express Teleservice Corp. (Russia), Atlantel Inc. (United States), Orange Spagne Sau (France) and Business Telecommunications Service (United States).

As of December 31, 2014, the total approximate expense for delivery of traffic terminated in the Designated Countries was:

Commercial Agreements with International Carriers (fixed services)	December 31, 2014 In thousands of P\$	
Syria	46	
Sudan	(a)	
Cuba	15,143	
Total outbound costs	15,189	
% of consolidated operating expenses	0.054%	

(a) Less than P\$ 0.1 thousand.

Regarding incoming traffic, the Company charges the relevant international carrier for their traffic terminated in Telecom s network. Consequently, the Company does not know the country of origin of such traffic.

Accordingly, our total payables and receivables from international carriers include those balances arising from traffic related with the Designated Countries but it is not possible to segregate them.

The outbound costs described in the table above are wholly immaterial with respect to the Company s consolidated operating expenses for each of the periods presented.

### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**

Capital expenditures (investment in Property, Plant and Equipment PP&E and Intangible Assets) amounted to P\$8,957 million in the year ended December 31, 2014, P\$4,851 million in the year ended December 31, 2013, and P\$3,257 million in the year ended December 31, 2012.

The following table sets forth our Total Additions (Capital Expenditures plus Materials) for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, amounting to P\$9,547 million, P\$5,214 million and P\$3,416 million, respectively.

	2014	Year ended December 31, 2013 (P\$ million)(1)	2012
Land and buildings	160	172	88
Switching and transmission	1,234	990	558
Equipment and infrastructure for special projects	13	67	94
Access and outside plant	1,807	1,387	732
Computer equipment and software	706	952	636
Other	384	396	307
Subtotal tangible capital expenditures (2)	4,304	3,964	2,415
Rights of use, exclusivity agreements and licenses	3,541	5	
Service connection or habilitation costs	30	88	21
Subscribers acquisition costs	1,082	794	821
Subtotal intangible capital expenditures	4,653	887	842
Total capital expenditures	8,957	4,851	3,257
Materials (3)	590	363	159
Total additions in PP&E and intangible assets	9,547	5,214	3,416

(1) The allocation of work in progress among items is estimated.

(2) Includes materials transferred amounting to P\$655 million, P\$450 million and P\$209 million as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

(3) Each year increase is calculated as the net amount between additions and transfers to work in progress during the year.

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In addition, the following table shows capital expenditures for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 broken down by Fixed Services and Mobile Services:

	2014	Year ended December 31, 2013 (P\$ million)	2012
Fixed Services			
Land and buildings	120	124	56
Switching and transmission	516	431	265
Equipment and infrastructure for special projects	13	67	94
Outside plant	981	819	491
Computer equipment and software	276	367	270
Other	206	229	171
Subtotal tangible capital expenditures	2,112	2,037	1,347
Rights of use, exclusivity agreements and licenses	9		
Service connection or habilitation costs	30	88	21
Subscribers acquisition costs	126	30	61
Subtotal intangible capital expenditures	165	118	82
Total Fixed Services capital expenditures	2,277	2,155	1,429
Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services			
Land and buildings	40	48	32
Switching and transmission	718	559	293
Mobile network access	826	568	241
Computer equipment and software	430	585	366
Other	178	167	136
Subtotal tangible capital expenditures	2,192	1,927	1,068
Rights of use, exclusivity agreements and licenses	3,532	5	,
Subscribers acquisition costs	956	764	760
Subtotal intangible capital expenditures	4,488	769	760
Total Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services capital	,		
expenditures (1)	6,680	2,696	1,828
Total capital expenditures	8,957	4,851	3,257

(1) Includes P\$357 million, P\$327 million and P\$193 million of capital expenditures in Paraguay as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Following the strategy of previous years, in the Personal Mobile Services segment, the capital expenditures were mainly oriented towards the extension of the coverage and capacity of the mobile network in numerous cities across Argentina, with the objective being reached mainly by means of the implementation of new sites, replacement plans and network upgrades for the activation of new carriers and the deployment of radio bases with six sectors. On the other hand, the capital expenditures continued in the core of the mobile network. On its part, in the last two-month period of 2014 the deployment of the LTE technology was started.

In the Fixed Services segment, as regards Access, investment continued to enable shortening of the loop, replacing posts and meeting the supply demands of companies, neighborhoods and buildings. In the transportation area, Telecom s focus was on increasing the capacity and security measures of the Backbone IP ( BBIP ), on the extension of the network and on improving the bandwidth available for mobile operators (Mobile *Backhaul*).

We estimate that our capital expenditures for the year 2015 will be approximately 19% of consolidated revenues. In case Telecom Personal is awarded the remaining frequency bands of the Spectrum Public Auction, we believe that there will be an additional investment of approximately US\$247 million. See Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 Spectrum and Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Liquidity and Capital Resources Capital Expenditures.

The main investment projects of the Telecom Group in the Fixed Service Segment are related to the reconversion of the network architecture, which involves the replacement of copper by fiber optics in different points (FTTC or fiber connection to the cabinet, FTTB or fiber to the building and FTTH or

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fiber to the home), the extension and the securitization of the transportation network, with the aim of improving the commercial offer and the Internet user experience. The evolution towards new technology helps to optimize the quality of service in terms of stability and availability. In the Mobile Service Segment, we continue with the strategy of enhancing the capacity and coverage of our access mobile network.

We expect to finance these expenditures through cash flows generated by our operations and financing provided by third parties.

### PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

As detailed below, our principal physical properties consist of transmission equipment, access facilities, outside plant (external wiring) and switching equipment. These properties are, at present, mainly located throughout the AMBA and Northern Region. We believe that these assets are, and for the foreseeable future will be, adequate and suitable for their respective uses.

	Fixed Services	As of December 31, 2014 Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services (P\$ million)(*)	Total
Land and buildings	982	152	1,134
Switching and transmission	1,989	2,248	4,237
Access and outside plant	3,369	1,881	5,250
Equipment & infrastructure for Special Projects	180		180
Computer equipment and software	691	1,154	1,845
Materials	402	346	748
Others	138	277	415
Total PP&E, net carrying value	7,751	(**) 6,058	(***) 13,809

(\*) The allocation of work in progress among items is estimated.

(\*\*) Includes P\$1,370 million located in Paraguay.

(\*\*\*) Net of valuation allowance for materials for P\$24 million and impairment of PP&E for P\$100 million.

All of the above-mentioned assets were used to provide service to our customers as described below.

	2014	2013 (thousands)	2012
Fixed lines in service	4,093	4,124	4,128
Fixed Internet access lines	1,771	1,707	1,629
Mobile subscribers(*)	22,066	22,508	21,276

<sup>(\*)</sup> In 2014, 2013 and 2012, includes 2,481, 2,420 and 2,301 thousand Núcleo mobile subscribers, respectively, of which 5, 5 and 6 thousand were Internet (Wi-Max) customers, respectively.

As of December 31, 2014, we have entered into purchase commitments relating to PP&E totaling P\$1,471 million primarily for switching equipment, external wiring, network infrastructure, inventory and other goods and services. In general, the contracts are financed, directly or indirectly, by domestic and foreign vendors.

Our current major suppliers of fixed assets are Cía. Ericson S.A.C.I., Huawei Tech Investment Co. Ltd. Argentina, Italtel Argentina S.A., Alcatel-Lucent de Argentina S.A., Sofrecom Argentina S.A., Guzman Nacich S.A.I.C. and Trans Industrias Electronicas S.A.

# ITEM 4A. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

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#### ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements, including the notes to those financial statements, which appear elsewhere in this Annual Report. Our Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS. See Item 3 Key Information Selected Financial Data. The following discussion and analysis is presented by the Management of our company and provides a view of our financial condition, operating performance and prospects from Management s perspective. The strategies and expectations referred to in this discussion are considered forward-looking statements and may be strongly influenced or changed by shifts in market conditions, new initiatives that we implement and other factors. Since much of this discussion is forward-looking, you are urged to review carefully the factors referenced elsewhere in this Annual Report that may have a significant influence on the outcome of such forward-looking statements. We cannot provide assurance that the strategies and expectations referred to in this discussion will come to fruition. Forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections, and therefore, you should not place too much reliance on them. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements in light of new information or future events. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties, most of which are difficult to predict and are generally beyond our control. We caution you that a number of important factors could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, the forward-looking statements. Please refer to Forward-looking statements in this Annual Report.

#### **Management Overview**

The Telecom Group continued to work on its objective to be a leader in innovation, by launching various services and products based on state-of-art technology, with a strong focus on quality improvement. We have consolidated our market positioning, in all the business segments with limited rotation of our customer portfolio. The Telecom Group has continued to expand its Internet accesses base, reaching 1.8 million fixed Internet accesses. In addition, its mobile subscribers base reached 22.1 million mobile subscribers (including Personal and Núcleo) as of December 31, 2014. To promote the expansion of business, total additions in PP&E and intangible assets amounted to P\$9,547 million in 2014, representing 29% of consolidated total revenues in 2014 (our capital expenditures, total additions in PP&E and intangible assets less materials, amounted to P\$8,957 million in 2014, equivalent to 27% of consolidated revenues). Our total additions to PP&E and intangible assets for 2014 (our total capital expenditures plus net additions of materials) and our total capital expenditure for 2014, both include the 3G and 4G Licenses acquisition at the end of 2014, which amounted to P\$3,530 million.

Telecom is considered one of the leading companies in the Argentine telecommunications sector. The Company has attained this position without neglecting its commitment to generate economic value for its shareholders, demonstrating good performance in terms of revenues and profitability. In addition, investments made by the Telecom Group and the future investments that will enable the 4G network deployment, are clear evidence of our commitment to our customers. Telecom had consolidated net financial assets of P\$745 million as of December 31, 2014, compared to consolidated net financial assets of P\$5,354 million and P\$3,648 million as of December 31, 2012, respectively. This variation was mainly due to a decrease in the generation of cash from operating activities, higher level of capital expenditures, which includes acquisition of 3G and 4G licenses for P\$ 3,530 million, and cash dividends paid to Telecom shareholders of P\$1,202 million.

The following discussion and analysis summarizes relevant measures of results of operations presenting items by nature. The Company believes that the presentation of the measure operating income before depreciation and amortization provides investors and financial analysts with appropriate information that is relevant to understanding the Company s past, present and future performance. Moreover, operating income before depreciation and amortization is one of the key performance measures used by Telecom s Management for monitoring the Company s profitability and financial position, at each segment and at the consolidated levels.

Continuing the trend of prior years, revenues in 2014 grew by 22% compared to 2013, reaching P\$33,341 million, and grew by 23% in 2013 compared to 2012, reaching P\$27,287 million. Operating income before depreciation and amortization in 2014 increased P\$1,138 million as compared to 2013, reaching P\$8,702 million (equivalent to 26% of total revenues), while in 2013 it increased P\$994

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million as compared to 2012, reaching P\$7,564 million (equivalent to 28% of total revenues). Operating income increased P\$925 million in 2014 as compared to 2013, reaching P\$5,443 million (equivalent to 16% of total revenues) while in 2013 it increased P\$552 million as compared to 2012, reaching P\$4,518 million (equivalent to 17% of total revenues). Net income increased P\$475 million in 2014 as compared to 2013, reaching P\$3,729 million (equivalent to 11% of total revenues), while it increased P\$522 million in 2013 as compared to 2012, reaching P\$3,254 million (equivalent to 12% of total revenues). Net income attributable to Telecom Argentina increased P\$471 million in 2014 as compared to 2013, reaching P\$3,673 million, while it increased P\$517 million in 2013 as compared to 2012, reaching P\$3,202 million.

Our results of operations continue to be affected by the Pesification and freezing of regulated rates in the Fixed Services segment and macroeconomic factors. For a discussion of these and other factors that may affect our results of operations. See Item 3 Key Information Risk Years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 Factors Affecting Results of Operations and Factors and Trend Information below.

For a detailed analysis of our results of operations for fiscal year 2014, see Years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 below.

#### **Economic and Political Developments in Argentina**

In the second half of 2001 and through the first half of 2002, Argentina experienced a deep economic recession together with an overwhelming financial and political crisis. The rapid and radical nature of changes in the Argentine social, political, economic and legal environment created a very unstable macroeconomic environment. In January 2002, the Argentine government abandoned the convertibility regime which had fixed the peso / U.S. dollar exchange rate at 1:1 and adopted emergency economic measures which converted and froze the rates for the voice-regulated services in the Fixed Services segment into pesos at a 1:1 peso / U.S. dollar ratio (referred to herein as Pesification ), among other measures. Capital outflows increased sharply, leading to a massive devaluation of the peso and an upsurge in inflation. By the end of 2002, the peso had devalued by 237% (having devalued 280% as of June 30, 2002) while the wholesale price index increased 118% and the consumer price index increased 41%.

After the above-mentioned crisis, the Argentine economy began a new period of rapid growth. Argentina s GDP increased for six consecutive years, from 2003 to 2008. However, the international financial crisis affected the country decreasing its growth rate significantly to 0.1% in 2009. Throughout 2010 and 2011, the economy showed a rapid and strong recovery growing at a 9.5% and 8.4% annual rate respectively, but in 2012 a slowdown affected the economy and growth was reduced to 0.8%. In 2013, better economic conditions helped to increase by 2.9% the economic activity. As of the date of this annual report, the provisional figures of Argentina s estimated GDP for 2014 published by the INDEC is 0.5%. Inflation continued to be the main concern for the economy. According to official statistics reported by the INDEC, the consumer price index rose 9.5% in 2011, 10.8% in 2012 and 10.9% in 2013. Since January 2014, a new consumer price index is published aimed at improving the accuracy of the macroeconomic statistics. In 2014 the new consumer price index ( IPCNu ) showed an increase of 23.8% while in the two-month period ended February 28, 2015, it rose by 2.1% year to date.

The INDEC estimates that the Argentine wholesale price index increased by 12.7% in 2011, 13.1% in 2012, 14.8% in 2013 and 28.3% in 2014. For further detail regarding Argentine economic conditions see Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Argentina Inflation could accelerate, causing adverse effects on the economy and negatively impacting Telecom s margins.

During the period between 2005 and 2007, the peso remained relatively stable against the U.S. dollar, with US\$1.00 trading within a range of P\$2.86 to P\$3.16. However, the international financial crisis created uncertainty that affected the Argentine exchange rate, as reflected by a peso/dollar exchange rate increase of 9.5% and 10.1% per year in 2008 and 2009, respectively. The peso/dollar exchange rate was relatively stable in 2010 and 2011, ending 2010 at P\$3.98 per US\$1.00 and 2011 at P\$4.30 per US\$1.00, increasing 4.7% and 8.0% respectively. In 2012, 2013 and 2014, the pace of peso devaluation accelerated to 14.4%, 32.5% and 31.1% respectively; and the official exchange rate ended the year at a P\$8.55 per US\$1.00. On April 21, 2015, the exchange rate was P\$8.87= US\$1.00. Increasing restrictions on the foreign exchange (FX) market have been established, and an authorization from the AFIP (National Tax Authority) is required to access the FX market to acquire foreign currencies.

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Agricultural production in 2014 was not enough to offset the less dynamic industry which had started to show some signs of deterioration at the end of 2013. The global economy evidenced mixed results with strengthened U.S. economic activity and depreciated foreign currencies in Latin America and in the Eurozone, thus impacting Argentine external competitiveness. Private consumption showed a lesser evolution in 2014 due to a reduction in real wages and a more restrictive consumer credit environment.

The evolution of the macroeconomics variables was as follows:

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Gross Domestic Product growth	9.5%	8.4%	0.8%	2.9%	0.5%(*)
Exchange Rate (\$/USD) end of period	3.98	4.30	4.92	6.52	8.55
IPCNu (% variation) (**)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	23.8%
Consumer Price Index (% variation)	10.9%	9.5%	10.8%	10.9%	n.a.
Wholesale Domestic Price Index (%					
variation)	14.6%	12.7%	13.1%	14.8%	28.3%
Trade Balance (USD billions)	11.4	9.7	12.2	8.0	6.7
Unemployment (% of the economically					
active population)	7.5%	6.7%	6.9%	6.4%	6.9%

Source: INDEC Last available variables

#### (\*) Estimated data

(\*\*) As of January 2014, the INDEC started to publish a new consumer Price Index with national scope (IPCNu) which is not available for previous periods and no junction factor between the new and the old index. Since the IPCNu method of calculation differs significantly from the preceding IPC (geographical region considered, sampling method, relative weight, etc.) said indexes cannot be compared.

In 2014, Argentina s economic activity slowed down. As a result, certain sectors of the economy, such as Telecommunications industry, were impacted.

As the substantial majority of our property and operations are located in Argentina, macroeconomic and political conditions will continue to affect us. The Argentine government has exercised and continues to exercise significant influence over many aspects of the Argentine economy. Accordingly, Argentine governmental actions concerning the economy could significantly affect private sector entities in general and our operations in particular, as well as affect market conditions, prices and returns on Argentine securities, including ours. While our business continued growing in 2014, our operating results, financial condition and cash flows remain vulnerable to fluctuations in the Argentine economy. See Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Argentina.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

Our Consolidated Financial Statements, prepared in accordance with IFRS, are dependent upon and sensitive to accounting methods, assumptions and estimates that we use as a basis for its preparation. We have identified critical accounting estimates and related assumptions and uncertainties inherent in our accounting policies (that are fully described in Note 3 to our Consolidated Financial Statements), which we believe are essential to an understanding of the underlying financial reporting risks. Additionally we have identified the effect that these accounting estimates, assumptions and uncertainties have on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

### Use of estimates

IFRS involves the use of assumptions and estimates that may significantly affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and results of operations and any accompanying financial information.

Management considers financial projections in the preparation of the financial statements as further described below. These financial projections anticipate scenarios deemed both likely and conservative based upon macroeconomic, financial and industry-specific assumptions. However, actual results may differ significantly from such estimates.

Variations in the assumptions regarding exchange rates, rates of inflation, level of economic activity and consumption, creditworthiness of our current and potential customers, aggressiveness of our current or potential competitors and technological, legal or regulatory changes could also result in significant differences from financial projections used by us for valuation and disclosure of items under IFRS.

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The most important accounting estimates, those which require a high degree of subjective assumptions and judgments, are the following:

#### **Revenue** recognition

Revenues are recognized to the extent that it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Telecom Group and their amount can be measured reliably. Revenues are stated net of estimated discounts and returns.

Revenues from upfront connection fees for fixed, data and Internet services that are non-separable from the service are accounted for as a single transaction and deferred over the term of the contract or, in the case of indefinite period contracts, over the average period of the customer relationship (approximately nine years for the fixed telephony customers). Therefore, these revenues are influenced by the estimated expected duration of customer relationships for indefinite period contracts.

Revenues are also subject to estimations of the traffic measures. Unbilled revenues from the billing cycle dating to the end of each month are calculated based on the traffic and are accrued at the end of the month. In addition, revenues from unexpired prepaid calling cards are recognized on the basis of the minutes used, at the contract price per minute.

Changes in these estimations, if any, may require adjustments to recorded revenues.

### PP&E and intangible assets

Useful lives and residual value

We record PP&E and intangible assets at acquisition or construction cost. PP&E and intangible assets, except for indefinite useful life intangibles, are depreciated or amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The determination of the depreciable amount of the assets and their useful lives involves significant judgment. We periodically review, at least at each financial year-end, the estimated useful lives of PP&E and amortizable intangible assets.

Recoverability assessment of PP&E and intangible assets with finite useful life

At least at every annual closing date, we assess whether events or changes in circumstances indicate that PP&E and amortizable intangible assets may be impaired.

Under IFRS, the carrying value of a long-lived asset is considered impaired by the Company when the recoverable amount of such asset is lower than its carrying value. In such event, a loss would be recognized based on the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount of the long-lived asset. The recoverable amount is the higher of the fair value (less costs to sell) and its value in use (present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset, group of assets or cash generating unit). Once an impairment loss is identified and recognized, future reversal of impairment loss is permitted only if the indicators of the impairment no longer exist or have decreased.

The identification of impairment indicators and the estimation of the value in use for assets (or groups of assets or cash generating units) require Management to make significant judgments concerning the validation of impairment indicators, expected cash flows and applicable discount rates. Estimated cash flows are based on significant Management s assumptions about the key factors that could affect future business performance such as the future market share, competition level, capital expenditures, salary increases, foreign exchange rates evolution, capital structure, capital cost, etc.

For the years presented, we estimated that there are no indicators of impairment of assets that are subject to amortization, except for the impairment net loss mentioned in Note 3.k to our Consolidated Financial Statements of P\$25 million in 2014 (an impairment loss of P\$61 million, relating to certain work in progress recorded in PP&E, net of an impairment reversal of P\$36 million).

However, changes in our current expectations and operating assumptions, including changes in our business strategy, technology, competition, changes in market conditions or regulations, and the outcome of the rates negotiations for regulated fixed services with the Argentine government, could significantly impact these judgments and could require future adjustments to the carrying amount of recorded assets.

Although there are no impairment indicators, Telecom Argentina's Management prudently analyzed the recoverability of its PP&E and intangible assets assuming different probability scenarios some of which contemplate rate adjustments for regulated services. Considering these assumptions, the Management of Telecom Argentina considers that the carrying amount of its fixed assets is recoverable.

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Intangible assets with indefinite useful life PCS license

We determined that Personal s PCS license met the definition of an indefinite-lived intangible asset for the years presented. Therefore, Personal does not amortize the cost of its license. However, Personal tests it annually for impairment. An impairment loss is recognized when the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount. The recoverability assessment of an indefinite-lived intangible asset such as the PCS license requires our Management to make assumptions about the future cash flows expected to be derived from such asset.

Such estimated cash flows are based on significant Management s assumptions about the key factors that could affect future business performance such as the future market share, competition level, capital expenditures, salary increases, foreign exchange rates evolution, capital structure, discount rate, etc.

Personal s net cash flows projection is denominated in Argentine Pesos, its functional currency. However, due to the fact that there is no prevailing long-term discount rate in pesos available in the market, Personal: (a) has converted such peso-denominated cash flows into U.S. dollars using future estimated exchange rates applicable to each period; and (b) has discounted these U.S. dollar-denominated cash flows at an annual U.S. dollar rate of approximately 13.8% in order to obtain the recoverable value of intangible assets with indefinite useful life.

Through this evaluation, it was determined that the carrying amount of the PCS license did not exceed the recoverable amount of the asset. As a result, no impairment has been recognized.

Our judgments regarding future cash flows may change due to future market conditions, competition, business strategy, the evolution of technology, changes in regulations and other factors. These changes, if any, may require material adjustments to the carrying amount of the PCS license.

#### Income Taxes and Recoverability assessment of deferred income tax assets

We are required to estimate our income taxes (current and deferred) in each of the companies of the Telecom Group according to a reasonable interpretation of the tax law in effect in each jurisdiction where the companies operate. This process may involve complex estimates to determine taxable income and deductible and taxable temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the taxable amounts. In particular, deferred tax assets are recognized for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that future taxable income will be available against which they can be utilized. The measurement of the recoverability of deferred tax assets requires estimating future taxable income based on the Company s projections and takes into account conservative tax planning. If actual results differ from these estimates due to changes in tax authority s interpretations and the new fiscal jurisprudence, or we adjust those estimates in future periods, our financial position, results of operation and cash flows may be materially affected.

The measurement of current and deferred tax liabilities and assets is based on provisions of the enacted tax law as of the end of the reporting period and the effects of future changes in tax laws or rates are not anticipated.

### Receivables and payables valued at amortized cost

Receivables and payables valued at amortized cost are initially recorded at their fair value, which is generally determined by using a discounted cash flow valuation method. The fair value under this method is estimated as the present value of all future cash flows discounted using an estimated discount rate, especially for long-term receivables and payables. The estimated discount rate used to determine the discounted cash flow of long-term receivables and payables is an annual rate in pesos ranging between 20% and 35% for year 2014. Additionally, the estimated discount rate used to determine the discounted cash flow of long-term receivables and payables is an annual rate in pesos ranging between 20% and 32% for year 2013. The estimated discount rate used to determine the di

Changes in these estimated discount rates could materially affect our financial position, cash flows and results of operations.

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#### Provisions

We are subject to proceedings, lawsuits and other claims related to labor, civil, tax, regulatory and other matters. In order to determine the proper level of provisions relating to these contingencies, we assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to these matters as well as the range of probable losses that may result from the potential outcomes. We consult with internal and external legal counsel on these matters. A determination of the amount of provisions required, if any, is made after careful analysis of each individual issue. Our determination of the required provisions may change in the future due to new developments in each matter, changes in jurisprudential precedents and tribunal decisions or changes in our method of resolving such matters, such as changes in settlement strategy, and, therefore, these changes may materially affect our financial position, cash flows and results of operations.

#### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

We maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of our customers to make the required payments. We base our estimates on the aging of our accounts receivable balances, our historical write-offs, customer creditworthiness and changes in our customer payment terms when evaluating the adequacy of our allowance for doubtful accounts. If the financial condition of our customers were to deteriorate, our actual write-offs could be higher than expected.

#### Years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012

For purposes of these sections, the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 are referred to as 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Our results of operations are determined in accordance with IFRS. The Telecom Group provides customers with a broad range of telecommunication services. To fulfill its purpose, it conducts different activities that are distributed among the companies in the Group. Each company represents an operating segment. These operating segments have been aggregated into the following segments according to the nature of the products and services provided and economic characteristics:

Segment	Company of the Telecom Group / Operating Segment
Fixed Services	Telecom Argentina
	Telecom Argentina USA
	Micro Sistemas (i)
Personal Mobile Services	Personal
	Springville S.A. (ii)
Núcleo Mobile Services	Núcleo
	Envíos (iii)

(i) (ii)

Dormant entity as of and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

The sale of all the shares of Springville S.A., representing 100% of the capital and voting rights of that company, was approved by the Personal's meeting of the Board of Directors on February 10, 2014. The sale was completed on February 19, 2014.

(iii) Envíos was officially registered in the Commercial Public Register of Paraguay in October 2014 and commenced its operations in January 2015.

The main products and services in each segment for the years presented are:

• Fixed Services: local area, national long-distance and international communications, supplementary services (including call waiting, itemized invoicing, voicemail, etc.), interconnection with other operators, data transmission (including private networks, point-to-point traffic, radio and TV signal transmission), Internet services, IT solution outsourcing and sales of equipment.

• Personal Mobile Services and Núcleo Mobile Services: voice communications, GSM, 3G and 4G mobile communications over UMTS / HSPA / HSPA+ and LTE technology networks (including high-speed mobile Internet content and applications download, multimedia messaging, online streaming, corporate e-mail, social network access and contacts save services) and sale of mobile communication devices (handsets and tablets).

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	201	4		2013	1	2012
Segment	Revenues (1) (P\$ million)	% of Consolidated Revenues	Revenues (1) (P\$ million)	% of Consolidated Revenues	Revenues (1) (P\$ million)	% of Consolidated Revenues
Fixed Services	8,559	25.7	7,006	25.7	6,023	27.2
Personal Mobile Services	23,204	69.6	19,129	70.1	15,227	68.9
Núcleo Mobile Services	1,578	4.7	1,152	4.2	867	3.9
TOTAL	33,341	100.0	27,287	100.0	22,117	100.0

The following table shows a breakdown of our revenues by business segment for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012:

(1) Includes service revenues and equipment sales and the effect of elimination of intersegment transactions.

Management s explanations under (B) Results of Operations by Segment below regarding changes in financial condition and results of operations for years 2014, 2013 and 2012 related to segments of the Company have been provided based on financial information under IFRS as disclosed in Note 28 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Factors Affecting Results of Operations

Described below are certain factors that may be helpful in understanding our operating results. These factors are based on the information currently available to our Management and may not represent all of the factors that are relevant to an understanding of our current or future results of operations. Additional information regarding trends expected to influence our results of operations are analyzed below under Trend Information.

*Impact of Political and Economic Environment in Argentina*. Levels of economic activity affect our customers consumption of local and long-distance traffic, the demand for new fixed lines, Broadband and mobile services and the levels of uncollectible accounts and disconnections. Demand for our services and the amount of revenues we collect is also affected by inflation, exchange rate variations and the rate of unemployment, among others. The same factors, but to a lesser degree, affect the activity of Núcleo, that operates in Paraguay.

*Rate Regulation.* Revenue from our Fixed Services segment depends principally on the number of lines in service, the minutes of use or traffic for local and long-distance services and the rates charged for services. The rates that Telecom Argentina charges in its fixed telephony service (including both monthly basic charges and measured service charges), installation charges, public telephone charges and charges for Internet Dial-Up traffic (Regulated Services) are subject to regulation. In the years presented, revenues have continued to be affected by the Pesification and freezing of regulated rates. The impact of the rate Pesification on Telecom Argentina s results of operations has been particularly relevant in recent years as a result of inflationary pressures on Telecom Argentina s costs structure. See Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors and Economic and Political Developments in Argentina.

The mobile business is not a rate-regulated industry. However, certain social or political factors occasionally delay the application of rate adjustments. See Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors Risks associated with Telecom and its Operations.

*Competition.* The Argentine telecommunications market has become increasingly competitive. Competition is mainly focused on Internet and mobile services. To remain competitive, we must devote significant resources to capital expenditures, and trade expenses (including selling commissions).

Personal and Núcleo subscriber bases continued to expand in 2014 although at lower rates than those of previous years due to the level of maturity and the high penetration of mobile services in the market. Value Added Services continued to be one of the main drivers of revenue growth in the mobile services business.

*Technology Developments and Capital Expenditures.* Improvements in technology influence demand for services and equipment by our customers. For example, demand for fixed-line telecommunications services has been affected by continued significant growth in mobile business. Growth in the fixed-services business at present is being driven by the expansion of Broadband for

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individuals and corporations and Telecom Argentina continuous updating of commercial and support systems. The increase in Broadband adoption has also proven to be a critical factor in facilitating the offering of Value Added Services to customers and the bundling of services. In the fixed-services business, we must invest in our fixed-line network and information technology. Specifically, in Internet services, we must constantly upgrade our Access technology and software, embrace emerging transmission technologies and improve the responsiveness, functionality, coverage and features of our services.

In the mobile business, to provide its subscribers with new and better services, Personal has to enhance its mobile networks extending 3G and 4G technology and bandwidth for mobile data transmission. Moreover, taking into account the frequencies awarded resulting from the spectrum auction held in the last quarter of 2014, Personal must develop a LTE infrastructure expeditiously, according to regulatory requirements and the mobile market development.

In addition, as new technologies develop, equipment may need to be replaced or upgraded and network facilities (in particular, mobile and Internet network facilities) may need to be rebuilt in whole or in part, at substantial cost, to remain competitive. These enhancements and the implementation of new technologies will continue requiring increased capital expenditures.

*Devaluation of the peso.* The peso has been subject to significant devaluations in the past and may be subject to fluctuation in the future. In recent years, there was a significant devaluation which amounted to approximately 31.1% in 2014 (of which 23% corresponds to the three months ended March 31, 2014) and 32.5% in 2013. The majority of our revenues are received in pesos whereas a portion of the materials and supplies related to the construction and maintenance of our networks and services are incurred in foreign currencies. Consequently, the Pesification of our regulated rates in the fixed services and the high level of competition limit our ability to transfer to our customers the fluctuations in the exchange rates between the peso and the U.S. dollar and other currencies. In addition, any devaluation of the peso against foreign currencies may increase operating costs and capital expenditures, which will adversely affect our results of operations, considering the net effect on revenues and costs.

*Increase in inflation.* In the past, Argentina has experienced periods of high inflation. In recent years, inflation levels have been increasing and have remained relatively high. The economic recovery, a higher increase in public spending or a fast devaluation of the Argentine peso could lead to higher inflation. Any increase in inflation levels not accompanied by an increase in the rates we charge our customers could adversely affect our results of operations in nominal and real terms.

In compliance with the provisions of IAS 29, the Company s Management periodically verifies the evolution of official statistics as well as the general factors of the economic environment in the countries in which the Telecom Group operates. It should be mentioned that if the qualitative and / or quantitative characteristics to consider an economy as a hyperinflationary economy set out in IAS 29 occur, the restatement of financial statements must be made retroactively from the date of the revaluation used as deemed cost (in the case of Group companies located in Argentina, since February 2003) or from the acquisition date for assets acquired after that date.

Inflation in Argentina has experienced an increase in 2014, according to official statistics published by the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INDEC). On the basis of the analysis made by Management and other evidence available at the date of this Annual Report, Management concluded that Argentina does not qualify as a hyperinflationary country in terms of IAS 29. We believe that the periodic assessment of the macroeconomic environment in Argentina and the possible restatement of financial statements in accordance to IAS 29, represent an element of care and concern for investors, analysts and regulators of capital markets where Argentine companies list their equity and debt securities, because of the significant impact that such restatement might have on their financial position and results of operations,

including the Telecom Group. See Note 1.e) to the Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2014, for a description of the IAS 29 analysis.

*Tax pressures and litigation*. Local municipalities in the regions where we operate have introduced regulations and proposed various taxes and fees for the installation of infrastructure, equipment and expansion of fixed-line and mobile networks. Local and federal tax authorities have brought an increasing number of claims against us. We disagree with these proceedings and we are contesting them. Also, jurisprudential changes in labor and pension matters have generated higher claims from employees and former employees and also increased claims from employees of a contractor or subcontractor alleging joint liability. We cannot assure you that the laws and regulations currently

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governing the economy or the telecommunications industry will not change, that the claims will be resolved in our favor, or that any changes to the existing laws and regulations will not adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows as well.

#### (A) Consolidated Results of Operations

In the year ended December 31, 2014, we reported net income of P\$3,729 million, compared to net income of P\$3,254 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, and net income of P\$2,732 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. Net income attributable to Telecom Argentina increased P\$471 million in 2014 as compared to 2013, reaching P\$3,673 million, while it increased P\$517 million in 2013 as compared to 2012, reaching P\$3,202 million, from P\$2,685 million reported in 2012.

Consolidated revenues in 2014 were P\$33,341 million compared to P\$27,287 million in 2013 and P\$22,117 million in 2012. The increase of P\$6,054 million in 2014 (a 22% increase) can be largely attributed to the growth in the Personal Mobile Services segment including handset revenues and in Internet and Data services included in the Fixed Services segment.

In 2014, operating expenses (including depreciation and amortization and gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E) totaled P\$27,945 million, representing an increase of P\$5,113 million, or 22%. The increase in costs is mainly a consequence of higher revenues, higher expenses related to competition in the mobile and Internet businesses, higher direct and indirect labor costs on the cost structure of the Telecom Group in Argentina, the increase in fees for services due to higher supplier prices, the increase in the cost of equipment and handsets, the increase in taxes and fees with the Regulatory Matters, the increase of VAS costs, the effect of the appreciation of the Guaraní (+41% year over year) with respect to the Argentine peso, affecting the operations in Paraguay, a decrease in provisions charges and an increase in agent commissions capitalized as SAC, which partially mitigated the increase in operating costs.

In 2013, operating expenses (including depreciation and amortization and gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E) totaled P\$22,832 million, representing an increase of P\$4,602 million, or 25%. The most significant changes in operating expenses included increases in employee benefit expenses and severance payments, taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority (mainly caused by the increase in revenues and higher average rates of the turnover tax in the City of Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Chaco, Jujuy and Mendoza), cost of equipment and handsets (due to customer upgrades of mobile handsets), in fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies, the increase in cost of VAS, provisions (due to higher regulatory and municipal claims and higher civil and commercial claims) and an impairment loss of P\$187 million recognized in 2013.

Our regulated fixed telephony service (7% of the consolidated revenue in 2014 vs. 8% in 2013) is still affected by the Pesification and freezing of regulated rates in early 2002; the increase in the 2014 structure of operating expenses (including depreciation and amortization and gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E) for the Fixed Services segment (24%) is similar to the increase in revenues including intersegment revenues (25%).

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# (A.1) 2014 Compared to 2013

	Years En				Ch: Fixed	ange by segment (1) Personal Mobile	) Núcleo Mobile
	December 2014	2013	Total Ch	ango	Services	Services	Services
	(P\$ milli		%	ange	(P\$ mil		Services
Revenues	33,341	27,287	22	6,054	1,553	4,075	426
Other Income	47	63	(25)	(16)	(7)	(3)	(6)
Operating expenses							
(without depreciation and							
amortization)	(24,686)	(19,786)	25	(4,900)	(1,703)	(2,932)	(265)
<b>Operating income before</b>							
depreciation and							
amortization (2)	8,702	7,564	15	1,138	(157)	1,140	155
Depreciation and							
amortization	(3,243)	(2,873)	13	(370)	(211)	(22)	(137)
Gain on disposal of PP&E							
and impairment of PP&E	(16)	(173)	(91)	157	115	43	(1)
Operating income	5,443	4,518	20	925	(253)	1,161	17
Financial results, net	253	528	(52)	(275)	4	(276)	(3)
Income tax expense	(1,967)	(1,792)	10	(175)	(106)	(70)	1
Net income	3,729	3,254	15	475	(355)	815	15
Net income attributable							
to:							
Telecom Argentina							
(Controlling Company)	3,673	3,202	15	471			
Non-controlling interest	56	52	8	4			

(1) Includes the effect of eliminations of Intersegment transactions.

(2) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

### Revenues

					Cl	nange by segment (1)	
	Years Er	nded				Personal	Núcleo
	Decembe	er 31,			Fixed	Mobile	Mobile
	2014	2013	Total Cha	ange	Services	Services	Services
	(P\$ mill	(P\$ million) %			( <b>P\$</b> mi		
Voice	11,766	10,645	11	1,121	340	580	201
Data	9,467	8,488	12	979	507	454	18
Internet	7,045	4,879	44	2,166	733	1,247	186
Service							
Revenues	28,278	24,012	18	4,266	1,580	2,281	405
Equipment (2)	5,063	3,275	55	1,788	(27)	1,794	21

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Rever	nues	33,341	27,287	22	6,054	1,553	4,075	426		
(1)	Net of the Inter	rsegment revenues e	ffect.							

(2) This item is composed of voice, data and Internet equipment in each year.

During 2014, total consolidated revenues increased by 22% to P\$33,341 million from P\$27,287 million in 2013, mainly driven by our mobile, Broadband and data transmission businesses.

Consolidated revenues for 2014 and 2013 are comprised as follows:

**Voice** 

Revenues from voice services increased 11% to P\$11,766 million in 2014 from P\$10,645 million in 2013. Revenues from voice services represented 35% of our total consolidated revenues for 2014 compared to 39% of our total consolidated revenues for 2013.

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Fixed services

Revenues from voice services represented 44% of our total Fixed Services segment revenues attributable to third parties for 2014 compared to 49% for 2013.

Voice services mainly include revenues from monthly basic charges, charges for supplementary services, measured service (national and international calls) and public telephone service. Charges for supplementary services include call waiting, call forwarding, three-way calling, caller ID, direct inwards dialing, toll-free service and voicemail, among others. Measured service charges are based on the number and duration of calls. Measured service revenues depend on the number of lines in service, the volume of usage, the number of new lines installed and applicable rates. They also include interconnection services (which primarily include Access, termination and long-distance transport of calls), international long-distance service (which reflect payments made under bilateral agreements between Telecom Argentina and foreign telecommunications carriers covering inbound international long-distance calls) and revenues related to billing and collection services charged to other operators.

Revenues from voice-retail increased 7% to P\$2,853 million and are still affected by the Pesification and freezing of regulated rates in early 2002. Revenues from regulated rate services represented 28% of our total segment revenues in 2014 compared with 33% in 2013. See (B) Results of Operations by Segment (B.1) Fixed Services Segment Revenues Voice-retail for a description of the services included as voice-retail.

Monthly basic charges and supplementary services increased P\$82 million or 7% to P\$1,203 million in 2014 from P\$1,121 million in 2013. Such growth was mainly due to the increase of prices of non-regulated services during the year.

Measured service charges increased 10% to P\$1,541 million in 2014 from P\$1,395 million in 2013. Such increase was due to the increase in customers and domestic long-distance national plans prices.

Voice-wholesale revenues (including fixed and mobile interconnection revenues, together with the revenues generated by the subsidiary Telecom Argentina USA amounting to P\$107 million) amounted to P\$929 million in 2014 (+18% vs. 2013).

Interconnection services reached P\$621 million in 2014. Other wholesale revenues reached P\$308 million in 2014, an increase of P\$69 million or 29% compared to 2013. The increase was mainly due to higher prices related to cell sites rentals due to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate.

Personal Mobile services

Revenues from voice services represented 31% of our total Personal Mobile Services segment revenues attributable to third parties for 2014 compared to 35% for 2013.

Voice services mainly include revenues from monthly basic charges, airtime usage charges and roaming charges to our customers for their use of our and other carriers networks, CPP, TLRD and roaming charges to other mobile service providers whose customers use our network.

Voice-retail revenues reached P\$5,330 million in 2014 (+12% vs. 2013). The increase was mainly due to the increase in monthly charge prices and to the increase in the Cuentas claras subscriber base.

Voice-wholesale revenues to third parties reached P\$1,953 million in 2014 (+1% vs. 2013). The increase was mainly due to the increase of mobile leases related to new agreements and to the renegotiation of the existing ones and to the increase in international roaming revenues with other operators.

In *Núcleo Mobile Services segment*, voice revenues increased 40% to P\$701 million in 2014 compared to P\$500 million in 2013 mainly due to an increase in the subscriber base (+3%) and to the appreciation of the Guaraní with respect to the Argentine peso (+41% year over year).

# **Data and Internet**

Revenues from data and Internet services increased 24% to P\$16,512 million in 2014 from P\$13,367 million in 2013. Revenues from data and Internet represented 50% of our total consolidated revenues for 2014 compared to 49% of our total consolidated revenues for 2013.

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In the Mobile Services segments, data and Internet services mainly include SMS, contents via SMS, MMS, Browsing and Internet. Revenues from data and Internet in the Personal Mobile segment increased 18% to P\$11,001 million in 2014 from P\$9,300 million in 2013.

As a consequence of the increase in the usage of VAS (Internet and data), the ARPU increased to P\$74.2 per month in 2014 (vs. P\$66.8 per month in 2013) in the Personal Mobile Segment.

#### Data

Revenues from data services in the Fixed segment increased 53% to P\$1,470 million in 2014 from P\$963 million in 2013. These revenues were generated focusing on the Company s position as an integrated ICT provider (Datacenter, VPN, among others) for wholesale and government segments. The increase was primarily due to higher prices related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate, the increase of IP transit services customers, VPN IP services customers (private data networks services that replace the point to point services) and IP direct lines customers in the retail segment, to the increase in customers and higher prices related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of Integra services, mainly in the Large Customer segment, to higher prices related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of the VPN-IP services in the Wholesale segment and to an increase in the number of subscribers and in prices of monthly charges related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of Datacenter services).

Mobile data revenues reached P\$7,997 million (+6% vs. 2013). This increase is mainly due to constant Content via SMS sales increase as a result of several campaigns launched by Personal, which represented an year over year increase of P\$725 million vs. 2013. This increase was reflected both in monthly charges customers and prepaid subscribers and is mainly due to average prices increases and, to a lesser extent, to the increase of the subscribers base. However, the main component of VAS revenues are SMS consumption, which decreased P\$257 million or 5.4% vs. 2013, and experiencing a decrease in TOU (-40.3% vs. 2013).

#### Internet

Internet revenues in the Fixed segment increased 29% to P\$3,254 million in 2014 from P\$2,521 million in 2013. The increase was mainly due to the substantial expansion of the Broadband service (+4% of access lines vs. 2013), and an increase in average prices resulting in an improvement in the ARPU amounted to P\$153 per month in 2014 vs. P\$124.7 per month in 2013. As of December 31, 2014 the number of Internet accesses reached approximately 1,8 million equivalent to 43% of fixed lines in service of Telecom Argentina (vs. 41% in 2013), compared to approximately 1.7 million as of December 31, 2013.

Mobile Internet revenues in the Personal Mobile segment increased 60% to P\$3,335 million in 2014 from P\$2,088 million in 2013. This increase is mainly explained by the increase in browsing services consumption of Personal s subscribers, which was mainly fueled by the increase in the offer of services, plans and packs (including VAS) launched by Personal. This growth was fueled by new subscribers, the migration of existing ones to higher-value plans and the increase in subscribers that acquired 3G handsets, which facilitate Internet browsing.

### **Equipment**

Revenues from equipment increased by 55% to P\$5,063 million in 2014 from P\$3,275 million in 2013. This increase is mainly related to the Personal Mobile services segment with an increase of P\$ 1,794 million vs. 2013 and was mainly due to an increase in handset s average sale prices (+86% vs. 2013), partially offset by lower handsets sold (-16% vs. 2013). This situation was mainly generated by a subsidy reduction policy, the increase in average prices related to higher-value handsets demand (those with 3G browsing capability), the business strategy to attract high-value subscribers, a decrease in discounts as a result of the finalization of commercial promotions and lower retail revenues. In the Núcleo Mobile Services segment the increase was mainly due to an increase in handsets sold, and by the effect of the appreciation of the Guaraní as compared to the Argentine peso.

### **Other Income**

Other income mainly includes penalties and indemnities collected from suppliers, as a result of delays in deliveries of goods or matters related to the quality of the services provided. During 2014, other income decreased 25% to P\$47 million from P\$63 million in 2013.

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#### Operating expenses (without depreciation and amortization)

Total operating expenses (without depreciation and amortization and gain on disposal and impairment of PP&E) increased by P\$4,900 million totaling P\$24,686 million in 2014, representing a 25% increase as compared to 2013. The increase in costs is mainly a consequence of higher revenues, higher expenses related to competition in the mobile and Internet businesses, higher direct and indirect labor costs on the cost structure of the Telecom Group in Argentina, the increase in fees for services related to higher supplier prices, the increase in the cost of equipment and handsets, the increase in taxes and fees with Regulatory Matters, the increase of VAS costs, the effect of the appreciation of the Guaraní (+41% year over year) respect to the Argentine peso, affecting the operations in Paraguay, a decrease in provisions charges and an increase in agent commissions capitalized as SAC, which partially mitigated the increase in operating costs.

					Char	nge by segment (1	·
	Years En Decembe				Fixed	Personal Mobile	Núcleo Mobile
	2014	2013	Total Ch	ange	Services	Services	Services
	(P\$ mill	ion)	%	-	(P\$ mil	lion)	
Employee benefit expenses and							
severance payments	5,591	4,152	35	1,439	1,030	375	34
Interconnection costs and other							
telecommunications charges	2,074	1,829	13	245	138	92	15
Fees for services, maintenance,							
materials and supplies	3,333	2,641	26	692	266	390	36
Taxes and fees with the Regulatory							
Authority	3,297	2,689	23	608	145	451	12
Commissions	2,494	2,203	13	291	33	214	44
Cost of equipment and handsets	4,143	3,111	33	1,032	(2)	1,003	31
Advertising	792	656	21	136	(8)	121	23
Cost of VAS	936	708	32	228	5	193	30
Provisions	84	270	(69)	(186)	(54)	(132)	
Bad-debt expense	424	283	50	141	31	101	9
Restructuring Costs (recovery)		(8)	(100)	8	8		
Other operating expenses	1,518	1,252	21	266	111	124	31
Total operating expenses							
(without depreciation and							
amortization)	24,686	19,786	25	4,900	1,703	2,932	265

(1) Net of the Intersegment transactions effect.

Employee benefit expenses and severance payments

During 2014, employee benefit expenses and severance payments were P\$5,591 million, representing a 35% increase from 2013. This was primarily due to salary increases that Telecom implemented across all segments with several trade unions with respect to the unionized employees and also to non-unionized employees, together with related social security charges and to an extraordinary annual bonus of P\$115 million paid in January 2015.

With a total headcount of 16,416 at the end of 2014 (-1% vs. 2013), lines in service per employee reached 370 in the Fixed Services segment (slightly lower than 2013), 3,950 in the Personal mobile services segment (+1% vs. 2013) and 6,158 in the Núcleo mobile services segment (+8% vs. 2013).

Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges

Interconnection costs and other telecommunication charges (including charges for TLRD, Roaming, Interconnection costs, cost of international outbound calls and lease of circuits) amounted to P\$2,074 million in 2014 compared with P\$1,829 million in 2013. The increase was mainly due to

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higher costs of international outbound calls of P\$58 million and lease of circuits and use of public network of P\$96 million.

#### Fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies

Expenses related to fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies increased 26% to P\$3,333 million in 2014 from P\$2,641 million in 2013. The increase was mainly due to higher maintenance costs of radio bases, systems and buildings in the mobile services segments, as a result of the variation in the P\$/US\$ exchange rate, an increase in technical assistance cost of radio bases, higher system licenses maintenance costs and higher costs of building maintenance. There were also increases in other maintenance costs and fees for services, mainly due to higher costs recognized by suppliers in all segments.

Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority

Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority (including turnover tax, tax on deposits and withdrawals from bank accounts, municipal and other taxes) increased 23% to P\$3,297 million in 2014 from P\$2,689 million in 2013, mainly due to the increase in revenues from fixed and mobile services, the increase in equipment sales in Argentina. Also the increase in tax is due to higher tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts related to dividend payments and higher collections and payments to suppliers in 2014 vs. 2013.

#### **Commissions**

Commissions (including Agent, distribution of prepaid cards and other commissions) increased by P\$291 million, or 13%, to P\$2,494 million in 2014 from P\$2,203 million in 2013. The increase was mainly due to the increase of P\$58 million in agents commissions (associated higher revenues) as a result of higher customer s acquisition and retention costs recognized to them and collection commissions of P\$239 million, especially of handsets sold, partially offset by lower prepaid cards sales and lower prepaid recharges of P\$11 million.

Commissions are net of agent commissions capitalized as SAC, which totaled P\$913 million (+P\$362 million or 66% vs. 2013), and it s directly related to the increase in the Cuentas claras subscribers base mainly in the Personal Mobile Services segment and the increase in the commissions prices.

#### Cost of equipment and handsets

During 2014, the cost of equipment and handsets increased to P\$4,143 million from P\$3,111 million in 2013, representing a 33% increase. This increase was mainly due to higher average unit cost of sales related to higher value handsets (+51% vs. 2013) partially offset by a decrease in the number of handsets sold (-16% vs. 2013) in the Personal Mobile Service Segment.

Cost of equipment and handsets are net of handsets costs capitalized as SAC (P\$103 million in 2014, P\$152 million or 60% lower than 2013).

### Advertising

Costs related to advertising increased by P\$136 million, or 21%, to P\$792 million in 2014, mainly due to an increase in advertising campaigns by Personal as compared to 2013.

Cost of VAS

Cost of VAS amounted to P\$936 million (+P\$228 million vs. 2013), mainly due to the increase of VAS sales in the Personal Mobile Services segment (mainly the Contents via SMS service) as a consequence of several campaigns launched by Personal.

#### Provisions

During 2014, we recorded P\$84 million in provisions compared to P\$270 million recorded in 2013, representing a 69% decrease. The decrease was mainly due to lower civil and commercial claims (P\$39 million vs. 2013), lower regulatory and municipal claims (-P\$169 million vs. 2013) partially offset by higher labor claims (P\$22 million vs. 2013).

#### Bad Debt Expense

In 2014, bad debt expense amounted to P\$424 million, an increase of 50% as compared to 2013, representing 1.3% and 1.0% of consolidated revenues in 2014 and 2013, respectively. The major increase is observed in the Personal Mobile Services segment as a consequence of higher aging of

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the accounts receivables and higher incidence of handsets sales directly financed by Personal to its postpaid and Cuentas claras subscribers. These charges have also increased in Telecom Argentina in the Government and Corporate segment.

#### Other Operating Expenses

Other operating expenses, which include transportation costs, energy and rentals, among others, increased 21% to P\$1,518 million in 2014 from P\$1,252 million in 2013 primarily as a result of higher prices on related services, especially in transportation, freight and travel expenses (+P\$108 million or 23.9% vs. 2013), among others, in the operations in Argentina; and the increase of rent prices (+P\$107 million or 36.3% vs. 2013), as a result of new agreements and the renegotiation of some of the existing ones.

For a further breakdown of our consolidated operating expenses, see Results of Operations by Segment below.

#### Operating income before depreciation and amortization

Our consolidated operating income before depreciation and amortization was P\$8,702 million in 2014, representing an increase of P\$1,138 million or 15% from P\$7,564 million in 2013. It represented 26% and 28% of total consolidated revenues, respectively. This growth was mainly fueled by the Fixed Services segment (+P\$344 million or +19.7% vs. 2013) and Personal Mobile Services segment (+P\$643 million or 11.9% vs. 2013).

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation of PP&E and amortization of intangible assets increased by P\$370 million, or 13% vs. 2013, to P\$3,243 million during 2014. The increase in PP&E depreciation reached P\$406 million, partially offset by a decrease in the amortization of SAC and Service connection costs totaled P\$56 million due to lower levels of capitalization of subsidies from the sale of mobile handsets and the extension of the contractual terms for mobile customers from 18 to 24 months.

#### Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E

Gain on disposal of PP&E amounted to P\$9 million in 2014 and the impairment loss of PP&E amounted to P\$25 million (an impairment loss of PP&E for a total amount of P\$61 million relating to certain work in progress recorded in PP&E, and a partial reversal amounting to P\$36 million of the impairment loss recorded in 2013 relating to certain projects entered into by Telecom Argentina and the private sector).

An impairment loss of PP&E that amounted to P\$187 million was recorded in 2013 and was mainly related to the discontinuation of a commercial system of Personal (amounting to P\$65 million) and to the write-down of some projects of Telecom Argentina that presented uncertainty regarding their development and future associated cash flows (amounting to P\$122 million).

## **Operating income**

During 2014, consolidated operating income was P\$5,443 million, representing an increase of P\$925 million or 20% from 2013. Operating income represented 16% of consolidated revenues in 2014 versus 17% in 2013.

	Years Ended Dece	ember 31,	% of Change
	2014	2013	2014-2013
	(P\$ million /	%)	Increase/(Decrease)
Operating income before depreciation and amortization (1)	8,702	7,564	15
As % of revenues	26	28	
Depreciation and amortization	(3,243)	(2,873)	13
As % of revenues	(10)	(11)	
Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E	(16)	(173)	(91)
Operating income	5,443	4,518	20
As % of revenues	16	17	

(1) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview for a discussion of the use of this measure.

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#### Financial results, net

During 2014, Telecom recorded a net financial gain of P\$253 million compared to a net financial gain of P\$528 million in 2013. The decrease was mainly due to higher interests on provisions (-P\$43 million vs. 2013), higher losses on NDF agreements (-P\$152 million vs. 2013) and lower financial interest on time deposits and other investments including interest on related parties (-P\$214 million vs. 2013), partially offset by lower exchanges differences (+P\$101 million vs. 2013), higher gains on mutual funds (+P\$39 million vs. 2013) and higher interests on receivables (+P\$37 million vs. 2013).

#### Income tax expense

Income tax expense amounted to P\$1,967 million, P\$1,792 million in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

The Company s income tax charge includes three effects: (i) the current tax payable for the year pursuant to tax legislation applicable to each company in the Telecom Group; (ii) the effect of applying the deferred tax method on temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuation according to tax versus financial accounting criteria; and (iii) the analysis of recoverability of deferred tax assets.

(i) Regarding current tax expenses, Telecom Argentina, Telecom Argentina USA, Personal and Núcleo generated tax profit in fiscal year 2014, resulting in an income tax payable of P\$1,749 million versus P\$1,956 million in 2013. Fixed Segment income tax expense in 2014 amounted to P\$422 million as compared to P\$344 million in 2013; Personal s tax expense, in 2014, amounted to P\$1,302 million compared to P\$1,588 million in 2013; and Núcleo s tax expense, in 2014, amounted to P\$25 million compared to P\$24 million in 2013.

(ii) Regarding the deferred tax, in 2014 and 2013, the Fixed Segment recorded a deferred tax benefit of P\$19 million and P\$47 million, respectively; Personal recorded a deferred tax expense of P\$267 million (mainly due to an increase in deferred tax liabilities of Fixed Assets and the deduction of deferred tax assets related to investments in bonds) and a benefit that amounts to P\$120 million in 2014 and 2013, respectively; and Núcleo generated a P\$3 million and P\$1 million gain in 2014 and 2013, totaling P\$245 million expense and P\$168 million benefit of deferred tax in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

(iii) Regarding the analysis of recoverability of deferred tax assets, Personal recorded a recovery of the valuation allowance for deferred tax assets of P\$27 million and a P\$4 million allowance in 2014 and 2013, respectively, while no charges were recorded for Telecom Argentina, Telecom Argentina USA and Núcleo in those years.

Net Income

For 2014, we recorded net income of P\$3,729 million (11% of total consolidated revenues), of which P\$3,673 million is attributable to Telecom Argentina. The Fixed Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$742 million, the Personal Mobile Services segment accounted for a P\$2,816 million gain and the Núcleo Mobile Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$171 million, representing 7%, 12% and 11% of the total segment revenues, respectively including intercompany transactions.

For 2013, we recorded net income of P\$3,254 million (12% of total consolidated revenues), of which P\$3,202 million is attributable to Telecom Argentina. The Fixed Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$538 million, the Personal Mobile Services segment accounted for a P\$2,556 million gain and the Núcleo Mobile Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$160 million, representing 7%, 13% and 14% of the total segment revenues, respectively including intercompany transactions.

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## (A.2) 2013 Compared to 2012

	Years E	ndod			Cha	inge by segment (1 Personal	l) Núcleo
	Decembe				Fixed	Mobile	Mobile
	2013	2012	Total Ch	lange	Services	Services	Services
	(P\$ mill	ion)	%	-	( <b>P\$ mi</b>	llion)	
Revenues	27,287	22,117	23	5,170	983	3,902	285
Other Income	63	79	(20)	(16)	(42)	20	6
Operating expenses (without							
depreciation and amortization)	(19,786)	(15,626)	27	(4,160)	(1,058)	(2,911)	(191)
Operating income before							
depreciation and amortization							
(2)	7,564	6,570	15	994	(117)	1,011	100
Depreciation and amortization	(2,873)	(2,612)	10	(261)	(90)	(102)	(69)
Gain on disposal of PP&E and							
impairment of PP&E	(173)	8	n/a	(181)	(113)	(69)	1
Operating income	4,518	3,966	14	552	(320)	840	32
Financial results, net	528	229	131	299	142	167	(10)
Income tax expense	(1,792)	(1,463)	22	(329)	(24)	(302)	(3)
Net income	3,254	2,732	19	522	(202)	705	19
Net income attributable to:							
Telecom Argentina (Controlling							
Company)	3,202	2,685	19	517			
Non-controlling interest	52	47	11	5			

(1) Includes the effect of eliminations of Intersegment transactions.

(2) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

### Revenues

During 2013, total consolidated revenues increased by 23% to P\$27,287 million from P\$22,117 million in 2012, mainly driven by our mobile, Broadband and data transmission businesses.

	Years E Decemb				Ch Fixed	ange by segment ( Personal Mobile	1) Núcleo Mobile
	2013	2012	Total Ch	nange	Services	Services	Services
	(P\$ mil	lion)	%	-	( <b>P\$</b> m	illion)	
Voice	10,645	9,927	7	718	228	404	86
Data	8,488	6,767	25	1,721	228	1,447	46
Internet	4,879	3,395	44	1,484	528	840	116
Service Revenues	24,012	20,089	20	3,923	984	2,691	248

Equipment (2)	3,275	2,028	61	1,247	(1)	1,211	37
Revenues	27,287	22,117	23	5,170	983	3,902	285

(1) Net of the Intersegment revenues effect.

(2) This item is composed of voice, data and Internet equipment in each year.

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Consolidated revenues for 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

#### **Voice**

Revenues from voice services increased 7% to P\$10,645 million in 2013 from P\$9,927 million in 2012. Such increase is largely due to a growth in the mobile subscriber base, as well as an increase in monthly charges for our services in the Personal Mobile Services segment. Revenues from voice services represented 39% of our total consolidated revenues for 2013 compared to 45% of our total consolidated revenues for 2012.

Fixed services

Revenues from voice services represented 49% of our total Fixed Services segment revenues attributable to third parties for 2013 compared to 53% for 2012.

Voice services mainly include revenues from monthly basic charges, charges for supplementary services, measured service (national and international calls) and public telephone service. Charges for supplementary services include call waiting, call forwarding, three-way calling, caller ID, direct inwards dialing, toll-free service and voicemail, among others. Measured service charges are based on the number and duration of calls. Measured service revenues depend on the number of lines in service, the volume of usage, the number of new lines installed and applicable rates. They also include interconnection services (which primarily include Access, termination and long-distance transport of calls), international long-distance service (which reflect payments made under bilateral agreements between Telecom Argentina and foreign telecommunications carriers covering inbound international long-distance calls) and revenues related to billing and collection services charged to other operators.

Revenues from voice-retail increased 7% to P\$2,656 million and are still affected by the Pesification and freezing of regulated rates in early 2002. Revenues from regulated rate services represented 33% of our total segment revenues in 2013 compared with a 36% in 2012. See (B) Results of Operations by Segment (B.1) Fixed Services Segment Revenues Voice-retail for a description of the services included as voice-retail.

Monthly basic charges and supplementary services increased P\$89 million or 9% to P\$1,121 million in 2013 from P\$1,032 million in 2012. Such growth was due to the increase of prices of non-regulated services and the increase in the subscriber base during the year.

Measured service charges increased 7% to P\$1,395 million in 2013 from P\$1,306 million in 2012. Such increase was due to the effect of the flat rate packs. This increase is mainly explained by the increase in revenues from local and domestic long distance plans.

Voice-wholesale revenues (including fixed and mobile interconnection revenues, together with the revenues generated by the subsidiary Telecom Argentina USA amounting to P\$70 million) amounted to P\$786 million (+6% vs. 2012).

Interconnection services increased 6% to P\$547 million in 2013 from P\$516 million in 2012. Other wholesale revenues reached P\$239 million in 2013 and P\$223 million in 2012.

Personal Mobile services

Revenues from voice services represented 35% of our total Personal Mobile Services segment revenues attributable to third parties for 2013 compared to 41% for 2012.

Voice services mainly include revenues from monthly basic charges, airtime usage charges and roaming charges to our customers for their use of our and other carriers networks, CPP, TLRD and roaming charges to other mobile service providers whose customers use our network.

Voice-retail revenues reached P\$4,773 million in 2013 (+7% vs. 2012). The increase was mainly due to increase in monthly charges prices and an increase in the subscriber base especially in prepaid and Cuentas Claras subscribers.

Voice-wholesale revenues reached P\$1,930 million in 2013 (+5% vs. 2012). The increase was mainly due to higher traffic with mobile operators (TLRD) and an increase in roaming revenues and to the increase of mobile leases, mainly due to new agreements and to the renegotiation of the existing ones.

In *Núcleo Mobile Services segment*, voice revenues increased 21% to P\$500 million in 2013 compared to P\$414 million in 2012 mainly due to an increase in the subscriber base (+5.2%) and to the appreciation of the Guaraní with respect to the Argentine peso (+33% year over year).

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### **Data and Internet**

Revenues from data and Internet services increased 32% to P\$13,367 million in 2013 from P\$10,162 million in 2012. Revenues from data and Internet represented 49% of our total consolidated revenues for 2013 compared to 46% of our total consolidated revenues for 2012.

In the Mobile Services segments, data and Internet services mainly include SMS, contents via SMS, MMS, Browsing and Internet. Revenues from data and Internet in the Personal Mobile segment increased 33% to P\$9,300 million in 2013 from P\$7,013 million in 2012.

As a consequence of the increase in the usage of VAS (Internet and data), the ARPU increased to P\$66.8 per month in 2013 (vs. P\$57.7 per month in 2012) in the Personal Mobile Segment.

Data

Revenues from data services in the Fixed segment increased 31% to P\$963 million in 2013 from P\$735 million in 2012, where the focus was to strengthen Telecom Argentina s position as an integrated ICT provider (Datacenter, VPN, among others) for wholesale and government segments. The increase was mainly due to an increase in Integra and VPN IP services, to the increase in the IP traffic in the wholesale segment; and to the increase in the monthly charges and transmission Datacenter services (especially in hosting and housing monthly charges, and Value Added Services transmission). The majority of our revenues from data transmission services is denominated in U.S. dollars and, consequently, in 2013 and 2012, was affected by the fluctuations in the exchange rate between the peso and the U.S. dollar resulting in an increase in data transmission revenues.

Mobile data revenues reached P\$7,212 million (+25% vs. 2012). This increase is mainly due to constant SMS sales increase as a result of several campaigns launched by Personal and especially due to the increase in revenues from the sale of contents via SMS, both in prepaid or postpaid customers.

Internet

Internet revenues in the Fixed segment increased 26% to P\$2,521 million in 2013 from P\$1,993 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to the substantial expansion of the Broadband service (+5% of Access lines vs. 2012), an increase in average prices resulting in an improvement in the ARPU amounted to P\$124.7 per month in 2013 vs. P\$102.3 per month in 2012. As of December 31, 2013 the number of Internet accesses reached approximately 1.7 million equivalent to 41% of fixed lines in service of Telecom Argentina (vs. 39% in 2012), compared to approximately 1.6 million as of December 31, 2012, an increase of 5%.

Mobile Internet revenues in the Personal Mobile segment increased 67% to P\$2,088 million in 2013 from P\$1,248 million in 2012. Such increases were mainly due to new subscribers, and the migration of existing ones to higher-value plans, partially offset by the revenues decrease generated by the decrease of Mobile Internet subscribers.

### **Equipment**

Revenues from equipment increased by 61% to P\$3,275 million in 2013 from P\$2,028 million in 2012. This increase was due to a mix between the increase in the average price of the handsets of 72% and the decrease of 5% in the handsets sold by Personal. This situation was mainly generated by a subsidy reduction policy, the increase in average prices related to demand for higher-value handsets, the business strategy to attract high-value subscribers, a decrease in discounts as a result of the finalization of commercial promotions and lower retail revenues.

#### **Other Income**

Other income mainly includes penalties and indemnities collected from suppliers, as a result of delays in deliveries of goods or matters related to the quality of the services provided. During 2013, other income decreased 20% to P\$63 million from P\$79 million in 2012, mainly due to a decrease in indemnities collected from suppliers.

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## Operating expenses (without depreciation and amortization)

Total operating expenses (without depreciation and amortization and gain on disposal and impairment of PP&E) increased by P\$4,160 million totaling P\$19,786 million in 2013, representing a 27% increase as compared to 2012. The increase was mainly due to increases in employee benefit expenses and severance payments, cost of VAS, fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies, taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority, commissions, and cost of equipment and handsets.

Years Ended					Change by segment (1) Personal Núcl				
	Decembe	er 31,			Fixed	Mobile	Mobile		
	2013	2012	Total Ch	ange	Services	Services	Services		
	(P\$ mill	ion)	%		(P\$ mi	llion)			
Employee benefit expenses and									
severance payments	4,152	3,269	27	883	611	252	20		
Interconnection costs and other									
telecommunications charges	1,829	1,707	7	122	21	60	41		
Fees for services, maintenance,									
materials and supplies	2,641	2,109	25	532	176	334	22		
Taxes and fees with the Regulatory									
Authority	2,689	2,018	33	671	129	534	8		
Commissions	2,203	1,949	13	254	8	226	20		
Cost of equipment and handsets	3,111	2,043	52	1,068	30	992	46		
Advertising	656	660	(1)	(4)	(12)	6	2		
Cost of VAS	708	326	117	382	2	371	9		
Provisions	270	153	76	117	80	36	1		
Bad-debt expense	283	275	3	8	2	3	3		
Restructuring Costs (recovery)	(8)	90	n/a	(98)	(91)	(7)			
Other operating expenses	1,252	1,027	22	225	102	104	19		
Total operating expenses									
(without depreciation and									
amortization)	19,786	15,626	27	4,160	1,058	2,911	191		
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(1) Net of the Intersegment transactions effect.

Employee benefit expenses and severance payments

During 2013, employee benefit expenses and severance payments were P\$4,152 million, representing a 27% increase from 2012. This was primarily due to salary increases that Telecom implemented across all segments.

With a total headcount of 16,581 at the end of 2013 (-1% vs. 2012), lines in service per employee reached 375 in the Fixed Services segment (slightly higher than 2012), 3,897 in the Personal mobile services segment (+8% vs. 2012) and 5,696 in the Núcleo mobile services segment (+9% vs. 2012).

Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges

Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges includes interconnection costs, lease of circuits and costs of international outbound calls, which reflect payments made under bilateral agreements between Telecom Argentina and international carriers in connection with outgoing calls made by our customers. Additionally, the cost of roaming and TLRD is included in the Mobile Services segments. In 2013, interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges amounted to P\$1,829 million compared with P\$1,707 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to higher traffic volume in the domestic market.

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Fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies

Expenses related to fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies increased 25% to P\$2,641 million in 2013 from P\$2,109 million in 2012. This increase was mainly due to higher maintenance costs of radio bases, systems and buildings in the mobile services segments, as a result of an increase in technical assistance cost of radio bases, higher maintenance costs of licenses and higher costs of building maintenance, and to higher fees for services related to call centers (a P\$98 million increase from 2012 to 2013).

Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority

Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority (including turnover tax, IDC, municipal and other taxes) increased 33% to P\$2,689 million in 2013 from P\$2,018 million in 2012, mainly due to charges of turnover tax (P\$413 million increase from 2012 to 2013 due to an increase in revenues during 2013 and higher average rates of the turnover tax in Autonoma City of Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Chaco, Jujuy and Mendoza) and from taxes with the Regulatory Authority (an increase of P\$120 million from 2012) as a result of the increase in revenues during 2013.

#### Commissions

Commissions increased by P\$254 million, or 13%, to P\$2,203 million in 2013 from P\$1,949 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to higher commissions related to commercial agents of P\$39 million associated with increased revenues because of major acquisition and retention costs, higher prepaid card distribution commissions of P\$84 million, and collection commissions of P\$117 million.

Commissions are net of agent commissions capitalized as SAC, which totaled P\$551 million (+P\$237 million or 75% vs. 2012), and are directly related to the increase in the postpaid subscribers base in the Personal Mobile Services segment and the increase in the commissions prices.

Cost of equipment and handsets

During 2013, the cost of equipment and handsets increased to P\$3,111 million from P\$2,043 million in 2012, representing a 52% increase. This increase was mainly due to the increase in costs of mobile handsets in both Mobile Services segments of P\$1,038 million, mainly as a consequence of higher average unit cost of sales (+72% vs. 2012) offset by a decrease in the number of handsets sold (-5% vs. 2012) in the Personal Mobile Segment.

Cost of equipment and handsets are net of handsets costs capitalized as SAC (P\$255 million in 2013, P\$208 million or 45% lower than 2012).

### Advertising

Costs related to advertising decreased by P\$4 million, or 1%, to P\$656 million in 2013, due to a reduction in advertising Personal and Arnet s campaigns.

#### Cost of VAS

Cost of VAS amounted to P\$708 million (+P\$382 million vs. 2012), mainly due to the increase of VAS sales in the Personal Mobile Services segment (mainly the SMS service) as a consequence of several campaigns launched by Personal and especially due to the increase in revenues from the sale of contents via SMS.

#### Provisions

During 2013, we recorded P\$270 million in provisions compared to P\$153 million recorded in 2012, representing a 76% increase. The increase in 2013 was mainly due to an increase in regulatory tax proceedings amounting to P\$84 million and an increase in civil and commercial proceedings amounting to P\$62 million, partially offset by a decrease in labor claims amounting to P\$29 million.

Bad Debt Expense

In 2013, bad debt expense amounted to P\$283 million, an increase of 3% as compared to 2012, representing 1.0% and 1.2% of consolidated revenues in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The increase was mainly due to higher aging of the accounts receivables, mainly in voice-retail customers in the Núcleo Mobile Services segment.

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#### Restructuring Costs/ Recovery

In the last quarter of 2012 the Company s Management decided to implement a restructuring plan aimed at improving the efficiency of the Telecom Group s organizational structure. This plan contemplates the removal and / or merger of Management structures in various areas of Telecom Argentina and Personal. The plan involves the dismissal of about 90 employees with a total estimated cost of P\$90 million. The recovery of these costs in 2013 amounts to P\$8 million as a consequence of the end of the restructuring Plan in June, 2013.

#### Other Operating Expenses

Other operating expenses, which include transportation costs, energy and rentals, among others, increased 22% to P\$1,252 million in 2013 from P\$1,027 million in 2012 primarily as a result of an increase in prices on related services and an increase in rent prices because of new and renegotiated rental contracts.

For a further breakdown of our consolidated operating expenses, see (B) Results of Operations by Segment below.

#### Operating income before depreciation and amortization

Our consolidated operating income before depreciation and amortization was P\$7,564 million in 2013, representing an increase of P\$994 million or 15% from P\$6,570 million in 2012. It represented 28% and 30% of total consolidated revenues, respectively. This growth was mainly fueled by the Personal Mobile Services segment.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation of PP&E and amortization of intangible assets increased by P\$261 million, or 10%, to P\$2,873 million during 2013. The increase in PP&E depreciation reached P\$191 million, in amortization of SAC and Service connection or habilitation costs totaled P\$70 million and in amortization of other intangible assets remains the same as in 2012.

#### Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E

The gain on disposal of PP&E amounted to P\$14 million, an increase of P\$6 million vs. 2012 and mainly corresponds to the Fixed Services segment. Impairment of PP&E amounted to P\$187 million in 2013 and is mainly related to the discontinuation of commercial systems of

Personal, amounting to P\$65 million and to the impairment of certain PP&E items related to some projects undertaken by Telecom Argentina with the public sector and the private sector that present uncertainty regarding their development and future associated cash flows, amounting to P\$122 million.

### **Operating income**

During 2013, consolidated operating income was P\$4,518 million, representing an increase of P\$552 million or 14% from 2012. Operating income represented 17% of consolidated revenues in 2013 versus 18% in 2012. The decrease in the margin was mainly due to the increase of operating expenses (including depreciation and amortization and gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E) of 25% partially offset by the increase in revenues of 23%.

	Years Ended Dece	% of Change	
	2013	2012	2013-2012
	(P\$ million /	Increase/(Decrease)	
Operating income before depreciation and amortization (1)	7,564	6,570	15
As % of revenues	28	30	
Depreciation and amortization	(2,873)	(2,612)	10
As % of revenues	(11)	(12)	
Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E	(173)	8	n/a
Operating income	4,518	3,966	14
As % of revenues	17	18	

(1) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

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#### Financial results, net

During 2013, Telecom recorded a net financial gain of P\$528 million compared to a net financial gain of P\$229 million in 2012. This was mainly due to higher gains from financial interest on time deposits (including interest on loans given to related parties) and other investments (+P\$364 million vs. 2012), higher gains on mutual funds (+P\$69 million vs. 2012), higher gains on Financial derivatives (+P\$55 million vs. 2012), and higher interests on receivables (+P\$35 million vs. 2012), partially offset by a higher foreign currency exchange loss of P\$233 million.

#### Income tax expense

Income tax expense amounted to P\$1,792 million and P\$1,463 million in 2013 and 2012, respectively.

The Company s income tax charge includes three effects: (i) the current tax payable for the year pursuant to tax legislation applicable to each company in the Telecom Group; (ii) the effect of applying the deferred tax method on temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuation according to tax versus financial accounting criteria; and (iii) the analysis of recoverability of deferred tax assets.

(i) Regarding current tax expenses, Telecom Argentina, Telecom Argentina USA, Personal and Núcleo generated tax profit in fiscal year 2013, resulting in an income tax payable of P\$1,956 million (including fiscal year 2012 return adjustment of P\$3 million) versus P\$1,522 million in 2012. Fixed Segment income tax expense in 2013 amounted to P\$344 million as compared to P\$312 million in 2012; Personal s, in 2013, amounted to P\$1,588 million compared to P\$1,187 million in 2012; and Núcleo s, in 2013, amounted to P\$24 million compared to P\$23 million in 2012.

(ii) Regarding the deferred tax, in 2013 and 2012, the Fixed Segment recorded a deferred tax benefit of P\$47 million and P\$39 million, respectively; Personal recorded a deferred tax benefit of P\$120 million and P\$20 million in 2013 and 2012, respectively; and Núcleo generated a P\$1 million and P\$3 million gain in 2013 and 2012, totaling P\$168 million and P\$62 million of deferred tax benefit in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The gain in 2013 was mainly generated by the tax effects of temporary differences related to PP&E and intangible assets, inventories and provisions.

(iii) Regarding the analysis of recoverability of deferred tax assets, Personal recorded a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets of P\$4 million and P\$3 million in 2013 and 2012, respectively, while no charges were recorded for Telecom Argentina, Telecom Argentina USA and Núcleo in those years.

#### Net income

For 2013, we recorded net income of P\$3,254 million (12% of total consolidated revenues), of which P\$3,202 million is attributable to Telecom Argentina. The Fixed Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$538 million, the Personal Mobile Services segment accounted for a P\$2,556 million gain and the Núcleo Mobile Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$160 million, representing 7%, 13% and 14% of the total segment revenues, respectively including intercompany transactions.

For 2012, we recorded net income of P\$2,732 million (12% of total consolidated revenues), of which P\$2,685 million is attributable to Telecom Argentina. The Fixed Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$502 million, the Personal Mobile Services segment accounted for a P\$2,085 million gain and the Núcleo Mobile Services segment accounted for a gain of P\$145 million, representing 7%, 14% and 17% of the total segment revenues, respectively including intercompany transactions.

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#### (B) Results of Operations by Segment

#### (B.1) Fixed Services Segment

Results of operations for our Fixed Services segment for 2014, 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

	Ye	ars Ended December 31,		% of Ch	ange
	2014	2013 (P\$ million)	2012	2014-2013 Increase/(D	2013-2012 ecrease)
Revenues (1)	10,320	8,254	7,061	25	17
Other Income (2)	37	43	84	(14)	(49)
Operating expenses (without depreciation and					
amortization)	(8,266)	(6,550)	(5,500)	26	19
Operating income before depreciation and					
amortization (3)	2,091	1,747	1,645	20	6
Depreciation and amortization	(1,230)	(1,019)	(929)	21	10
Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E	9	(106)	7	n/a	n/a
Operating income	870	622	723	40	(14)
Financial results, net	275	213	52	29	310
Income tax expense	(403)	(297)	(273)	36	9
Net income	742	538	502	38	7

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes intersegment revenues of P\$1,761 million, P\$1,248 million and P\$1,038 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

### Revenues

During 2014, revenues from our Fixed Services segment increased by 25% to P\$10,320 million from P\$8,254 million in 2013. During 2013, revenues from our Fixed Services segment increased by 17% to P\$8,254 million from P\$7,061 million in 2012. The increase in each year was mainly due to data transmission and Broadband with a 4% and 5% growth in Internet accesses in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Revenues from our Fixed Services segment for 2014, 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes intersegment other income of P\$11 million, P\$10 million and P\$9 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

<sup>(3)</sup> Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

	Ye	ears Ended December 31,	% of Change		
	2014	2013	2012	2014-2013	2013-2012
		(P\$ million)		Increase/(De	crease)
Voice-retail	2,853	2,656	2,475	7	7
Voice-wholesale	929	786	739	18	6
Data	1,470	963	735	53	31
Internet	3,254	2,521	1,993	29	26
Service Revenues	8,506	6,926	5,942	23	17
Equipment (1)	53	80	81	(34)	(1)
Subtotal third party revenues	8,559	7,006	6,023	22	16
Intersegment	1,761	1,248	1,038	41	20
Total Fixed Services revenues	10,320	8,254	7,061	25	17

(1) This item is composed of voice, data and Internet equipment in each year.

Voice-retail

Revenues from voice-retail represented 28% of our total segment revenues for 2014 compared to 32% of our total segment revenues for 2013 and 35% of our total segment revenues for 2012. Revenues from voice-retail increased 7% to P\$2,853 million in 2014 from P\$2,656 million in 2013 and increased 7% in 2013 from P\$2,475 million in 2012.

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Voice-retail mainly includes revenues from monthly basic charges (which differ for residential, professional and commercial customers), charges for supplementary services, measured service (national and international calls) and public telephone service. Charges for supplementary services include call-waiting, call-forwarding, three-way calling, caller ID, direct inwards dialing, toll-free service and voicemail, among others. Measured service charges are based on the number and duration of calls. Measured service revenues depend on the number of lines in service, the volume of usage, the number of new lines installed and applicable rates. Most of our customers are billed monthly.

Monthly basic charges increased 7% to P\$1,203 million in 2014 from P\$1,121 million in 2013 and increased 9% from P\$1,032 million in 2012. Monthly Charges and Supplementary Services increased in 2014 as a consequence of an increase in supplementary services (not regulated), mainly due to an increase of their prices.

Measured service charges increased 10% to P\$1,541 million in 2014 from P\$1,395 million in 2013 and increased 7% in 2013 from P\$1,306 million in 2012. The increase in both 2014 and 2013 was mainly due to the increase in customers and domestic plans prices and the increase in long national distance plans prices.

#### Voice-wholesale

Revenues from voice-wholesale represented 9% of our total segment revenues for 2014 compared to 10% in 2013 and 2012. Revenues from voice-wholesale increased 18% to P\$929 million in 2014 from P\$786 million in 2013 and increased 6% from P\$739 million in 2012.

Voice-wholesale mainly includes interconnection services (which primarily include Access, termination and long-distance transport of calls), international long-distance services (which reflect payments made under bilateral agreements between the Company and foreign telecommunications carriers covering inbound international long-distance calls) and revenues related to billing and collection services charged to other operators.

Interconnection services increased 14% to P\$621 million in 2014 from P\$547 million in 2013 and increased 6% in 2013 from P\$516 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to higher prices related to cell sites rentals due to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate.

#### Data and Internet

Revenues from data and Internet represented 46% of our total segment revenues in 2014 compared to 42% and 39% in 2013 and 2012, respectively. Revenues from data and Internet services increased 36% to P\$4,724 million in 2014 from P\$3,484 million in 2013 and increased 28% in 2013 from P\$2,728 million in 2012.

#### Internet

Revenues from Internet increased 29% to P\$3,254 million in 2014 from P\$2,521 million in 2013 and increased 26% in 2013 from P\$1,993 million in 2012. The increases were mainly due to the growth in the number of Internet accesses and to the increase in the average price of fixed charge services. As of December 31, 2014, the number of Internet accesses increased by approximately 4% to 1.77 million from 1.71 million as of December 31, 2013 and increased approximately 5% from 1.63 million as of December 31, 2012.

Data

Revenues from data services increased 53% to P\$1,470 million in 2014 from P\$963 million in 2013 and increased 31% in 2013 from P\$735 million in 2012. The increase was primarily due to higher prices related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate and the increase of IP transit services customers, VPN IP services customers (private data networks services that replaces the point to point services) and IP direct lines customers in the retail segment, to the increase in customers and higher prices related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of Integra services, mainly in the large customer segment, to higher prices related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of the VPN-IP services in the wholesale segment and to an increase in the number of subscribers and in prices of monthly charges related to the variation of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of the P\$/US\$ exchange rate of datacenter services (especially in hosting and housing services). The increase in 2013 were mainly due to the growth of Integra and VPN IP services (private data networks services that replace the point to point services); and due to the increase in monthly charges and datacenter services (especially in hosting and housing monthly charges and Value Added Services).

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#### Equipment

Revenues from equipment amount to P\$53 million in 2014 compared to P\$80 million in 2013 and P\$81 million in 2012. Equipment revenues include revenues on construction contracts recognized in 2014 and 2013 that amounted to P\$7 million and P\$19 million, respectively.

Intersegment

Intersegment revenues mainly includes interconnection services, which primarily include Access, termination and transport of calls, leases of circuits, revenues related to billing and collection services charged.

During 2014, our intersegment revenues increased 41% to P\$1,761 million from P\$1,248 million in 2013 and increased 20% from P\$1,038 million in 2012. The intersegment revenues are eliminated at the consolidated level.

#### **Other Income**

Other income mainly includes penalties and indemnities collected from suppliers, as a result of delays in deliveries of goods or matters related to the quality of the services provided. During 2014, other income decreased 14% to P\$37 million from P\$43 million in 2013. During 2013, other income decreased 49% to P\$43 million from P\$84 million in 2012. The decrease in 2013 was mainly due to a decrease in indemnities and penalties collected from suppliers.

#### **Operating Expenses (without depreciation and amortization)**

During 2014, total operating expenses (without depreciation and amortization) for the Fixed Services segment increased 26% to P\$8,266 million from P\$6,550 million in 2013 and increased 19% from P\$5,500 million in 2012. The increases were mainly due to increases in employee benefit expenses and severance payments, fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies and taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority.

Detailed below are the major components of our operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 related to our Fixed Services segment:

Years Ended December 31,			% of Change					
2014	2013	2012	2014-2013	2013-2012				
(P\$ million)			Increase/(	Decrease)				

Employee benefit expenses and severance payments	4,021	2,991	2,380	34	26
Interconnection costs and other telecommunications	, ,	, ,	·		
charges	676	525	507	29	4
Fees for services, maintenance, materials and					
supplies	1,402	1,126	950	25	19
Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority	723	578	449	25	29
Commissions	210	177	169	19	5
Cost of equipment	72	74	44	(3)	68
Advertising	151	159	171	(5)	(7)
Cost of VAS	16	11	9	45	22
Provisions	115	169	89	(32)	90
Bad debt expenses	89	58	56	53	4
Restructuring Costs (recovery)		(8)	83	(100)	n/a
Other operating expenses	791	690	593	15	16
Total Fixed Services (1)	8,266	6,550	5,500	26	19

(1) Includes intersegment cost of P\$117 million, P\$104 million and P\$112 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. These costs are eliminated at the consolidated level.

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Employee benefit expenses and severance payments

During 2014, employee benefit expenses and charges for severance payments were approximately P\$4,021 million, representing a 34% increase from P\$2,991 million in 2013. In 2013, employee benefit expenses and charges for severance payments increase 26% from P\$2,380 million in 2012. The increases were mainly due to salary increases, and in 2014, also to an extraordinary annual bonus amounting to P\$80 million paid in January 2015. The Fixed Services segment had 11,056, 11,002 and 11,115 employees as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges

Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges includes interconnection costs, lease of circuits and costs of international outbound calls, which reflect payments made under bilateral agreements between Telecom Argentina and international carriers in connection with outgoing calls made by our customers. Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges included intersegment costs of P\$95 million, P\$82 million and P\$85 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, that are eliminated at the consolidated level.

In 2014 interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges amounted to P\$676 million, representing an increase of 29% from P\$525 million in 2013. In 2013 such costs amounted to P\$525 million, representing an increase of 4% from P\$507 million in 2012. The increases were mainly due to higher traffic volume.

Fees for Services, Maintenance, Materials and Supplies

During 2014, fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies increased 25% to P\$1,402 million from P\$1,126 million in 2013 and increased 19% from P\$950 million in 2012.

The increase in 2014 mainly corresponds to higher costs recognized to suppliers, an increase in technical assistance cost of radio bases, higher system licenses maintenance costs and higher costs of building maintenance due to the effects of inflation and P\$/US\$ variation.

The increases in 2013 were mainly due to higher maintenance costs, the increase in the prices of certain supplies due to the effects of inflation and higher costs of services, especially those related to call centers, as well as technical maintenance fees.

Fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies are net of service connection fees capitalized (P\$37 million in 2014, P\$36 million and P\$32 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively).

Fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies expenses included intersegment costs of P\$10 million in 2014 that are eliminated at the consolidated level.

Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority

Expenses related to taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority increased 25% to P\$723 million in 2014 from P\$578 million in 2013 and increased 29% in 2013 from P\$449 million in 2012. The increase in 2014 was mainly due to the increase in revenues and the increase of the tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts related to dividend payments. The increase in 2013 was mainly due to charges of turnover tax as a result of the increase in revenues and an increase in rates. Also, in 2013 the increase was a result of higher average rates of the turnover tax in the City of Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Chaco, Jujuy and Mendoza.

#### Commissions

During 2014, costs relating to commissions amounted to approximately P\$210 million, representing an increase of 19% as compared to P\$177 million in 2013. In 2013, these charges increased 5% from P\$169 million in 2012. The increase during both years was mainly due to the increase in agents commissions (associated with higher revenues) and the increase of outsourced sales commissions and collection commissions.

Cost of Equipment

During 2014, 2013 and 2012 we recorded P\$72 million, P\$74 million and P\$44 million in cost of equipment, respectively. Cost of equipment includes P\$6 million and P\$16 million related to equipment construction contract costs in 2014 and 2013, respectively.

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### Advertising

During 2014, we recorded P\$151 million in costs of advertising representing a decrease of 5% as compared to P\$159 million recorded in 2013. In 2013, these charges decreased 7% from P\$171 million in 2012. Telecom Argentina continued its advertising campaigns as a result of competition in the Internet services market.

Cost of VAS

Cost of VAS increased to P\$16 million in 2014 from P\$11 million in 2013 and P\$9 million in 2012.

Provisions

During 2014, we recorded P\$115 million in provisions compared to P\$169 million recorded in 2013 and P\$89 million recorded in 2012. The decrease in 2014 was mainly due to the decrease in regulatory and tax claims for approximately P\$98 million, partially offset by an increase in civil and commercial claims of P\$34 million. The increase in 2013 was mainly due to the increase in regulatory and municipal claims for approximately P\$85 million.

### Bad Debt Expenses

In 2014, bad debt expenses amounted to P\$89 million, P\$58 million in 2013 and P\$56 million in 2012. In 2014 theses charges increased by 53%, mainly due to an increase reported in the Government and Corporate segments.

Other Operating Expenses

Other operating expenses include accrued expenses such as transportation costs, insurance, international and satellite connectivity, energy and rentals.

During 2014, our other operating expenses amounted to P\$791 million compared to P\$690 million in 2013 and P\$593 million in 2012. The increases were primarily due to the increase in prices of transportation, freight, energy, water and others to provide Telecom Argentina s services and rental expenses.

#### Operating Income before depreciation and amortization

Our operating income before depreciation and amortization from the Fixed Services segment was P\$2,091 million in 2014, P\$1,747 million in 2013 and P\$1,645 million in 2012, representing 20%, 21% and 23% of total segment revenues, respectively.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation and amortization expenses were P\$1,230 million in 2014, P\$1,019 million in 2013 and P\$929 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to assets acquired during 2014 and 2013, partially offset by a reduction in the level of depreciation due to the end of the amortization period for certain assets.

### Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E

The gain on disposal of PP&E amounted to P\$8 million, P\$16 million and P\$7 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Impairment loss of PP&E amounted to P\$122 million in 2013 and is mainly related to the impairment of certain PP&E items related to some projects undertaken by Telecom Argentina with the public sector and the private sector that present uncertainty regarding their development and future associated cash flows.

#### **Operating Income**

Operating income represented 8%, 8% and 10% of total segment revenues in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. In 2014, the operating income from our Fixed Services segment increased 40% to P\$870 million from P\$622 million in 2013. In 2013, the operating income from our Fixed Services segment decreased 14% from P\$723 million in 2012.

Our operating income in the Fixed Services Segment continues to be affected by the Pesification and freezing of regulated rates. See Factors affecting results of operations Rate Regulation.

The following table shows our operating income from the Fixed Services segment in 2014, 2013 and 2012 and its percentage of revenues in each year.

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	97			% of Cha	b of Change		
	Ye 2014	ears Ended December 31, 2013 (P\$ million / %)	2012	2014-2013 Increase/(De	2013- 2012 ecrease)		
Operating income before depreciation and							
amortization (1)	2,091	1,747	1,645	20	6		
As % of revenues	20	21	23				
Depreciation and amortization	(1,230)	(1,019)	(929)	21	10		
As % of revenues	(12)	(12)	(13)				
Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E	9	(106)	7	n/a	n/a		
Operating income	870	622	723	40	(14)		
As % of revenues	8	8	10				

(1) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

#### Financial results, net

During 2014, Financial results, net resulted in a net gain of P\$275 million, representing an increase of P\$62 million vs. 2013. The increase was mainly due to higher foreign currency exchange net gains, higher gains on mutual funds and higher interest with related parties, partially offset by higher interest on provisions.

During 2013, we recorded a net financial gain of P\$213 million compared to a net financial gain of P\$52 million in 2012. The increase in our financial results was mainly attributed to higher gains from cash equivalents and investments of approximately P\$15 million and a net foreign currency exchange gain of P\$103 million.

#### Income tax expense

As previously mentioned, the income tax charge includes three effects (See Years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 (A.1) Income tax expense ).

During 2014, our Fixed Services segment recorded an income tax expense of P\$403 million compared to P\$297 million in 2013 and P\$273 million in 2012. The increase in 2014 and 2013 was mainly due to the increase in our pre-tax income compared to previous years.

The income tax expense in 2014 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense (amounting to P\$422 million), partially offset by income generated by deferred tax on temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations due to tax versus financial accounting criteria (amounting to P\$19 million).

The income tax expense in 2013 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense (amounting to P\$344 million), partially offset by income generated by deferred tax on temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations due to tax versus financial accounting criteria (amounting to P\$47 million).

The income tax expense in 2012 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense (amounting to P\$312 million), partially offset by income generated by a deferred tax on temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations according to tax versus financial accounting criteria (amounting to P\$39 million).

### Net Income

For 2014, 2013 and 2012, the Fixed Services segment recorded net income of P\$742 million, P\$538 million and P\$502 million, respectively. The increase in 2014 was mainly due to an increase in our operating income, partially offset by an increase in income tax, as detailed above. The increase in 2013 was mainly due to an increase in financial results, partially offset by a reduction in our operating income compared to the gain recorded in 2012, and an increase in the income tax expense as detailed above.

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### (B.2) Personal Mobile Services Segment

Results of operations from our Personal Mobile Services segment for 2014, 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

	Yea	rs Ended December 31,		% of Ch	ange
	2014	2013 (P\$ million)	2012	2014-2013 Increase/(De	2013-2012 ecrease)
Revenues (1)	23,332	19,245	15,350	21	25
Other Income	21	24	4	(13)	500
Operating expenses (without depreciation and					
amortization)	(17,320)	(13,879)	(10,760)	25	29
Operating income before depreciation and					
amortization (2)	6,033	5,390	4,594	12	17
Depreciation and amortization	(1,650)	(1,628)	(1,526)	1	7
Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E	(25)	(68)	1	(63)	n/a
Operating income	4,358	3,694	3,069	18	20
Financial results, net		334	186	(100)	80
Income tax expense	(1,542)	(1,472)	(1,170)	5	26
Net income	2,816	2,556	2,085	10	23

(1) Includes intersegment revenues of P\$128 million, P\$116 million and P\$123 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

(2) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

#### Revenues

During 2014, revenues from our Personal Mobile Services segment increased by 21% to P\$23,332 million from P\$19,245 million in 2013 and increased by 25% from P\$15,350 million in 2012. The increase in each year was mainly due to the increase in prices of our services and the increase in the monthly consumption of the offered services, primarily data and Internet services.

An important monthly operational measure used in the Personal Mobile Services segment is ARPU, which we calculate by dividing adjusted total service revenues excluding outcollect wholesale roaming, cell site rental and reconnection fee revenues and others (divided by 12 months) by the average number of subscribers during the period. ARPU is not a measure calculated in accordance with IFRS and our measure of ARPU may not be calculated in the same manner as similarly titled measures used by other companies. In particular, certain components of service revenues are excluded from Personal s ARPU calculations presented in this Annual Report. Our Management believes that this measure is helpful in assessing the development of the subscriber base in the Personal Mobile Services segment. The following table shows the reconciliation of total service revenues to such revenues included in the ARPU calculations:

		Years Ended December 31,	
	2014	2013 (P\$ million)	2012
Total service revenues	18,412	16,119	13,435
Components of service revenues not included in the ARPU calculation:			
Outcollect wholesale roaming	(304)	(270)	(250)
Cell sites rental	(43)	(32)	(25)
Reconnection fees and others	(407)	(239)	(220)
Adjusted total service revenues included in the ARPU calculation			
(1)	17,658	15,578	12,940
Average number of subscribers during the year (thousands)	19,821	19,448	18,687

(1) Certain components of service revenues are not included in the ARPU calculation. Includes Intersegment revenues for P\$128 million in 2014, P\$116 million in 2013 and P\$123 million in 2012.

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During 2014, ARPU increased 11% to approximately P\$74.2 per customer per month compared to approximately P\$66.8 per customer per month in 2013. ARPU reached P\$57.7 per customer per month in 2012.

The total number of Personal s subscribers decreased approximatel<sup>3</sup>% to 19.6 million as of December 31, 2014 from 20.1 million as of December 31, 2013 and increased 6% from 19.0 million as of December 31, 2012. As of December 31, 2014, the subscriber base in Argentina amounted to approximately 13.3 million prepaid subscribers, or 68% of the total subscriber base, approximately 2.2 million post-paid subscribers, or 11% of the total subscriber base and approximately 4.1 million Cuentas Claras plan subscribers, or 21% of the total subscriber base.

Revenues from our Personal Mobile Services segment for 2014, 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

	Ye	ars Ended December 31,		% of Cha	ange
	2014	2013	2012	2014-2013	2013-2012
		(P\$ million)		Increase/(De	ecrease)
Voice-retail	5,330	4,773	4,461	12	7
Voice-wholesale	1,953	1,930	1,838	1	5
Data	7,666	7,212	5,765	6	25
Internet	3,335	2,088	1,248	60	67
Services Revenues	18,284	16,003	13,312	14	20
Equipment	4,920	3,126	1,915	57	63
Subtotal third party revenues	23,204	19,129	15,227	21	26
Intersegment	128	116	123	10	(6)
<b>Total Personal Mobile Services Revenues</b>	23,332	19,245	15,350	21	25

Voice-retail

Revenues from voice-retail represented 23% of our total segment revenues in 2014 compared to 25% and 29% of our total segment revenues in 2013 and 2012, respectively. Revenues from voice-retail increased 12% to P\$5,330 million in 2014 from P\$4,773 million in 2013 and increased 7% from P\$4,461 million in 2012.

Voice-retail mainly includes revenues from monthly basic charges, airtime usage charges and roaming charges billed to our customers for their use of our and other carriers networks.

Monthly basic charges increased 30% to P\$3,074 million in 2014 from P\$2,369 million in 2013 and increased 11% in 2013 from P\$2,137 million in 2012. Airtime usage charges decreased 18% to P\$1,654 million in 2014 from P\$2,005 million in 2013 and increased 2% in 2013 from P\$1,961 million in 2012. Roaming charges and other services increased 51% to P\$602 million in 2014 from P\$399 million in 2013 and increased 10% in 2013 from P\$363 million in 2012.

The increase in 2014 was mainly due to the increase in monthly charges prices and to the increase in the prepaid and Cuentas claras subscriber base.

The increase in 2013 was mainly due to an increase in the subscriber base (especially in prepaid and Cuentas Claras ), an increase in the volume of total traffic and an increase in the prices of our services.

Voice-wholesale

Revenues from voice-wholesale represented 8% of our total segment revenues in 2014 compared to 10% and 12% of our total segment revenues in 2013 and 2012, respectively. Revenues from voice-wholesale increased 1% to P\$1,953 million in 2014 from P\$1,930 million in 2013 and increased 5% in 2013 from P\$1,838 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to the increase of mobile leases related to new agreements and to the renegotiation of the existing ones and to the increase in roaming revenues with other operators.

Voice-wholesale mainly includes revenues from CPP, TLRD and roaming charges to other mobile service providers whose customers use our network.

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CPP and TLRD decreased 1% to P\$1,611 million in 2014 from P\$1,634 million in 2013 and increased 4% in 2013 from P\$1,568 million in 2012.

Roaming charges and other services increased 16% to P\$342 million in 2014 from P\$296 million in 2013, and increased 10% from P\$270 million in 2012.

#### Data and Internet

Data and Internet services mainly include SMS, MMS, Browsing and Internet. Data and Internet represented 47%, 48% and 46% of our total segment revenues for 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively.

Data

Revenues from data mainly include contents via SMS, MMS and other Value Added Services. Revenues from data increased 6% to P\$7,666 million in 2014 from P\$7,212 million in 2013. Revenues from data increased 25% in 2013 from P\$5,765 million in 2012. This increase was mainly due to the constant Content via SMS sales increase as a result of several campaigns launched by Personal.

In particular, revenues of SMS decreased 5% to P\$4,535 million in 2014 from P\$4,792 million in 2013 while SMS increased 3% in 2013 from P\$4,668 million in 2012.

#### Internet

Revenues from Internet increased 60% to P\$3,335 million in 2014 from P\$2,088 million in 2013 and increased 67% in 2013 from P\$1,248 million in 2012. This growth was fueled by new subscribers, the migration of the existing ones to higher-value plans and the increase of subscribers that acquired 3G handsets which facilitate Internet browsing. Internet flat rate services revenues have decreased mainly due to the decrease of Mobile Internet dongle subscribers.

#### Equipment

Equipment revenues consist primarily of revenues from the mobile handsets sold to new and existing subscribers and to agents and other third-party distributors. The revenues associated with the sale of mobile handsets and related expenses are recognized when the products are delivered and accepted by the subscribers, agents and other third-party distributors.

During 2014, handset revenues increased 57% to P\$4,920 million from P\$3,126 million in 2013 and increased 63% from P\$1,915 million in 2012. This increase was due to a mix between the increase in the average price of the handsets of 86% and the decrease of 16% in the handsets sold by Personal. This situation was mainly generated by a subsidy reduction policy, the increase in average prices related to higher-value handsets demand, the business strategy to attract high-value subscribers, a decrease in discounts as a result of the finalization of commercial promotions and lower retail revenues.

#### Intersegment

Intersegment revenues mainly include services rendered to Telecom Argentina and primarily consist in monthly basic charges, airtime usage charges and Value Added Services. During 2014, our intersegment revenues increased 10% to P\$128 million from P\$116 million in 2013 and decreased 6% in 2013 from P\$123 million in 2012. The intersegment revenues are eliminated at the consolidated level.

### **Other Income**

Other income mainly includes penalties collected from suppliers, as a result of delays in deliveries of goods or matters related to the quality of the services provided. During 2014, other income was P\$21 million, compared to P\$24 million in 2013 and P\$4 million in 2012.

#### **Operating Expenses (without depreciation and amortization)**

Total operating expenses (without depreciation and amortization) in our Personal Mobile Services segment increased 25% to P\$17,320 million in 2014 from P\$13,879 million in 2013 and increased 29% from P\$10,760 million in 2012. In line with our increases in revenues, during 2014 and 2013, almost all items in the cost structure of the Personal Mobile Services segment experienced increases. This trend reflects increases in certain costs related to acquiring and retaining customers, taxes, commissions.

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Detailed below are the major components of the operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 in the Personal Mobile Services segment:

		Years Ended December 31,		% of Cha	nge
	2014	2013 (P\$ million)	2012	2014-2013 Increase/(De	2013-2012 crease)
Employee benefit expenses and severance					
payments	1,452	1,077	825	35	31
Interconnection costs and other					
telecommunications charges	2,592	2,148	1,947	21	10
Fees for services, maintenance, materials and					
supplies	2,145	1,634	1,242	31	32
Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority	2,527	2,076	1,542	22	35
Commissions	2,181	1,970	1,745	11	13
Cost of equipment	3,959	2,956	1,964	34	51
Advertising	563	442	436	27	1
Cost of VAS	856	663	292	29	127
Provisions	(31)	101	65	n/a	55
Bad debt expenses	315	214	211	47	1
Restructuring Costs			7	n/a	n/a
Other operating expenses	761	598	484	27	24
Total Personal Mobile Services(1)	17,320	13,879	10,760	25	29

(1) Includes intersegment cost of P\$1,766 million, P\$1,257 million and P\$1,049 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. These costs are eliminated at the consolidated level.

Employee benefit expenses and severance payments

During 2014, employee benefit expenses and severance payments charges increased 35% to P\$1,452 million from P\$1,077 million in 2013 and increased 31% from P\$825 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to increases in salaries agreed by Telecom Personal with several trade unions for the unionized employees and also non-unionized employees, together with related social security charges as well as an extraordinary annual bonus of P\$35 million granted to all employees (paid in January 2015).

The Personal Mobile Services segment had 4,958, 5,155 and 5,254 employees as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Interconnection Costs and other telecommunications charges

During 2014, interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges increased 21% to P\$2,592 million from P\$2,148 million in 2013 and increased 10% in 2013 from P\$1,947 million in 2012. The increase in 2014 was mainly due to higher costs of lease of circuits of P\$386 million. The increases in 2013 were mainly due to higher traffic volume resulting from Personal s network and higher costs of roaming and TLRD due to

an increase in mobile traffic among mobile operators as a consequence of a growth in the total subscriber base. Interconnection costs and other telecommunications charges includes intersegment costs of P\$1,273 million, P\$921 million and P\$780 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, that are eliminated at the consolidated level.

Fees for services, Maintenance, Materials and Supplies

In 2014, fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies expenses increased 31% to P\$2,145 million from P\$1,634 million in 2013 and increased 32% from P\$1,242 million in 2012.

The increase was mainly due to higher maintenance costs of radio bases, systems and buildings, as a result of the variation in the P\$/US\$ exchange rate. There were also increases in other maintenance costs and fees for services, mainly due to higher costs recognized to suppliers.

Fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies expenses includes intersegment costs of P\$332 million, P\$211 million and P\$153 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively, that are eliminated at the consolidated level.

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Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority

During 2014, taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority increased 22% to P\$2,527 million from P\$2,076 million in 2013 and increased 35% in 2013 from P\$1,542 million. The increase in 2014 was mainly due to the increase in revenues, the increase in equipment sales in Argentina, the increase of the Tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts related to dividend payments and by higher collections and payments to suppliers in 2014 vs 2013. The increase in 2013 was mainly attributable to the increase in total segment revenues and higher average rates of the turnover tax.

#### **Commissions**

In 2014, commissions increased 11% to P\$2,181 million from P\$1,970 million in 2013 and increased 13% in 2013 from P\$1,745 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to the increase in Agents commissions of P\$29 million (associated with higher revenues) and the increase of outsourced sales commissions and collection commissions of P\$206 million, (especially of handsets sold), partially offset by lower prepaid cards distribution commissions of P\$28 million. Commissions include intersegment cost of P\$53 million, P\$56 million and P\$57 million in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively, that are eliminated at the consolidated level.

Cost of Equipment

During 2014, the cost of equipment and handsets sold increased 34% to P\$3,959 million from P\$2,956 million in 2013 and increased 51% from P\$1,964 million in 2012. The increase in cost of mobile handsets in 2014 is related to the increase in the average unit cost of sales (+51.4% vs. 2013), partially offset by a decrease in the units of handsets sold (-16.1% vs. 2013). The increase in costs of mobile handsets in 2013 was mainly due to higher average unit cost of sales (+72% vs. 2012) offset by a decrease in the number of handsets sold (-5% vs. 2012).

Cost of equipment and handsets are net of costs capitalized as SAC (P\$61 million in 2014, P\$164 million or -73% lower than 2013).

The lower capitalized amount was mainly due to the significant reduction of subsidies provided to customers, especially in the Cuentas claras segment.

#### Advertising

During 2014, advertising expenses including media, promotional and institutional campaigns, amounted to P\$563 million, representing an increase of 27% from P\$442 million in 2013. During 2013, advertising expenses, amounted to P\$442 million, representing an increase of 1% from P\$436 million in 2012.

### Cost of VAS

Cost of VAS amounted to P\$856 million (+P\$193 million vs. 2013), mainly due to the increase of VAS (mainly the Contents via SMS service) as a consequence of several campaigns launched by Personal. Such costs were P\$663 million and P\$292 million in 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Provisions

During 2014, we recorded a gain of P\$31 million in provisions compared with a loss of P\$101 million and P\$65 million recorded in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The decrease was mainly due to lower regulatory and municipal claims (-P\$71 million vs. 2013) and lower civil and commercial claims (-P\$73 million vs. 2013), partially offset by higher labor claims (P\$12 million vs. 2013). The increase in 2013 was mainly due to higher claims recorded, in particular an increase in civil and commercial claims for P\$62 million, partially offset by lower labor claims for P\$24 million.

#### **Bad Debt Expenses**

In 2014 bad debt expenses amounted to P\$315 million (+47% vs. 2013). In 2013, bad debt expenses amounted to P\$214 million representing an increase of 1% from P\$211 million in 2012. The major increase in 2014 as compared with 2013 was a consequence of higher aging of the accounts receivables and higher incidence of handsets sales directly financed by Personal to its postpaid and Cuentas claras subscribers.

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#### Other Operating Expenses

Other operating expenses include accrued expenses such as costs associated with the provision of transportation costs, insurance, energy and costs of site leases.

Other operating expenses increased 27% to P\$761 million in 2014 from P\$598 million in 2013 and increased 24% from P\$484 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to higher costs associated with an increase in rental cost and freight and transportation costs. Other operating expenses include intersegment costs of P\$108 million, P\$69 million and P\$59 million in 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively, that are eliminated at the consolidated level.

#### Operating Income before depreciation and amortization

Our operating income before depreciation and amortization from the Personal Mobile Services segment reached P\$6,033 million in 2014, P\$5,390 million in 2013 and P\$4,594 million in 2012, representing 26%, 28% and 30% of total segment revenues in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The increase in each year was mainly due to higher growth in revenues, partially offset by increases in operating costs (before depreciation and amortization).

#### Depreciation of PP&E and Amortization of Intangible Assets

During 2014 depreciation of PP&E and amortization of intangible assets increased 1% to P\$1,650 million from P\$1,628 million in 2013 and increased 7% from P\$1,526 million in 2012. During 2014, the increase in PP&E depreciation amounted to P\$114 million partially offset by a decrease in amortization of SAC of P\$111 million due to lower levels of capitalization of subsidies from the sale of mobile handsets and the extension of the contractual terms from 18 to 24 months.

### Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E

The gain on disposal of PP&E amounted to P\$1 million in 2014 and the loss on disposal of PP&E amounted to P\$3 million in 2013. Impairment of PP&E amounted to P\$26 million in 2014 related to certain work in progress. Impairment of PP&E amounted to P\$65 million in 2013 and is mainly related to the discontinuation of a commercial system.

#### **Operating Income**

In 2014, our operating income from the Personal Mobile Services segment was P\$4,358 million, representing an increase of 18% from P\$3,694 million in 2013, and increased of 20% from P\$3,069 million in 2012. Operating income represented 19% of revenues in 2014 for this segment, 19% of revenues in 2013 and 20% in 2012. The increase in operating income was mainly due to the growth in service and equipment revenues, partially offset by increases in operating expenses and depreciation and amortization as explained above.

The following table shows our operating income from the Personal Mobile Services segment in 2014, 2013 and 2012 and its percentage of revenues in each year:

	Ŷ	ears Ended December 31,		% of Ch	ange
	2014	2013	2012	2014-2013	2013-2012
		( <b>P\$ million / %</b> )		Increase / (E	Decrease)
Operating income before					
depreciation and amortization					
(1)	6,033	5,390	4,594	12	17
As % of revenues	26	28	30		
Depreciation and amortization	(1,650)	(1,628)	(1,526)	1	7
As % of revenues	(7)	(8)	(10)		
Gain on disposal of PP&E and					
impairment of PP&E	(25)	(68)	1	(63)	n/a
Operating income	4,358	3,694	3,069	18	20
As % of revenues	19	19	20		

(1) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

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#### Financial results, net

During 2014, the Personal Mobile Services segment net financial results decreased P\$334 million compared to a net financial gain of P\$334 million in 2013 and a net financial gain of P\$186 million in 2012. The decrease in 2014 was mainly due to higher foreign currency exchange losses net of NDF agreement results (-P\$81 million vs. 2013) and lower financial interest on time deposits and other investments (-P\$194 million vs. 2013).

The gain recorded in 2013 was mainly attributed to gains from cash equivalents and investments of approximately P\$650 million. In addition, the devaluation of the peso against the U.S. dollar generated a net foreign currency exchange loss of P\$328 million in 2013.

#### **Income Tax Expense**

During 2014, our Personal Mobile Services segment recorded an income tax expense of P\$1,542 million compared to P\$1,472 million in 2013 and P\$1,170 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to higher pre-tax income in each year. The income tax expense in 2014 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense amounting to P\$1,302 million, and by the loss generated by the deferred tax on the temporary differences amounting to P\$267 million (mainly due to an increase in deferred tax liabilities of Fixed Assets and the deduction of deferred tax assets related to investments in bonds), and P\$27 million of an allowance recovery.

The income tax expense in 2013 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense amounting to P\$1,588 million, partially offset by the gain generated by the deferred tax on the temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations according to tax versus financial accounting criteria amounting to P\$120 million and P\$4 million loss in the allowance for net deferred tax assets.

The income tax expense in 2012 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense amounting to P\$1,187 million, partially offset by the gain generated by the deferred tax on the temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations according to tax versus financial accounting criteria amounting to P\$20 million and P\$3 million loss in the allowance for net deferred tax assets.

#### Net Income

During 2014, our Personal Mobile Services segment reported net income of P\$2,816 million as compared to P\$2,556 million during 2013 and P\$2,085 million in 2012. The increase in net income in 2014 and 2013 was mainly due to higher operating income, partially offset by higher income tax expense, as explained above.

#### (B.3) Núcleo Mobile Services Segment

Results of operations from our Núcleo Mobile Services segment for 2014, 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

		Years Ended December 31,		% of Cha	nge
	2014	2013	2012	2014-2013	2013-2012
		(P\$ million)		Increase / (De	crease)
Revenues (1)	1,588	1,160	873	37	33
Other Income		6		(100)	n/a
Operating expenses (without depreciation					
and amortization)	(1,010)	(739)	(542)	37	36
Operating income before depreciation and					
amortization (2)	578	427	331	35	29
Depreciation and amortization	(363)	(226)	(157)	61	44
Gain on disposal of PP&E		1		(100)	n/a
Operating income	215	202	174	6	16
Financial results, net	(22)	(19)	(9)	16	111
Income tax expense	(22)	(23)	(20)	(4)	15
Net income	171	160	145	7	10

(1) Includes intersegment revenues of P\$10 million, P\$8 million and P\$6 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

(2) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

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#### Revenues

During 2014, total revenues from Núcleo increased by 37% to P\$1,588 million from P\$1,160 million in 2013. This increase was mainly due to an increase of 3% in Núcleo s subscriber base that reached approximately 2.5 million mobile subscribers as of December 31, 2014 and the appreciation of the Guaraní of 41%. As of December 31, 2014, Núcleo had approximately 2 million prepaid subscribers, representing 81% of Núcleo s total mobile subscriber base.

Value Added Services sales (included in Data and Internet services) grew by 35% in 2014 as compared to 2013.

During 2013, total revenues from Núcleo increased by 33% to P\$1,160 million from P\$873 million in 2012. This increase was mainly due to an increase of 5% in Núcleo s subscriber base that reached approximately 2.4 million mobile subscribers as of December 31, 2013 and the appreciation of the Guaraní of 33%. As of December 31, 2013, Núcleo had approximately 1.9 million prepaid subscribers, representing 80% of Núcleo s total mobile subscriber base.

Value Added Services sales (included in Data and Internet services) grew by 38% in 2013 as compared to 2012.

Revenues from our Núcleo Mobile Services segment for 2014, 2013 and 2012 are comprised as follows:

		Years Ended December 31,		% of Char	nge
	2014	2013	2012	2014-2013	2013-2012
		(P\$ million)		Increase	9
Voice	701	500	414	40	21
Data	331	313	267	6	17
Internet	456	270	154	69	75
Service revenues	1,488	1,083	835	37	30
Equipment	90	69	32	30	116
Subtotal third party revenues	1,578	1,152	867	37	33
Intersegment	10	8	6	25	33
Total revenues	1,588	1,160	873	37	33

#### **Other Income**

During 2013, other income was P\$6 million, and mainly includes indemnities collected from suppliers.

#### **Operating Expenses (without depreciation and amortization)**

Total operating expenses in our Núcleo Mobile Services segment increased 37% to P\$1,010 million in 2014 from P\$739 million in 2013 and increased 36% in 2013 from P\$542 million in 2012. In line with our increases in revenues, during 2014 and 2013, all items in the cost structure of the Núcleo Mobile Services segment experienced increases. This trend reflected increases in certain costs of acquiring and retaining subscribers, and commissions directly associated with sales and expansions of the customer service staff, also, the increase is mainly due to the appreciation of the Guaraní with respect to the Argentine peso (+41% and 33% year over year in 2014 and 2013, respectively).

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Detailed below are the major components of the operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 related to Núcleo Mobile Services segment:

	Years Ended December 31,		% of Change		
	2014	2013 (P\$ million)	2012	2014-2013 Increase/(De	2013-2012 ccrease)
Employee benefit expenses and severance					
payments	118	84	64	40	31
Interconnection costs and other					
telecommunications charges	192	171	128	12	34
Fees for services, maintenance, materials and					
supplies	137	101	76	36	33
Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority	47	35	27	34	30
Commissions	156	112	92	39	22
Cost of equipment	112	81	35	38	131
Advertising	78	55	53	42	4
Cost of VAS	64	34	25	88	36
Provisions			(1)	n/a	n/a
Bad debt expense	20	11	8	82	38
Other operating expenses	86	55	35	56	57
Total Núcleo Mobile Services(1)	1,010	739	542	37	36

(1) Includes intersegment cost of P\$27 million, P\$21 million and P\$15 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. These costs are eliminated at the consolidated level.

Employee benefit expenses and severance payments

During 2014, employee benefit expenses and severance payments increased 40% to P\$118 million from P\$84 million in 2013. During 2013, these costs increased 31% from P\$64 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to the appreciation of the Guaraní with respect to the Argentine Peso, partially offset by a decrease in the number of employees in each year. Núcleo had 402 employees as of December 31, 2014. As of December 31, 2013 and 2012 it had 424 and 439, respectively.

Interconnection Costs and Other Telecommunication Charges

During 2014, interconnection costs and other telecommunication charges increased 12% to P\$192 million from P\$171 million in 2013 and increased 34% in 2013 from P\$128 million in 2012. The increase was mainly due to higher traffic volume resulting from Núcleo s network.

Fees for Services, Maintenance, Materials and Supplies

During 2014, fees for services and maintenance, materials and supplies totaled P\$137 million, representing an increase of 36% from P\$101 million in 2013. During 2013, they increased 33% from P\$76 million in 2012.

Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority

During 2014, taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority increased 34% to P\$47 million from P\$35 million in 2013 and increased 30% from P\$27 million in 2012. The increase in each year was mainly attributable to the increase in total segment revenues.

Commissions

During 2014, commissions increased to P\$156 million from P\$112 million in 2013, representing an increase of 39%. During 2013, commissions increased from P\$92 million in 2012, representing an increase of 22%. The increases were mainly due to the growth in the subscriber base.

Cost of Equipment

During 2014, the cost of handsets sold increased to P\$112 million from P\$81 million, representing an increase of 38%. During 2012, the cost of handsets was P\$35 million. The increase in 2014 and 2013 was mainly due to an expansion of the subscriber base and increased customer upgrade of mobile handsets as a result of technological advances and new service offerings.

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### Advertising

During 2014, advertising expenses including media, promotional and institutional campaigns, amounted to P\$78 million, representing an increase of 42% from 2013. During 2013, these expenses amounted to P\$55 million, representing an increase of 4% from P\$53 million in 2012.

Cost of VAS

Cost of VAS increased P\$30 million to P\$64 million in 2014 from P\$34 million in 2013. Such costs were P\$25 million in 2012. The increases in each year were in line with the increases in VAS Revenues.

**Bad Debt Expenses** 

In 2014 bad debt expenses amounted to P\$20 million, representing an increase of 82% from P\$11 million in 2013 and an increase of 38% in 2013 from P\$8 million in 2012.

Other Operating Expenses

Other operating expenses include accrued expenses such as costs associated with the provision of transportation costs, insurance, energy and costs of site leases.

Other operating expenses increased 56% to P\$86 million in 2014 and increased 57% in 2013 from P\$35 million in 2012.

### Operating Income before depreciation and amortization

Operating income before depreciation and amortization was P\$578 million in 2014, P\$427 million in 2013 and P\$331 million in 2012, representing 36%, 37% and 38% of total revenues, respectively. Operating income before depreciation and amortization was P\$331 million in 2012, representing 38% of total revenues in that year. The increase was mainly due to growth in service revenues, partially offset by increases in costs, such as employee benefit expenses, fees for services and maintenance, materials and supplies, cost of handsets and commissions.

### Depreciation of PP&E and Amortization of Intangible Assets

During 2014, depreciation of PP&E and amortization of intangible assets increased 61% to P\$363 million from P\$226 million in 2013. During 2013, depreciation of PP&E and amortization of intangible assets increased 44% from P\$157 million in 2012 The increase was the result of higher investment in PP&E and intangible assets, partially offset by a reduction in the level of depreciation due to the end of the amortization period for certain assets.

### **Operating Income**

In 2014, our operating income from the Núcleo Mobile Services segment was P\$215 million, representing an increase of 6% from P\$202 million in 2013, which represent 14% and 17% of total revenues for this segment in 2014 and 2013, respectively. In 2012, our operating income was P\$174 million, representing 20% of total revenues for this segment.

The following table shows our operating income from the Núcleo Mobile Services segment in 2014, 2013 and 2012 and its percentage of total revenues in each year:

	Years Ended December 31,			% of Change		
	2014	2013 (P\$ million / %)	2012	2014-2013 Increase / (De	2013-2012 ecrease)	
Operating income before depreciation and						
amortization (1)	578	427	331	35	29	
As % of total revenues	36	37	38			
Depreciation and amortization	(363)	(226)	(157)	61	44	
As % of total revenues	(23)	(19)	(18)			
Gain on disposal of PP&E		1		(100)	n/a	
Operating income	215	202	174	6	16	
As % of total revenues	14	17	20			

(1) Although it is not specifically defined, this is a permitted measure under IFRS. See Management Overview above for a discussion of the use of this measure.

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#### Financial results, net

During 2014, the Núcleo Mobile Services segment recorded a net financial loss of P\$22 million, compared to a net financial loss of P\$19 million in 2013 and P\$9 million in 2012. The increase in the loss in 2014 was mainly due to higher interest on financial debt partially offset by higher interest on Accounts Receivables. The increase in the loss in 2013 was mainly due to higher interest on financial debt and higher exchange differences.

#### **Income Tax Expense**

During 2014, our Núcleo Mobile Services segment recorded an income tax expense of P\$22 million compared to P\$23 million in 2013. The income tax expense in 2014 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense amounting to P\$25 million partially offset by the gain generated by the deferred tax on the temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations according to tax versus financial accounting criteria amounting to P\$3 million.

During 2013, our Núcleo Mobile Services segment recorded an income tax expense of P\$23 million compared to P\$20 million in 2012. The income tax expense in 2013 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense amounting to P\$24 million partially offset by the gain generated by the deferred tax on the temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations according to tax versus financial accounting criteria amounting to P\$1 million.

During 2012, our Núcleo Mobile Services segment recorded an income tax expense of P\$20 million. The income tax expense in 2012 was mainly attributable to the recognition of current income tax expense amounting to P\$23 million partially offset by the gain generated by the deferred tax on the temporary differences arising out of the asset and liability valuations according to tax versus financial accounting criteria amounting to P\$3 million.

#### Net Income

During 2014, our Núcleo Mobile Services segment reported net income of P\$171 million as compared to P\$160 million during 2013, representing 11% and 14% of total revenues in 2014 and 2013, respectively. In 2012, our net income was P\$145 million, representing 17% of total revenues. The increase in net income was mainly due to higher operating income partially offset by the higher financial losses.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

#### Sources and Uses of Funds

We expect that the principal source of Telecom Argentina s liquidity in the near term will be cash flows from Telecom Argentina s operations and the dividends that Personal may pay to it. Telecom Argentina s principal uses of cash flows are expected to be for capital expenditures and operating expenses and retributions to its shareholders. Telecom Argentina expects working capital, funds generated from operations and dividends payments from its subsidiaries to be sufficient for its present requirements.

We expect that the principal source of Personal s liquidity in the near term will be cash flows from operations, dividends that Núcleo may pay to it and cash flow from financing from third parties. During 2014, Personal's working capital was impacted by 3G/4G licenses acquisitions. Personal may need to raise additional funds to support the extra capex program including the acquisitions of the remaining licenses. Consequently, Personal s principal uses of cash flows are expected to be for capital expenditures, operating expenses and dividend payments to its shareholders. In case Personal may need additional funds, it expects to use the banks credit lines as well as the Medium-Term Notes Global Program mentioned below.

The Ordinary and Extraordinary Shareholders Meeting of Telecom Argentina held on December 15, 2011, approved the creation of a Medium-Term Notes Global Program for a maximum outstanding amount of US\$500 million or its equivalent in other currencies for a term of five years.

The Ordinary and Extraordinary Shareholders Meeting of Personal held on December 2, 2010, approved the creation of a Medium-Term Notes Global Program for a maximum outstanding amount of US\$500 million or its equivalent in other currencies for a term of five years. On October 13, 2011, the CNV approved this program.

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The table below summarizes, for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, Telecom s consolidated cash flows:

	2014	Years Ended December 31, 2013 (P\$ million)	2012
Cash flows from operating activities	5,721	6,981	5,029
Cash flows used in investing activities	(9,426)	(3,821)	(3,945)
Cash flows used in financing activities	(1,340)	(1,407)	(859)
Net foreign exchange differences on cash and cash equivalents	505	311	117
(Decrease)/Increase in cash and cash equivalents	(4,540)	2,064	342
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	5,224	3,160	2,818
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	684	5,224	3,160

As of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, we had P\$684 million (net of bank overdrafts of P\$141 million), P\$5,224 million and P\$3,160 million in cash and cash equivalents, respectively.

*Cash flows from operating activities* were P\$5,721 million, P\$6,981 million and P\$5,029 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The decrease of P\$1,260 million in 2014 vs. 2013 was mainly due to an increase in the payments for the acquisition of goods and services and for the acquisition of inventories, salaries and social security and taxes and fees with the regulatory authority partially offset by an increase in the collection of trade receivables, resulting from an increase in revenues. The increase of P\$1,952 million in 2013 vs. 2012 was mainly due to an increase in the collection of trade receivables, resulting from an increase in revenues.

Additional information on the breakdown of the net cash flow provided by operating activities is given below:

	2014	Years ended December 3 2013 (P\$ million)	1, 2012
<u>Collections</u>			
Collections from customers	34,367	28,375	22,902
Interests from customers	160	124	90
Interests from time deposits	400	584	310
CPP collections	668	690	623
NDF	84	13	4
Subto	tal 35,679	29,786	23,929
Payments			
For the acquisition of goods and services and others	(8,827)	(6,788)	(5,812)
For the acquisition of inventories	(4,167)	(3,166)	(2,326)
Salaries and social security payables and severance payments	(5,136)	(3,972)	(3,187)
NDF	(53)		(1)
CPP payments	(1,616)	(1,315)	(1,130)
Income taxes	(2,277)	(1,609)	(1,647)
Other taxes and taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority	(7,074)	(5,617)	(4,671)
	(808)	(338)	(126)

Foreign currency exchange differences related to the payments to suppliers

	Net cash flow provided by operating activities	5,721	6,981	5,029
	Subtotal	(29,958)	(22,805)	(18,900)
Other suppliers		(154)	(63)	(19)
PP&E suppliers		(311)	(106)	(28)
Inventory suppliers		(343)	(169)	(79)
suppliers				

*Cash flows used in investing activities* were P\$9,426 million, P\$3,821 million and P\$3,945 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The increase of P\$5,605 million in 2014 was mainly due to an increase in capital expenditures, which included acquisition of 3G and 4G licenses for P\$3,091 million.

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The decrease of P\$124 million in 2013 was mainly due to a proceed from investments not considered as cash and cash equivalents, partially offset by higher payments for the acquisition of PP&E.

*Cash flows used in financing activities* were P\$1,340 million, P\$1,407 million and P\$859 million in 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. The decrease in 2014 of P\$67 million was mainly due to the acquisition of treasury shares in 2013 of P\$461 million partially offset by a higher payment of dividends and related withholding tax of P\$318 million. The increase in 2013 of P\$548 million was mainly due to the acquisition of treasury shares of P\$461 million in 2013 and a higher payment of dividends and related withholding tax of P\$318 million.

### **Debt Obligations and Debt Service Requirements**

Non-Deliverable Forward ( NDF ) Agreements to Purchase U.S. Dollars at Fixed Rates

During 2014 Personal entered into several NDF agreements to purchase a total amount of US\$ 282 million (of which US\$133 million matured between March and December 2014 and the remaining US\$149 million will mature between January 2015 and March 2015). The purpose of these NDF agreements was to eliminate the risks associated to the fluctuation of the future exchange rate and to align the payment currency of Personal s commercial commitments (hedged item) to its functional currency.

Personal s Management has considered the documentation requirements, the effectiveness assessment and the possibility to designate partial hedges, as permitted by IFRS 9 concluding that certain documentation requirements and the effectiveness assessment have not been met. As the effect of the fluctuation of the exchange rate over the hedged items is recognized in the Income Statement, changes in the fair value of NDF agreements (net loss of approximately P\$97 million) have also been recognized in the Income Statements, within Finance income and expenses NDF agreements. Personal recognizes the NDF agreements results, distinguishing between gains and losses of such agreements that generate assets and liabilities, as appropriate, without offsetting balances with different counterparties. As of December 31, 2014, Personal has a current liability of P\$90 million related to the US\$149 million NDF agreement remaining to such date.

In addition, during 2014, Personal entered into an NDF agreement for US\$ 8 million maturing in October and November 2014 to hedge commercial debts for PP&E acquisition, which were qualified as effective cash flow hedges for accounting purposes.

Also, in order to mitigate the currency risk Personal acquired in 2014 Government bonds denominated in U.S. dollars. Foreign exchange differences generated by the purchase of these government bonds were recognized in Foreign currency exchange losses.

During 2013 Personal entered into several NDF agreements to purchase a total amount of US\$182 million maturing December 2013 and in the first quarter of 2014. The purpose of these NDF agreements was to eliminate the risks associated to the fluctuation of the exchange rate and to align the payment currency of Personal s commercial commitments (hedged item) to its functional currency. These NDF agreements were regarded as cash flow hedge, for which the effectiveness requirements were not complied. As of December 31, 2013, changes in fair value of these instruments represented a gain of approximately P\$55 million, which were recognized in Financial results. As of December 31, 2013, about P\$13 million were collected and P\$42 million were uncollected.

Also, in order to mitigate the currency risk Personal acquired in 2013 Government bonds denominated in U.S. dollars. Foreign exchange differences generated by the purchase of these Government bonds were recognized in Foreign currency exchange losses.

Indebtedness of Subsidiaries

*Telecom Personal.* As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Personal s outstanding debt is denominated in Argentine Pesos and amounted to approximately P\$141 million. Additional information is set forth in Note 12 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

*Núcleo*. As of December 31, 2014, Núcleo s outstanding debt is denominated in Guaraníes and amounted to approximately P\$292 million. Additional information is set forth in Note 12 to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

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#### Liquidity

The liquidity position for each of Telecom Argentina, Personal and Núcleo is and will be significantly dependent on each individual company s operating performance, its indebtedness, capital expenditure programs and receipt of dividends, from its subsidiaries, if any.

We expect that our cash flow from operations will be sufficient to permit Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries to satisfy their respective indebtedness and other cash requirements in the near to medium term.

Our ability to generate sufficient cash from our operations in order to satisfy our indebtedness and capital expenditure needs may be affected by macroeconomic factors influencing our business, including, without limitation: the exchange rate of Argentine Pesos to U.S. dollars; rates of inflation; and the achievement of ultimate rates adjustments for regulated services in the Fixed Services segment, among others. These factors are not within our control. The statements expressed in the preceding paragraphs constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and involve risks and uncertainties, including those described in this Annual Report in Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors. Actual results may differ materially from our expectations described above as a result of various factors.

Under the LSC, the by-laws of the Company and rules and regulations of the CNV, a minimum of 5% of net income for the year in accordance with the statutory books, plus/less previous years adjustments and accumulated losses, if any, must be appropriated by resolution of the shareholders to a legal reserve until such reserve reaches 20% of the outstanding capital (common stock plus inflation adjustment of common stock). According to LSC and regulations of the CNV, on May 21, 2014, Telecom Argentina reached the maximum level of legal reserve.

In addition, the Company s Ordinary Shareholders Meeting held on April 29, 2014, approved, in its second tranche of deliberations held on May 21, 2014, the payment of cash dividends in two equal installments of P\$601 million between the outstanding shares. The first installment was made available to shareholders on June 10, 2014. The Company s Board of Directors, at its meeting held on September 9, 2014, approved the payment of the second installment of cash dividends amounting to P\$601 million as from September 22, 2014. The amount paid includes: (i) income tax withholdings on dividends paid to shareholders in the amount of P\$11 million (in each installment) and (ii) tax on personal property on behalf of shareholders withholdings in the amount of P\$10 million (in the first installment).

Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors, at their meeting held on March 17, 2015, called a shareholders meeting to be held on April 29, 2015, to consider among other issues the allocation of Telecom Argentina s retained earnings as of December 31, 2014 (P\$3,673 million) suggested by the Board of Directors as follows: (i) P\$804 million (P\$0.83 per outstanding share) for distribution as cash dividends to be paid on May 11, 2015; (ii) P\$2,869 million to the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends ; and (iii) the delegation of authority to the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina to determine the allocation, depending on the performance of the business, in one or more installments, of an amount up to P\$649 million of the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends and its distribution to the shareholders as cash dividends, during fiscal year 2015.

As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina and its consolidated subsidiaries had approximately P\$684 million in cash and cash equivalents, net of P\$141 million of bank overdrafts. Of this amount, approximately P\$201 million of cash and cash equivalents was held by Telecom Argentina on a stand-alone basis. Telecom Group has approximately P\$49 million of restricted cash in connection with legal proceedings. Such restricted cash has been classified as Other Receivables, net on our balance sheet.

### Capital Expenditures

We estimate that our capital expenditures for the year 2015 will be approximately 19% of consolidated revenues. In case Telecom Personal is awarded the remaining frequency bands of the Spectrum Public Auction, we believe that there will be an additional investment of approximately US\$247 million. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 *Spectrum*.

Following the strategy of previous years, in the Mobile Services Segment, capital expenditures were mainly focused towards the extension of the coverage and capacity of the mobile network in numerous cities of Argentina, an objective that was reached mainly by means of the implementation of

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new sites, replacement plans and network upgrade for the activation of new carriers and the deployment of radio bases with 6 sectors. On the other hand, capital expenditures continued in the core of the mobile network. On its part, and as it was mentioned in Item 4 Information on the Company The Business Personal Services and Núcleo Mobile Services Mobile Telecommunication Services in Argentina Personal , in the last two-month period of 2014 the deployment of the LTE technology was started and we expect to continue its gradual deployments for next few years. In addition, we expect the awarding of the frequency bands for the SCMA Services forming Lot 8 partially awarded to Personal by means of SC Resolution No. 83/2014 to be completed. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014 *Spectrum*.

In the Fixed Services segment, as regards Access, the investment continued for shortening the loop, replacing posts and supplying the demand in companies, neighborhoods and buildings. As to transport, the focus was set on increasing the capacity and on the securitization of the Backbone IP ( BBIP ), on the extension of the network and on improving the bandwidth available for the mobile operators (Mobile *Backhaul*).

See Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors Risks associated with Telecom and its Operations We operate in a competitive environment that may result in a reduction in our market share in the future. We expect to finance our capital expenditures through cash generated through our operations, cash on hand and financing from third parties; therefore, our ability to fund these expenditures is dependent on, among other factors, our ability to generate sufficient funds internally. Telecom Argentina s ability to generate sufficient funds for capital expenditures is also dependent on its ability to increase its regulated rates, since the cost of imported materials may increase in peso terms (as a result of the decline in the peso/U.S. dollar exchange rate and higher inflation).

#### **Related Party Transactions**

During 2014, we entered into certain transactions with our indirect shareholders Telecom Italia and W de Argentina Inversiones or their affiliates in the ordinary course of business. For a description of these transactions see Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Related Party Transactions.

Taxes

Turnover Tax

Under Argentine tax law, Telecom is subject to a tax levied on gross revenues. Rates differ depending on the jurisdiction where revenues are earned for tax purposes. Rates in effect ranged from 2.5% to 8.0% for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, depending on the jurisdiction or goods and services subject to the tax.

Income Tax

Our income tax rate is currently 35% of net taxable income for the companies located in Argentina, 10% for Núcleo and Envíos and 39.5% (34% Federal Tax and 5.5% State Florida Tax) for Telecom Argentina USA. The amount of income subject to tax is calculated according to tax regulations which contain a different methodology for calculating net taxable income than the methodology used for the preparation of our Consolidated Financial Statements under IFRS. The differences between the methodology of computing income under the tax regulations and under IFRS make it difficult to determine the taxable net income from our income statements. For instance, some deductions from income normally accepted for accounting purposes are not deductible and, accordingly, must be added back to income for tax purposes.

Prior to September 23, 2013, cash dividends, property or capital stock of Telecom Argentina were, in general, exempt from Argentine withholding tax and other taxes. As of September 23, 2013 dividend distributions and gains derived from transfers of stocks of Argentine companies are subject to income tax. See Item 10 Additional Information Taxation Argentine Taxes.

Additionally, under Argentine Income Tax Law, a corporation that makes a distribution of dividends to its shareholders in excess of the amount of its accumulated net taxable income at the close of the previous taxable year, as determined by application of the Argentine Income Tax Law, shall have to withhold a 35% tax from such excess. This withholding income tax is known as the equalization tax. See Item 10 Additional Information Taxation Argentine Taxes Taxation of Dividends.

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Tax on cash dividends received from a foreign subsidiary is calculated according to the statutory income tax rate. As per Paraguayan tax law, an additional income tax rate of 5% is imposed on dividends that are paid by a Paraguayan company. Additionally, under such law, when dividends are being paid to foreign shareholders, there is an additional income tax rate of 15%, which is deducted from the amounts which are paid to such shareholders. As per Argentine tax law, income tax paid abroad is recognized as tax credit.

Net losses can generally be carried forward and applied against future taxable income for five years.

Thin Capitalization Rules

Argentine Law No. 25,784, modified the limitation on the deduction of interest expense by stating that the limit will only be applied to interest expense on debt owed to non-resident entities that control the borrowing entity (except for interest expense subject to the 35% withholding tax) in proportion to the amount of debt that exceeds by two times the company s equity, and the excess of interest over this ratio will be treated as dividend payments. During fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, Telecom s deduction of interest expenses was not limited because Telecom was able to meet the conditions required for such deduction.

Tax on Minimum Presumed Income

Our companies located in Argentina are required to pay an amount equal to the greater of the income tax or the tax on minimum presumed income. The tax on minimum presumed income is computed based on 1% of the value of our assets. The value of our assets is determined in accordance with the criteria established under the tax laws. The amount of any income tax paid during the year may be applied against the tax on minimum presumed income that would be payable in such year. The amount of any tax on minimum presumed income paid in excess of the income tax for such year may be carried forward for a period of up to ten years. This excess may be treated as a credit to be applied against the income tax payable in a future year to the extent the tax on minimum presumed income for the year does not exceed income tax payable for such future year. During fiscal years 2014, 2013 and 2012, income tax was higher than tax on minimum presumed income. Shares and other equity participations in companies subject to the tax on minimum presumed income are exempt from the tax on minimum presumed income.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

VAT does not have a direct impact on our results of operations. VAT paid by us to our suppliers is applied as a credit toward the amount of VAT charged by Telecom to its customers and the net amount is passed through to the Argentine government. VAT rates are 21%, 27% and 10.5%, depending on the type of the transaction and tax status of the customer.

The import of services (including financial services) by Argentine VAT taxpayers registered for VAT purposes, or *responsables inscriptos*, such as the Company, is subject to VAT. In the case of loans, if the lender is a bank or a financial entity located in a country whose central bank has adopted the Banking Supervision Standards of the Basel Committee, the rate is 10.5%. If the foreign lender is one other than those mentioned above, the rate is 21%.

The burden of paying VAT is borne by the Argentine taxpayer.

Tax on Deposits to and Withdrawals from Bank Accounts

The tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts under Law No. 21,526 applies to certain deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts with Argentine financial institutions and to other transactions that, due to their special nature and characteristics, are similar or could be used in lieu of a deposit to or withdrawal from a bank account. Therefore, any deposit to or withdrawal from a bank account opened in an institution regulated by Law No. 21,526, or any transaction deemed to be used in lieu of a deposit to or withdrawal from a bank account, is subject to the tax on deposits and withdrawals unless a particular exemption is applicable. The tax rate in effect since August 1, 2001 has been 0.6% of the transaction volume.

During 2014, 2013 and 2012, we charged to our income statement P\$343 million, P\$258 million and P\$216 million, respectively, of this tax.

On February 6, 2003, the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance, through General Resolution No. 72/03, authorized us to increase the Basic Telephone Services rates by the amount of the tax on

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deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts as provided for in General Resolution No. 72/03. The amount of the tax charged must be shown in detail on the customers bills. The amounts charged before General Resolution No. 72/03 were approximately P\$23 million. This amount was subsequently corroborated by CNC audits, resulting in a receivable for the Company for P\$23 million which was recorded under Other receivables during 2007. That receivable can be offset with existing and/or future regulatory duties. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Rates Rate Regulations Tax on Deposit to and Withdrawals from Bank Accounts (IDC).

Decree No. 534/2004 provides that owners of bank accounts subject to the general tax rate of 0.6% may take into account as a tax credit 34% of the tax originated in credits on such bank accounts. This amount may be computed as a credit for the Income Tax and Tax on Minimum Presumed Income. The amount computed as a credit is not deductible for income tax purposes.

#### Tax on Personal Property

Argentine Law No. 25,585, as amended by Law No. 26,317, imposes a tax on shares of stock corporations, such as Telecom Argentina s ADSs and the Class A, B and C Shares. See Item 10 Additional Information Taxation Argentine Taxes Tax on Personal Property.

The tax rate applied is 0.50%. This tax is computed based on the value of the shareholders equity as stated on the most recent annual balance sheet of Telecom Argentina. Although Telecom Argentina is required to pay this tax on behalf of the holders of its ADSs, Class A, B and C Shares, it has the right to obtain reimbursement of the amounts paid from its shareholders, even if this requires holding and/or foreclosing the property on which the tax is due. As a result, until shareholders reimburse Telecom Argentina for the amounts paid on their behalf, the payment of this tax constitutes a receivable for Telecom Argentina.

Telecom Argentina has, from time to time, requested that its shareholders reimburse the amounts of tax on personal property paid on their behalf and has received partial reimbursement of such taxes. The amount paid by Telecom Argentina and pending collection from its shareholders as of December 31, 2014, was approximately P\$30 million, of which P\$18 million are included in the allowance for doubtful accounts, based on the recoverability assessment made by Telecom Argentina. Whenever applicable, tax on personal property paid on behalf of Telecom Argentina s shareholders is deducted from the cash dividend payment.

Other Taxes and Levies

We are subject to a levy of 0.5% of our monthly revenues from telecommunications services. The proceeds of this levy are used to finance the activities of the Regulatory Bodies. The amount of this levy is included in our consolidated income statement within Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority.

Law No. 25,239 imposes a tax on Personal of 4% (tax on mobile and satellite services) of amounts invoiced excluding VAT but including the excise tax, which results in an effective tax rate of up to 4.167%.

Law No. 26,539 amends the excise tax and establishes that the importation and sale of technological and computer goods, including mobile phones, is subject to the excise tax at a rate of 17%, resulting in an effective tax rate of up to 20.48%, effective from December 1, 2009.

Since the beginning of 2001, telecommunication services companies have been required to pay a Universal Service tax to fund Universal Service requirements. The Universal Service tax is calculated as a percentage of the total revenues received from the rendering of telecommunication services, net of taxes and levies applied on such revenues, excluding the Universal Service tax. The rate is 1% of total billed revenues. See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Liberalization of the Argentine Telecommunications Industry Decree No. 764/00.

Law No. 26,573, which was regulated in 2010, imposes a levy of 1% of the monthly revenues from telecommunication services, excluding prepaid services, which must be collected from the customers. The proceeds of this levy are used to finance the activities of the Ente Nacional de Alto Rendimiento Deportivo ENARD (National Board of High Performance Sport).

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Research and Development, Patents and Licenses, etc.

None.

### **Trend Information**

In 2014 we consolidated our position in each of our business segments. In particular, we highlight the following:

• An expansion of Internet accesses reaching approximately 1.8 million (equivalent to 43% of fixed line in services) and a slight decrease in the number of mobile subscribers reaching 19.6 million. Otherwise, the number of fixed lines in service reached 4.1 million at the end of the year. As a result, our consolidated revenues increased by 22% reaching P\$33,341 million. Our consolidated service revenues represented 85% of consolidated revenues and grew by 18% as compared to 2013.

• Our capital expenditures amounted to P\$8,957 million in 2014, equivalent to 27% of consolidated revenues. These investments consisted of 25% for Fixed Services segment, 71% for Personal Mobile Services and 4% for Núcleo Mobile Services.

• An improvement in economic results as compared to 2013: +20% in operating income and +15% in net income. The return on Shareholders Equity at the beginning of the year was 31% annually.

In 2014, the capacity to generate operating cash flow has made it possible to increase the level of capital expenditures, holding an active financial position at consolidated level, even after distributing dividends for P\$1,202 million to the Telecom Argentina shareholders and acquiring new Licenses to offer mobile services in 3G and 4G technologies for P\$3,530 million.

In 2015, we expect evolution of the fixed services segment to continue in line with the trend experienced over the past years and shall be influenced by the level of maturity of the market with focus on increasing the value of the customers base. In the Broadband business, Arnet continued capturing the growth opportunities the market offers, extending the offer of services with higher speeds and with proposals of overall integrated offers for customers (Internet, the fixed services segment and cellular mobile calls).

As regards pricing in the Fixed Services segment, we will continue the proceedings before the national authorities in the light of the new rules proposed by the LAD to reach the readjustment of the prices of the regulated services, and with them, of the economic-financial equation of Telecom Argentina. The growing pressures over the cost structure of the Company and our investment plans emphasize this need.

During the 2015 fiscal year, we expect that the leadership strengths of Personal will consolidate by means of new added value added services especially in mobile broadband, based on the deployment of the new 4G networks which multiply tenfold the speed of mobile Internet. In this way, as the LTE technology infrastructure deploys on a national level, we expect our customers to increase their access to content, among others, of the Personal Play platform (music, games and videos), the latter being one of the highest factors for revenue growth.

At the same time, and following our commitment with quality, we expect to continue working to optimize the experience of our customers who use the 3G/HSPA+ network, by means of improvements in the network infrastructure made possible as from December 2014 with the acquisition of additional spectrum. In this way, the third generation services will also expand, continuing with the technological reconversion and extension of the capacity of our network.

The infrastructure improvements and the availability of a wide portfolio of advanced devices within the offer will continue to be drivers of higher revenues based on innovative and convenient commercial proposals for those who choose us as mobile operator. This assumes favorable conditions for the importation and financing of 4G handsets and other devices by the Company and its suppliers.

At the same time, we shall continue leveraging the commercial strategy and the brand position with the concept Each Person is a World (*Cada persona es un mundo*), offering our customers a wide diversity of options they can choose from according to their communication and connection

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needs, with special focus on the young segment, the social networks strategy and the association of the brand with music, by means of the development of large festivals.

Customer service quality will continue to be significantly emphasized by means of improvements and by strengthening effectiveness in the contacts strategy both in person and by telephone and through the digital platform. We will strive to continue to improve self-management channels, since customer service management is becoming simpler and simpler for our customers.

It is foreseen that the expansion in volume of the subscribers base will develop at lower rates due to the level of maturity and the high penetration of mobile services in the market. Nevertheless, the development of new business niches such as the Machine to Machine (M2M) services is expected.

The strategy implemented by the Company s Management described in this Annual Report lays out the basic necessary fundamentals for the Telecom Group to pursue its objectives of continuous improvement of the quality of service, to strengthen its market position and to improve its operating efficiency in order to satisfy the growing needs of the dynamic telecommunications market. Our important plans of investment are based on this forward-looking vision and on the commitment of the Telecom Group with our country and its people.

#### **Contractual Obligations**

Our consolidated contractual obligations and purchase commitments as of December 31, 2014 were as follows:

	Less than			More than	
	1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years	Total
	(in millions of Argentine Pesos)				
Debt obligations (1)	198	200	95		493
Operating lease obligations	501	503	222	46	1,272
Purchase obligations (2)	2,296	128	96	190	2,710
Other long-term liabilities (3)	122	106	51	80	359
Total	3,117	937	464	316	4,834

(1) Includes P\$60 million of future interest.

- (2) Other than operating lease obligations.
- (3) Includes voluntary retirement program, pension benefits and other long-term payables

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

None.

Safe Harbor

See the discussion at the beginning of this Item 5 and Forward-Looking Statements in the introduction of this Annual Report, for forward-looking statement safe harbor provisions.

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ITEM 6.

### DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

#### The Board of Directors

Management of the business of the Telecom Group is vested in the Board of Directors. Telecom Argentina s bylaws provide for a Board of Directors consisting of no fewer than three and no more than eleven directors and up to the same or a lower number of alternate directors. As of the date of this Annual Report, Telecom Argentina has eleven directors and ten alternate directors. Six of the directors and six of the alternate directors qualify as independent directors under SEC regulations. Five of the directors and five of the alternate directors also qualify as independent directors under SEC regulations. Five of the directors and five of the alternate directors also qualify as independent directors under SEC regulations. Five of the directors and five of the alternate directors has all of the required authority to administer the corporation, including those for which the law requires special powers. The Board operates with a quorum of the absolute majority of its members and resolves issues by simple majority of votes present. According to Telecom Argentina s bylaws, the Chairman has a double vote in the case of a tie. Under CNV regulation, in order to be independent, a director must neither be employed by, nor affiliated with, Telecom Argentina, Nortel, Sofora, the Telecom Italia Group or W de Argentina Inversiones. Directors and alternate directors are normally elected at annual ordinary general meetings of the shareholders and serve a renewable three year term.

Because a majority of shares are owned by Nortel, Nortel as a practical matter may have the ability to elect the majority of directors and alternate directors. In the absence of a director, the corresponding alternate director may attend and vote at meetings of the Board of Directors.

See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Shareholders Agreement for a description of certain agreements relating to the appointment of members of the Board of Directors.

The following table lists the directors and alternate directors of Telecom Argentina as of December 31, 2014 and, otherwise mentioned, as of the date of this Annual Report:

N	D. W.	Date Director became a
Name	Position	Member of the Board
Enrique Garrido (1)	Chairman of the Board of Directors	April 27, 2007
Gerardo Werthein	Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors	December 19, 2003
Andrea Mangoni	Director	November 30, 2010
Gianfranco Ciccarella (2)	Director	April 23, 2013
Francesca Petralia	Director	April 23, 2013
Piergiorgio Peluso	Director	April 23, 2013
Enrique Llerena	Director	April 23, 2013
Esteban Gabriel Macek	Director	April 27, 2007
Federico Horacio Gosman	Director	April 23, 2013
Esteban Santa Cruz	Director	November 30, 2010
Mariana Laura Gonzalez	Director	April 23, 2013
Aldo Raúl Bruzoni	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013
Jorge Alberto Firpo	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013
Lorenzo Canu	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013
Jorge Luis Pérez Alati	Alternate Director	November 30, 2010
María Virginia Genovés	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013

Eduardo Federico Bauer	Alternate Director	April 27, 2007
Pablo Alberto Gutierrez	Alternate Director	November 30, 2010
Eduardo Pablo Guillermo Setti	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013
Juan Massolo	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013
Verónica Daniela Alvarez	Alternate Director	April 23, 2013

(1) On April 16, 2015, the Board of Directors accepted Mr. Enrique Garrido s resignation as Chairman and member of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina, and appointed Mr. Oscar Carlos Cristianci to replace him.

(2) On December 9, 2013 Gianfranco Ciccarella, former alternate director, was appointed director by the Board of Directors, replacing Patricio Graziani who had resigned.

*Oscar Carlos Cristianci* is a public accountant. He worked at Grupo Pirelli since 1968, and in 1985 he was appointed as a General Director of Pirelli Neumáticos en Argentina. In 1993, he was appointed as Superintendent Director of Pirelli Pneus de Brasil and later assuming regional responsibility in Pirelli Neumáticos Latin America. In 1998, he was designated Vice General Director of Pirelli Neumáticos, responsible for the American continent and later, he served as Delegated Administrator of Pirelli Cavi Energia S.p.A. He later joined the Telecom Italia Group as Director for Latin America, and was in charge of Telecom Italia S.p.A. Argentine branch. In 2003, he joined the

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Telecom Group, and until fiscal year 2007, he served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sofora, Nortel and Telecom Personal. He was appointed Chairman and member of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina on April 16, 2015. He was born on September 27, 1942.

*Enrique Garrido* is a lawyer. He served as a director of Telecom Argentina during fiscal year 2007 and was appointed as Chairman of the Board of Directors on April 29, 2008. He was reelected Chairman of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina on November 30, 2010 and April 23, 2013. He was Director of Sofora until April 16, 2015. He is also a member of the Supervisory Committee of La Estrella S.A. Compañía de Seguros de Retiro. He was born on June 7, 1937.

*Gerardo Werthein* is a veterinarian. He was director of Personal since December 2003 until April 10, 2013. Since that date he is alternate director of Personal. He is Chairman of Haras El Capricho S.A. and of Comité Olímpico Argentino. He is a member of the International Olympic Committee. He is Vice Chairman of Ente Nacional de Alto Rendimiento Deportivo and La Estrella S.A. Compañía de Seguros de Retiro. Also, until March 31, 2015, he was Chairman of Caja de Seguros S.A. and of La Caja de Seguros de Retiro S.A. He is a director of Gregorio, Numo y Noel Werthein S.A. and Los W S.A. Also, until March 31, 2015, he was a director in Caja de Ahorro y Seguro S.A. He was born on December 3, 1955.

*Andrea Mangoni* has been graduated from the University of Rome in 1988 with a thesis on valuation and private financing of investments in public infrastructures. Since March 2015 he is General Manager of Fincantieri; he is also member of the Board of Directors of Prelios S.p.A. and Fincantieri S.p.A. From July 2013 to March 2015, he worked in Sorgenia as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Previously, he has been Managing Director for South America of Telecom Italia from August 2012 to March 2013. Until August, 2012 he was responsible for Administration, Finance and Control and International Development in Telecom Italia. Mr. Mangoni joined the Telecom Italia Group on July 1, 2009, as Chairman of Telecom Italia Sparkle (from July 2009 to July 2010) and as Director of International Business at Telecom Italia S.p.A. From 1996 to March 2009 he worked in Acea, where he was appointed Chief Executive Officer in November 2003; from March 2003 to November 2003 he was General Manager of Acea; from June 2001 to February 2003, he was Chief Financial Officer, responsible for strategies, finance, budget, economic planning and control, investor relations of Acea; in 2002 he was appointed common representative of the Joint Venture among Acea, Electrabel and Energia Italiana which brought to the acquisition of Interpower, the third generation company sold by Enel; from January 2000 to May 2001 he was responsible of strategic planning; from 1996 to 1997 he was President Assistant, responsible for the transformation process of Acea from municipal company into share capital company. Mr. Mangoni worked for InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB). Mr. Mangoni was born in Terni, Italy on June 5, 1963.

*Gianfranco Ciccarella* holds a University Degree in Electrical Engineering and, at present, is responsible for Special Projects in the Operations Department in Telecom Italia S.p.A. Previously he held various positions in Telecom Italia S.p.A. as Vice President of several departments: Technical Support for the South America Region, Next Generation Access Networks and Partnerships in the Strategy Department (from April 2011 to February 2013), Technical Support in the Technology and Operations Department (from December 2009 to March 2011); Network and IT, Telecom Italia Sparkle. From 1998 to 2009 he was appointed to drive the design, deployment and operations of the Telecom Italia international network. Mr. Ciccarella is a member of the board of directors of a number of companies within the Telecom Italia Group. He was Director of the Post Graduate Training & Technical Department at the Scuola Superiore Guglielmo Reiss Romoli in L Aquila. He also carried out research and teaching activities in the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of L Aquila, as well as at New York Polytechnic University where he was Adjunct Associate Professor. Mr. Ciccarella was born in L Aquila, Italy, on January 30, 1952.

*Francesca Petralia* serves as at Telecom Italia S.p.A. as head of International Legal Affairs. Previously she was head of Corporate and Legal Affairs in South America (February 2013 to February 2014). After graduating in Law, she began her career in 1978 as in-house counsel in Fiat Auto S.p.A., Grandi Lavori S.p.A. and Selenia Industrie Elettroniche Associate S.p.A. She joined Telecom Italia S.p.A. in 1990, focusing on international legal affairs. From 2002 to 2011, she was head of Corporate Finance Legal Affairs within the Legal Department. Subsequently,

she acted as Group Compliance Officer until February 2013. Ms. Petralia is a member of the Board of Directors of the South American companies TIM Brasil Serviços e Participações S.A. and Sofora

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Telecomunicaciones S.A., as well as of the holding Telecom Italia International N.V. in The Netherlands. Mrs. Petralia was born in Bologna, Italy, on August 30, 1953.

*Piergiorgio Peluso.* Since September 26, 2012, Mr. Peluso has been Head of Administration, Finance and Control at Telecom Italia and on April 18, 2014 has been Manager Responsible for Preparing the Company s Financial Reports. After graduating with a degree in Economic and Social Sciences from the Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi in 1992, with a specialization in Finance, from 1992 to 1994 he held the position of experienced accountant at Arthur Andersen & Co. Following a period at Mediobanca as Senior Financial Analyst (1994-1998) and with Credit Suisse First Boston as Vice President of Financial Institutions Group (1998-2000) and Mergers & Acquisitions Group (2000-2001), in 2002 he joined Medio Credito Centrale S.p.A. (Capitalia Group) as Central Director Advisory Area. He retained this position until 2005, when he was appointed Central Director at Capitalia S.p.A. From 2007 to 2009, following the merger of Capitalia S.p.A. and UniCredit Group S.p.A., he was Head of Investment Banking Italy at UniCredit Group S.p.A. In 2009 he was appointed CEO of UniCredit Corporate Banking S.p.A. Following the merger of Fondiaria SAI S.p.A. He is a non-executive member of the Board of Directors of TIM Participacoes S.A. Telecom Italia Media S.p.A., Telecom Argentina S.A. and Fondazione Telecom Italia. Mr. Peluso was born in Rome on March 25, 1968.

*Enrique Llerena* is a lawyer with a degree from Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina Santa María de los Buenos Aires and holds a PhD at Paris University on D.E.S.S Diplomatie et Administration des Organizations Internationales. He is a Director and a member of the Supervisory Committees of Tradelog S.A. and an Alternate Director of SZ Consultores en Arte S.A. He was born on April 9, 1955.

*Esteban Gabriel Macek* is a public accountant. He is Chairman of Fiduciaria Internacional Argentina S.A. He is a director of Inmobiliaria Madero S.A. He is also an alternate member of the Supervisory Committees of Visa Argentina S.A. and Prisma S.A. He was born on November 8, 1960.

*Federico Horacio Gosman* is a director of Metrovías S.A. and Consultatio S.A. Presently, he is in charge of the Dirección Nacional de Empresas con participación del Estado (National Direction of Corporations with government participation), in the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. He served as assistant professor of *Historia del Pensamiento Económico* at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and he held research activities in the CEPLAD (Economic research institute of the Universidad de Buenos Aires). He worked as consultant in Rational Technologies and IBM. He was a member of the EDENOR Board of Directors. He graduated from the Universidad de Buenos Aires as an economist. He was born on May 19, 1983.

*Esteban Santa Cruz* holds a degree in Economics from the Universidad de Buenos Aires and a Masters Degree in Finance from the Universidad Di Tella. He is currently the Financial Director of the ANSES. He was Manager of Financial Asset Strategy at Fondo de Garantía de Sustentabilidad (FGS-ANSES). He previously worked at Banco Hipotecario and Asociart ART. He was born on August 20, 1979.

*Mariana Laura González* holds a degree in Economics and a Magister in Economics, both from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. Also, she has a Doctorate in Social Sciences from the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO). She is currently the Under-secretary of Economic Coordination and Improvement of Competitiveness of the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. She was born on February 13, 1976.

*Aldo Raúl Bruzoni* holds a degree in Business Administration. He is a director of Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A. since 2010 and an alternate director of Telecom Argentina and TGLT S.A. He also is the Director of the Corporate Governance Program at the Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina. He served as a director of Personal from 2008 up to 2010. He has held various executive roles in the Manufacturing, Finance, Marketing, and Sales sectors in different automotive companies such as General Motors, Ford, Volskwagen, and Renault. He was born on March 30, 1950.

*Jorge Alberto Firpo* is an electrical engineer and a graduate of the Universidad Tecnológica Nacional. Since 2005, he has served as a director in Telecom Group companies. Presently, he is an alternate director in Telecom Argentina and Personal and a director in Telecom Argentina USA. Also, he serves as an alternate director in Tierra Argentea S.A. Since 2001, he has worked as a South

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America Supplier Director in Telecom Italia Latam, Brasil. From 1977 until 2001, he had assumed different positions in Pirelli Cables in Brasil and Italia. He was professor in high school and in universities. He was born on April 17, 1954.

*Lorenzo Canu* holds a University Degree in Law. Since 1997 he has been in charge of management of corporate affairs of the international subsidiaries of the Telecom Italia Group, within the Legal Affairs Department of Telecom Italia S.p.A. Mr. Canu is a member of the Board of Directors of Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A., Nortel Inversora S.A. and Telecom Personal S.A. Mr. Canu was born in Rome, Italy, on January 30, 1963.

*Jorge Luis Pérez Alati* is a lawyer. He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of In Store Media Argentina S.A., Inversiones Alumine S.A., Inversiones Aluquina S.A., Inversiones Los Alpes S.A., Inversiones Meliquina S.A., ISDIN Argentina S.A., La Papelera del Plata S.A., Nogal Central S.A., Pilar del Este S.A., Alpe S.A.C.I.F.I.A. and Solcan S.A. He is Vice Chairman of TMLUC Argentina S.A., Puig Argentina S.A., Lan Argentina S.A. Naschel S.A., Forestal Timabuva S.A., Forestal Bosques del Plata S.A. and Inversora Cordillera S.A. He is a director of Aluflex S.A., Herbalife International Argentina S.A., Young & Rubicam S.A., Chipirón S.A., CMPC Inversiones de Argentina S.A., Cork Supply Argentina S.A., Fabi Bolsas Industriales S.A., Honda Motor de Argentina S.A., Inesa Argentina S.A., Inversiones Los Andes S.A., Ivax Argentina S.A., Media Planning S.A., Havas Sports Argentina S.A. Agora Asuntos Públicos S.A. and LDC Argentina S.A. and an alternate director of Avex S. A., Arbumasa S.A., Burson Marsteller S.A., Wunderman Cato Johnson S.A., Arena Argentina S.A., Co. Fru. Va S.A., Harvest S.A., Bodegas Caro S.A., Cerámica San Lorenzo I.C.S.A., Media Contacts Argentina S.A., Iroximia Havas Argentina S.A., Salfa Construcciones Trasandinas S.A, Marina Holding S.A., Navieras Americanas, S.A. and Telecom Argentina. He is a member of the Supervisory Committees of Banco Santander Río S.A., BRS Investment S.A., Distrilec Inversora S.A., IEdesur S.A., ISBAN Argentina S.A., Calyx Siembre S.A., Calyx Tierra S.A., Quickfood S.A., Santander Río Servicios S.A., Portal Universia Argentina S.A., Perevent Empresa de Servicios Eventuales S.A., Santander Río Seguros S.A., Santander Río Trust S.A., Santander Merchant S.A. and Santander Rio Sociedad de Bolsa S.A. He was born on September 14, 1954

*María Virginia Corina Genoves* is an accountant with a degree from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. She works as an external tax and accounting consultant for companies or individuals. Previously, she worked as an external auditor and as a consultant specializing in costs, taxes and process redesigning for optimization of resources. She developed budgets for a variety of market companies. She was born on June 11, 1964.

*Eduardo Federico Bauer* is a lawyer. He is Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Nortel and Micro Sistemas. He is a director of Sofora and an alternate director of Personal, La Caja Aseguradora de Riesgos del Trabajo ART S.A., La Caja de Seguros de Retiro S.A. and La Estrella S.A. Cía. de Seguros de Retiro. Until March 31, 2015 he was an alternate director of Caja de Seguros S.A., Ritenere S.A. and Pluria Productores de Seguros S.A. He was born on January 14, 1950.

*Pablo Alberto Gutiérrez* is a public accountant. He is an advisor for many companies. He is director of Fiduciaria Internacional Argentina S.A. He is Vice Chairman of CAFIDAP Cámara Argentina de Fideicomisos y Fondos de Inversión Directa en Actividades Productivas. He was born on January 4, 1968.

*Eduardo Pablo Guillermo Setti* holds a degree in Economics from the Universidad de la Empresa (UADE). Since February 2012, he is General Investment Director in *ANSES* Fondo de Garantía de Sustentabilidad- and had previously served as Strategy Financial Assets Director and Financial Consultant. He worked as Planning Director in the Ministry of Infrastructure of the Province of Buenos Aires and as Secretary of Production in the Secretaría de Desarrollo Económico y Producción of the Municipality of Zárate, Province of Buenos Aires. He is a director

of Pampa Energía S.A., Empresa Distribuidora y Comercializadora Norte S.A., Metrovías S.A. and Compañía de Transporte de Energía Eléctrica en Alta Tensión Transener S.A. He is an alternate director in Telecom Argentina and in Gas Natural Ban S.A. He was born on February 16, 1971.

*Juan Massolo* holds a degree in Economics from the Universidad de Buenos Aires and a Master s degree in Microfinance and Social Development from the Centro Internacional de Formación Financiera (CIFF)-Universidad de Alcalá. Presently, he is coordinator of Dirección Nacional de Empresas con participación del Estado (National Direction of Corporations with government participation) of the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. He is also a director of Metrovías S.A. and an alternate

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director of Grupo Concesionario del Oeste S.A. Previously, he worked at Accenture, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Instituto Nacional de Servicios Sociales para Jubilados y Pensionados (PAMI). He was also an assistant professor of economics at the Facultad de CIencias Económicas Universidad de Buenos Aires. He was born on December 3, 1982.

*Verónica Daniela Alvarez* holds a degree in Economics from the Universidad de Buenos Aires, she conducted activities of specialization in legislative budgets forming part of the working group responsible for managing the budget of the *Convención Constituyente Nacional* and the *Convención Constituyente* of the City of Buenos Aires. She was Chief of Budget Department before being Chief of Purchasing Department in the *Cámara de Diputados*. In the *Secretaría de Política Económica y Planificación del Desarrollo* of the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance, she worked as a consultant in management issues. Presently, she is the General Legal and Administrative Coordinator of the *Secretaría Legal y Administrativa* of the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. She is also a director in Ferrosur Roca and an alternate director in Telecom Argentina and in the Banco Hipotecario. She was born in September 21, 1964.

#### Senior Management

As of December 31, 2014, the Telecom Group s senior Management team includes the individuals listed below. Unless otherwise noted, these individuals are members of the Telecom Group s senior Management as of the date of this Annual Report.

Name	Position (1)	Date of Designation
Oscar Cicchetti (2)	Chief Executive Officer	September 2014
Anibal Gómez	Chief Operating Officer	February 2014
Adrián Calaza	Chief Financial Officer and Director of Procurement	February 2014
Marcelo E. Villegas	Director of Human Capital	August 2008
Alejandro D. Quiroga López	Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs	June 2011
Ricardo Luttini	Chief Audit Executive	April 2007
Máximo D. Lema	Director of Wholesale	June 2010
Paolo Perfetti	Director of Technology	November 2012
Mariano Cornejo	Director of Communications and Media	June 2007
Gerardo H. Maurer	Director of Corporate Security	November 2014

(1) The designation of Director does not imply that the officers mentioned above are members of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina, which is composed of the persons stated in the Directors, Senior Management and Employees The Board of Directors above. The terms of office of Telecom s Senior Management are contractual in nature. Such contracts do not include a specified expiration date.

(2) Stefano De Angelis served as CEO until September 9, 2014. Since that date and until March 4, 2015, Oscar Cicchetti acted as CEO. On March 4, 2015, Mr. Cicchetti was replaced by Elisabetta Ripa as CEO of the Telecom Argentina Group.

*Oscar Cicchetti* is Chairman and CEO of INWIT S.p.A.-Infrastrutture Wireless Italiane S.p.A. He joined Telecom Italia in 1979, and from 1979 to 1984 was responsible for Network Operations and then Head of Sales and Field Services in several regional organisations. In 1987 he moved to company headquarters in Rome, and from 1987 to 1993, was Head of Organisation and Processes in the Personnel Department. In 1993, he

was involved in a task force that managed the privatization process of the Telecom State-owned company and its subsequent integration into the Telecom Italia Group. From 1994 to 1997 he was Chief of Staff of the COO, and then of the CEO of the Telecom Italia Group. From 1997 to 2000 he held several key management positions in the Telecom Italia Group, such as Head of the International Business Unit, Head of Strategy, Head of the Network Division. In 2001 he left the Telecom Group and, as investor and CEO, managed the successful turnaround of Netscalibur. In 2007 he became Managing Director of the merged Company, Infracom Network Application S.p.A. He rejoined the Telecom Italia Group in January 2008, where he has covered a series of top management positions: Head of Business Strategies & International Development, Head of Domestic Market Operations, Head of Technology & Operations. From September 2014 to March 2015 he was CEO of the Telecom Argentina Group and Chairman of Telecom Personal. He is also member of the Board of Directors of TIM Participações S.A., and

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member of the Executive Committee of Confindustria Digitale. Mr. Cicchetti was born in Pizzoli, L'Aquila, Italy, in 1951.

*Elisabetta Ripa* holds a degree in Administration from the University of Roma La Sapienza, Italy and holds an Executive Master from the INSEAD, in Fontainebleau, France. She is a director and Chairman of Telecom Personal acting also as chairman of its Operating Committee, since March 4, 2015. She is CEO of the Telecom Group since March 4, 2015, and during 2013 she was CEO of Telecom Italia Sparkle S.p.A. From 2011 to 2013, she was a director in the Telecom Italia Business Unit of Mobile Services Consumption (TIM). From 2009 to 2011, she was Investor Relations Manager in diferent companies of the Telecom Italia Group (National Operations, TIM Brasil, TI Media). From 2007 to 2008, she was Executive Director of Marketing, Market and Partnership Development in Telecom Italia. From 2005 to 2006 she was Executive Director of Mobile Business Development and CEO Staff in Telecom Italia Mobile. From 2000 to 2002 she was Director of Planification and Control in Telecom Italia Mobile, in International Operations. From 1998 to 1990 she was Account Executive in Promedia Italia (an advertising agency). Ms. Ripa was born in Torino, Italy, on November 20, 1965.

Anibal R. Gomez holds a degree in Systems at CAECE University. In February 2014 he was appointed as C.O.O. at Telecom Argentina. Mr. Gomez joined Telecom Argentina in March 1994. During these years he held different positions, such as Commercial Manager, General Manager and Chairman of Núcleo in Paraguay, Marketing Director, Sales Director and Fixed Telephony Director at Telecom Argentina. He was born on December 26, 1964.

*Adrián Calaza* holds a degree in Business Administration from the Universidad de Belgrano and an MBA from the Universidad del CEMA. He was appointed Telecom Argentina s Chief Financial Officer in August 2009. Mr. Calaza joined the Telecom Italia Group in January 1999, where he held various positions such as Chief Financial Officer of Entel Bolivia, a subsidiary of the TI Group and as Corporate Chief Financial Officer of Telecom Italia Latam in Brazil. Mr. Calaza returned to Argentina in 2007 as Manager of the Corporate Administrative Services Department of the Telecom Group. He was born on March 8, 1967.

*Marcelo E. Villegas* is a lawyer. He joined Telecom Argentina in May 2008 as the Human Capital Director. He graduated from Universidad de Buenos Aires. Previously, he worked in the human resources department of the following companies: Wal-Mart Stores (International Division) for Wal-Mart Argentina, the Cencosud Group (Jumbo Retail Division) for the brands Jumbo, Disco and Vea, Hewitt & Aso (as head of talent Management and organizational change), the Perez Compane Group, Sade S.A., the Division of Exploration and Production of Gas and Oil in Latin America, the Suez Group, Aguas Provinciales de Santa Fe, Aguas Argentinas, Latin America Region and Ondeo de Puerto Rico Inc. In February 2015, he certified as Ontological Coach at ECORE (Escuela de Coaching Ontológico de Rafael Echeverría). He was born on March 13, 1963.

*Alejandro D. Quiroga Lopez* is a lawyer graduated from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. He joined Telecom Argentina in June 2011 as General Counsel. From 2010 to 2011, he was an associate at Curutchet-Odriozola Law Firm. From 2001 and until February 2010 he was general counsel and Secretary of the Board of Directors of YPF S.A. He was a partner at the law firm Nicholson & Cano from 1986 to 1997, a foreign associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell in 2000, and Undersecretary of Banking and Insurance at the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance of Argentina from 1997 to 1999. He was professor of banking and commercial law at the University of CEMA. He was a member of the Executive Board of the Universidad de Buenos Aires - School of Law. He is also a graduate of the Wharton Advanced Management Program. He was born on June 9, 1962.

*Ricardo Luttini* is an accountant. He joined Telecom in June 2005. He had previously served as Manager of Business Controls and Auditing for La Caja de Ahorro y Seguro S.A., General Manager of Banco Caja de Ahorro S.A., and General Accountant and Audit Manager at Banco Mercantil Argentino. He was born on September 27, 1961.

*Máximo D. Lema* is an engineer. Currently, he is the Director of the Wholesale Unit and Chairman of Telecom Argentina USA. He graduated from the Universidad de Mar del Plata (Argentina) and from Purdue University (Indiana USA) with a Master of Science and Ph.D., both in electrical engineering. He also holds an MBA from UCEMA (Universidad Centro Estudios Macroecónomicos Argentina). He joined Telecom Argentina in 1998 as Wholesale Marketing Director. He previously worked at Telintar

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S.A. (International Business Director), Entel S.A. (International Director) and Purdue University (Image Processing Research). He was born on October 6, 1956.

*Paolo Perfetti* holds a degree in Electronic Engineering at the University of Roma, La Sapienza. He was appointed Telecom Argentina Network Director in November 2012. Mr. Perfetti joined the Telecom Italia group in August 2000 after an experience in BT Italia Group. Since then he held various positions as director of Engineering and Operation Director contributing to the development of fixed and mobile broadband services. He was born on April 14, 1966.

*Mariano Cornejo* holds a degree in advertising. He joined Telecom in June 2007. Previously, he served for twelve years as General Manager in Marketing at La Caja de Ahorro y Seguro S.A. He was also Director of Brands for the Werthein Group for the same period. He was born on December 20, 1963.

*Gerardo Maurer* is an engineer graduated from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. He joined Telecom Argentina in August 2006 and since then he held various positions within Internal Audit and Corporate Security. In November 2014, he was appointed as Corporate Security Director. Previously, he worked at United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneve, Venezuela and Central America. He returned to Argentina in 1996 and joined the Audit Unit at La Caja de Ahorro y Seguro S.A. He was born on May 11, 1959.

#### **Supervisory Committee**

Argentine law requires that any corporation with share capital in excess of P\$10,000,000 or which provides a public service or which is listed on any stock exchange or is controlled by a corporation that fulfills any of the aforementioned requirements, to have a Supervisory Committee. The Supervisory Committee is responsible for overseeing Telecom Argentina s compliance with its bylaws and Argentine law and, without prejudice to the role of external auditors, is required to present a report on the accuracy of the financial information presented to the shareholders by the Board of Directors at the Annual Ordinary Shareholders Meeting. The members of the Supervisory Committee are also authorized:

- to call ordinary or extraordinary Shareholders Meetings;
- to place items on the agenda for meetings of shareholders;
- to attend meetings of shareholders; and
- generally to monitor the affairs of Telecom Argentina.

Telecom Argentina s bylaws provide that the Supervisory Committee is to be formed by three or five members and three or five alternate members, elected by the majority vote of all shareholders. Members of the Supervisory Committee are elected to serve one year terms and may be reelected.

The following table lists the members and alternate members of the Supervisory Committee as of December 31, 2014:

Name	Position	Profession
Evelina Leoní Sarrailh	Member of the Supervisory Committee	Lawyer
Gustavo Adrián E. Gené	Member of the Supervisory Committee	Accountant
Gerardo Prieto	Member of the Supervisory Committee	Accountant
Susana Margarita Chiaramoni	Member of the Supervisory Committee	Lawyer
Raúl Alberto Garré	Member of the Supervisory Committee	Accountant and Lawyer
Gonzalo F. Oliva Beltrán	Alternate Member of the Supervisory Committee	Lawyer
Alberto Gustavo Gonzalez	Alternate Member of the Supervisory Committee	Accountant
Jacqueline Berzón	Alternate Member of the Supervisory Committee	Lawyer
Guillermo Feldberg	Alternate Member of the Supervisory Committee	Accountant
Silvia A. Rodríguez	Alternate Member of the Supervisory Committee	Lawyer

*Evelina Leoní Sarrailh* is a lawyer with an extensive experience in the financial industry. She served as the Legal Director of the Group BBVA Banco Francés S.A. (1999-2010) and she had been the former Legal Director of the Group Deutsche Bank in Argentina. Evelina was the first woman President of the Bank s Lawyers Committee of the República Argentina. She has been serving as chairman of the Supervisory Committee of Telecom Argentina S.A since the fiscal year 2013 and she is a member of the Board of the Latin American Section of the AIDV, Asociación del Derecho de la Vid y el Vino. She was born on September 1, 1952.

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*Gustavo Adrián Enrique Gene* is a licensed public accountant and holds a degree in Administration and a Masters in Administration and Strategic Planning from the Universidad de Buenos Aires. He served as the Principal Accounting Officer of Edenor from 2006 to 2008. He previously served as Vice President of Strategic Planning from 1998 to 2002, and again from 2005 through May 2006. From 2002 to 2005, Mr. Gené was the Vice President of Planning and Control in the Regional Americas division of Electricité de France. He is a member of the Supervisory Committee of Telecom Argentina since April 2013. He was a member of the Supervisory Committee of Telecom Personal from April 2013 until April 15, 2015. Currently serves as Chief Financial Officer of Autopistas Urbanas S.A. He was born on December 23, 1955.

*Gerardo Prieto* is an accountant. He has been a member of the Supervisory Committee since 2004. He is also a member of the Supervisory Committees of Sofora, Nortel, Personal and Micro Sistemas. He is Chairman of Campofin S.A., Polifin S.A., La Caja Aseguradora de Riesgos del Trabajo ART S.A. and Cabaña Doble G del Litoral S.A. He is a director of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Argentina) S.A. He is also an alternate director of La Estrella S.A. Compañía de Seguros de Retiro. Also, until March 31, 2015 he was chairman of Pluria Productores de Seguros S.A., director of Caja de Seguros S.A. and Ritenere S.A. and was an alternate director of Caja de Ahorro y Seguros S.A. Since March 31, 2015 he is director of La Caja de Seguros de Retiro S.A. He was born on March 3, 1951.

*Susana Margarita Chiaramoni* is a lawyer with extensive experience in corporate and financial law and degree in Management and History of Arts. She was appointed to the Supervisory Committee of Telecom Argentina and Nortel Inversora S.A. during the fiscal year 2013. She was a professor in the Department of Cultural Policies of the University of Salvador. She was born on June 24, 1953.

*Raúl Alberto Garré* is a public accountant and a lawyer with a degree from the Universidad de Buenos Aires and holds a degree in Marketing, Organizational Management and Finances from the University of California, Berkeley Business School. He also holds a degree as a Certified Mediator from the Universidad Maimónides. He is currently the trustee of Telecom S.A., Gas Natural Ban S.A. and the Dirección General de Fabricaciones Militares. He was the Director General of the Dirección General de Rentas de la Municipalidad de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, the President of the Confederación Organismos Tributarios de Estados Americanos (COTEA) and the Vicepresident of C.E.A.M.S.E. (Coordinación Ecológica Área Metropolitana Sociedad del Estado). He was also Internal Auditor of the Department of Internal Affairs, Delegate to the *Convención Constituyente* of Buenos Aires City and member of the Consejo Directivo del Colegio Público de Abogados de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires. He was Cabinet Chief of the Department of Defense and the Department of Security and the Executive Secretary of the Consejo de Seguridad Interior. He was born on May 9, 1951.

*Gonzalo F. Oliva Beltrán* is a partner at Llerena Amadeo, Dondo & Oliva Beltran Abogados. He has concentrated his practice in the areas of corporate and finance law, foreign trade and exchange regulations, mergers and acquisitions, real estate and non-profit organizations. He graduated as a lawyer from the Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina Santa María de los Buenos Aires in 2001. In 2006 he obtained an LLM from the University of Westminster, England (graduated with honors). He was born on May 12, 1978.

*Alberto Gustavo González* is currently President of Integral Management of Medical Center, Partner at G & P Management Consultants, Director of Sudamerican Services - Uruguay and Director Sudamerican Services - Argentina. He has also served as Controller of Electricité de France, Deputy Manager of Strategic Planning in Edenor and Planning Manager at Laboratorios Bago S.A. He was born on May 12, 1962.

*Jacqueline Berzón* is a lawyer. From 2005 to 2010, she served as an alternate member and as a member of the Supervisory Committee of Telecom Argentina. She is a member of the Supervisory Committee again since 2013. She is currently a member of the Supervisory Committee of Monsanto Argentina S.A.I.C. and Chairwoman of Hungry Man Argentina S.R.L. She was a member of the Supervisory Committee of Telecom Personal until April 15, 2015. She was born on October 9, 1975.

*Guillermo Feldberg* is a public accountant. He has been an alternate member of the Supervisory Committee since 2004. He is also an alternate member of the Supervisory Committees of Personal, Micro Sistemas, Nortel and Sofora. He is Chairman of Agropecuaria La Victoria S.A., Caroline Establecimientos Agropecuarios S.A., Ineba S.A., Izzalini Trade S.A., GWF. S.A., Majuida S.A., Viosan S.A., Associacion ORT Argentina and Pintarko S.A. He is Vice Chairman of Doble G del Litoral S.A., Fundación Ineba (Instituto de Neurociencias Buenos Aires). He was born on February 20, 1951.

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*Silvia Alejandra Rodríguez* is a lawyer. She is a member of the Supervisory Committee of Agua y Saneamientos Argentinos S.A. (AySA), Nucleoeléctrica Argentina S.A. and Parque Eólico Arauco S.A. She is alternate member of the Supervisory Committee of Ferrosur Roca S.A., Ferroexpreso Pampeano S.A., Empresa Argentina de Soluciones Satelitales S.A. (AR-SAT), Pampa Energía S.A. Intercargo S.A. and Centros de Estudios de Alta Tecnología S.A. (CEATSA). She was born on December 15, 1972.

There is no family relationship between any director, alternate director, member of the Supervisory Committee or executive officer and any other director, alternate director, member of the Supervisory Committee or executive officer.

#### Compensation

The compensation of the members for the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee is established for each fiscal year at the annual meeting of shareholders.

The aggregate compensation paid by Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries to the members of Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors and the members of Telecom Argentina's Supervisory Committee, acting since April 29, 2014, and the executive officers described under Senior Management above, was approximately P\$56.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Accrued compensation as of December 31, 2014 for the members of the Board of Directors and the members of the Supervisory Committee acting since April 29, 2014 was approximately P\$19.1 million and approximately P\$6.4 million, respectively. Those amounts are derived from the proposal made by Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors, with the prior opinion of the Audit Committee, regarding the aggregate compensation for the members of the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee in connection with their duties performed since April 29, 2014. Such compensation is subject to approval by the Annual Ordinary Shareholders meeting which will be held on April 29, 2015.

As of December 31, 2014 compensation paid as advance payments to the members of the Board of Directors and members of the Supervisory Committee acting as from April 29, 2014 was P\$5.6 million and P\$2.5 million, respectively.

Compensation for the executive officers described under Senior Management above, amounted to approximately P\$56.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2014 (including fixed and variable compensation, retention plan benefits and, in some cases, severance payments and non-compete agreements), of which P\$8.1 million remained unpaid as of December 31, 2014.

The Company s managers (including Senior Management) receive fixed and variable compensation. A manager s fixed compensation reflects the level of responsibility required for his or her position and the market rate for similar positions. Variable compensation is tied to annual performance goals. Certain managers are beneficiaries of retention plan benefits.

Also, Telecom Argentina implemented a *Long-Term Incentive Program* (LTI), with the purpose of providing Senior Management members with incentives to create value in the medium/long term, involve such members in the Group s success and as an element for retaining key personnel at the organization. For the fiscal year 2013 results, bonuses were paid to the LTI program participants in May 2014. LTI program bonuses for fiscal year 2014 results are expected to be paid in April 2015.

During the year ended December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina was not required to set aside or accrue any amounts to provide pension, retirement or similar benefits.

Telecom Argentina has no stock option plans for its personnel, or for its members of the Board of Directors or the Supervisory Committee.

#### **Board Practices**

Under Argentine law, directors have the obligation to perform their duties with loyalty and the diligence of a prudent business person. Directors are jointly and severally liable to Telecom Argentina, our shareholders and third parties for the improper performance of their duties, for violations of law, our bylaws or regulations and for any damage caused by fraud, abuse of authority or gross negligence. Under Argentine law, specific duties may be assigned to a director by the bylaws or regulations or by resolution of the Shareholders Meeting. In these cases, a director s liability will be determined with reference to the performance of these duties, provided that certain recording requirements are met. Under Argentine law, directors are prohibited from engaging in activities in

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competition with Telecom Argentina without express authorization of a Shareholders Meeting. Certain transactions between directors and Telecom Argentina are subject to ratification procedures established by Argentine law.

The Supervisory Committee is responsible for overseeing our compliance with our bylaws and Argentine law and, without prejudice to the role of external auditors, is required to present to the shareholders at the annual ordinary general meeting a report on the accuracy of the financial information presented to the shareholders by the Board of Directors. See Supervisory Committee for further information regarding the Supervisory Committee.

On May 22, 2001 the Argentine government issued Decree No. 677/01, entitled Regulation of Transparency of the Public Offering, or the Transparency Decree (replaced since January 28, 2013 by equivalent articles included in Law No. 26,831. See Item 9 The Offer and Listing The Argentine Securities Market Capital Markets Law Law No. 26,831 below). The intention of this decree, which is also stated within Law No. 26,831, was to move towards the creation of an adequate legal framework that may strengthen the level of protection of investors in the market. The main objectives of the Transparency Decree were to promote the development, liquidity, stability, solvency and transparency of the market, generating procedures to guarantee the efficient reallocation from savings to investments and good practices in the administration of corporations.

The Transparency Decree (and now Law No. 26,831) vests in members of the Board of Directors:

• the duty to disclose certain events, such as any fact or situation capable of affecting the value of the securities or the course of negotiation;

- the duty of loyalty and diligence;
- the duty of confidentiality; and
- the duty to consider the general interests of all shareholders over the interest of the controlling shareholder.

A director will not be liable if, notwithstanding his presence at a meeting at which a resolution was adopted or his knowledge of the resolution, a written record exists of his opposition thereto and he reports his opposition to the Supervisory Committee before any complaint against him is brought before the Board of Directors, the Supervisory Committee, the Shareholders Meeting, the competent governmental agency or the courts. Any liability of a director vis-à-vis Telecom Argentina terminates upon approval of the directors performance by the Shareholders Meeting, provided that shareholders representing at least 5% of our capital stock do not object and provided further that this liability does not result from a violation of the Company s bylaws, the law or the regulations.

Additionally, Law No. 26,831 provides that those who infringe the provisions set forth therein shall be subject, in addition to civil and criminal liability (as applicable), to certain sanctions including warnings, fines, disqualification, suspension or prohibition from acting under the public offering regime.

In July 2012, Decree No. 1,278/12 approved a Regulation of officers and directors appointed by the shares or equity interests of the Argentine government through the Secretary of Economic Policy and Development Planning of the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance.

Telecom Argentina maintains an officers and directors insurance policy covering claims brought against the officers and/or directors relating to the performance of their duties. At present, the total amount covered by this insurance is US\$50,000,000.

In May 2004, the Board of Telecom Argentina resolved to create the Consejo de Dirección, or Steering Committee, which served as an internal body of the Board of Directors and was comprised of four members of the Board of Directors.

In March 2009, the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina resolved to dissolve the Steering Committee. However, on April 7, 2010, the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina resolved to reestablish this Committee, maintaining the same pre-dissolution structure. The Steering Committee, consisting of four members or alternate members of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina and Personal, resumed its duties on October 26, 2010. On such date, the Board of Directors issued a new *Regulation of Authority and Operation of the Steering Committee*. The Steering Committee s duties, among others, are: (i) to approve the Business Plan of Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries, (ii) to approve the general compensation policy of Telecom Argentina and Personal's employees, (iii) to review the bids to be submitted under public bidding processes for any amount over P\$5 million and

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the marketing plans to determine that they do not violate the Argentine Antitrust Law and (iv) to prepare the Advertising Budget to be submitted to the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to the *Regulation of Authority and Operation of the Steering Committee*, a quorum shall consist of the majority of members of the Steering Committee including those who attend by teleconference or videoteleconference. All members shall adopt decisions unanimously. In the event no resolution is adopted on any of the issues submitted for consideration of the Steering Committee, the matter shall be referred to the Board of Directors.

As of the date of this Annual Report, the members of the Steering Committee are: Gerardo Werthein, Adrián Werthein, Francesca Petralia and Andrea Mangoni.

The Company s bylaws grant the Board of Directors the power to appoint an Executive Committee formed by some of its members, to be in charge of the Company s day to day affairs, under the supervision of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors decided not to appoint an Executive Committee.

Regulatory Compliance Committee

According to the New Shareholders Agreement and to the TI-W Commitment (See Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Telco and TI-W Commitments and Shareholders Agreement ), in October 2010, a Regulatory Compliance Committee was created consisting of three members or alternate members of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina and Personal not taking into account those members appointed at the request of Telecom Italia and those members appointed jointly by Telecom Italia and W de Argentina, if any. It should be noted that the directors of Telecom Argentina appointed at the request of Telecom Italia or those appointed jointly by W de Argentina and Telecom Italia are not allowed to vote in the appointment of the Regulatory Compliance Committee members.

The main duty of the Regulatory Compliance Committee is to verify that Telecom Argentina and Personal are in compliance with the requirements (hereinafter, the Requirements ) assumed or derived for both companies from the Telco and the TI-W Commitment.

The Regulatory Compliance Committee has the following rights and duties:

• To prepare quarterly reports to be submitted to the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina and Personal regarding Requirements compliance.

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To audit Telecom Argentina and Personal s Requirements compliance.

• To verify all the information required by Telecom Italia according to the Telecom Italia S.p.A. audit rights under the New Shareholders Agreement of Sofora.

• To approve any agreement to be executed or amended between Telefónica, S.A. and/or any of its affiliates, and Telecom Argentina and/or any of its subsidiaries.

• To prepare annual reports on Requirements compliance, for submittal to the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina and Personal ten days before their filing with the CNDC.

As of the date of this Annual Report, the members of the Regulatory Compliance Committee are Adrián Werthein (Chairman); Eduardo Federico Bauer and Esteban Gabriel Macek.

Audit Committee

Law No. 26,831 provides that companies with publicly-listed shares shall appoint an audit committee, or the Audit Committee, to be formed by three or more members of the Board of Directors. Under CNV rules, the majority of the members of the Audit Committee must be independent. In order to qualify as independent, the director must be independent with respect to the company, any controlling shareholders or any shareholders that are significant participants in the company and cannot carry out executive duties for the company. A member of the Board of Directors cannot qualify as an independent director if he or she is a relative of a person who would not qualify as an independent director if such relative were appointed as a member of the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to General Resolution No. 400/02 of the CNV, published in the Official Bulletin on April 5, 2002, the provisions of the Transparency Decree, which are now part of Law No. 26,831, relating to the Audit Committee were applicable for the financial years beginning on or after January 1, 2004.

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At the Board of Directors meeting held on April 29, 2004, the Board of Directors resolved the final composition of the Audit Committee, and the Audit Committee came into effect.

According to the *Normativa de Implementación del Comité de Auditoría*, (a set of guidelines for the Audit Committee filed with the CNV) in case of resignation, dismissal, death or lack of capacity of any of the members of the Audit Committee, the Board of Directors shall immediately appoint a replacement, who shall remain in such position until the following annual shareholders meeting.

According to Law No. 26,831 the duties of the Audit Committee shall be:

• providing the market with complete information on transactions with which there might be a conflict of interest with the members of the corporate bodies or controlling shareholders;

• giving an opinion on the fulfillment of legal requirements and reasonableness of the conditions for the issuance of shares or securities convertible into shares, in the case of capital increases where preemptive rights have been excluded or limited;

- giving an opinion regarding transactions with related parties in certain cases;
- supervising internal control systems and verifying the fulfillment of norms of conduct; and

• giving an opinion regarding the Board of Directors proposal to designate external auditors and evaluating their independence, among others.

Additionally, within the Normativa de Implementación del Comité de Auditoría , the Audit Committee also reviews the plans of internal auditors, supervising and evaluating their performance.

At its meeting on April 29, 2014, the Board of Directors reelected Mr. Garrido, Mr. Macek and Mr. Federico H. Gosman as members of the Audit Committee. The Board furthermore determined that Mr. Macek qualifies as an audit committee financial expert under SEC guidelines. Under SEC and New York Stock Exchange regulations the three members of the Committee qualify as independent directors. Under CNV regulations, two members of the Audit Committee (Mr. Macek and Mr. Gosman) qualify as independent directors. On April 16, 2015, the Board of Directors accepted Mr. Enrique Garrido's resignation as Chairman and member of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina, and appointed Mr. Oscar Carlos Cristianci to replace him. The Board of Directors also appointed Mr. Cristianci as member of the Audit Committee to replace Mr. Garrido until the date of the next Annual Shareholders Meeting to be held on April 29, 2015.

Pursuant to the Law No. 26,831, the Audit Committee may seek the advice of lawyers and other outside professionals at Telecom Argentina s expense, so long as the shareholders have approved expenditures for the services of such professionals. For fiscal year 2014, a budget of P\$1,800,000 was approved for Audit Committee expenditures. As of the date of this Annual Report, the Annual Shareholders meeting approving Audit Committee expenditures for year 2015 has not yet been held.

Risk Management Committee

On September 20, 2012, the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina approved the implementation of an Enterprise Risk Management Process at Telecom Group, and the creation of a Risk Management Committee. The Committee is presided over by the Chief Executive Officer, and consists of Senior Managers, whose leadership and coordination was assigned to the CFO. It also approved the creation of the Risk Management function (at the managerial level and separate from any other operating or corporate function), whose responsible person also serves as Secretary of the Risk Management Committee and reports directly to the CFO.

The duties of the Risk Committee include reviewing and implementing policies, mechanisms and procedures to identify measure and mitigate risks for Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries, and also recommend any steps or adjustments it deems necessary to reduce the risk profile of the organization, based on the Procedure Manual for the Risk Management in the Telecom Group.

The Company follows the guidelines provided under ISO 31,000, as supplemented, in order to carry on its Enterprise Risk Management process. Financial reporting risks are reviewed as certified under section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act.

Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries have different action plans that endeavor to mitigate, in whole or in part, high impact risks for the Telecom Group. However, it cannot be assured that such plans are totally effective, or other events, unforeseen at the date of this Annual Report, could arise and affect the performance of the Telecom Group.

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#### Disclosure Committee

Telecom Argentina has also established a Disclosure Committee, which is responsible for monitoring the gathering, processing and submission to the CEO and CFO of consolidated financial and non-financial information that is required to be included in disclosure reports in order to ensure timely and accurate disclosure of material information. The duties of the Disclosure Committee include the following:

• assisting the CEO and the CFO in evaluating the effectiveness of Telecom Argentina s disclosure controls and procedures prior to the filing of Annual Reports both in Argentina and the US;

• suggesting any improvements in disclosure procedures as a result of this evaluation;

• verifying that Telecom Argentina s processes for information collection, processing and control are in compliance with its disclosure procedures such that the accuracy of its disclosures can be verified; and

providing assistance in determining what information may be considered material to Telecom Argentina.

#### **Employees and Labor Relations**

As of December 31, 2014, our total number of employees was 16,416 (with no temporary employees), of which approximately 78% belonged to unions. All Management and senior positions are held by non-union employees.

Telecom Argentina and Personal have 10,009 and 2,810 unionized employees, respectively, representing an increase of approximately 0.8% and a decrease of 2.5%, respectively, compared to 2013. The union which has the largest number of employees is the Federation of Telephone Workers and Employees of Argentina (FOETRA) in Buenos Aires, which is currently included in the Argentine Telecommunications Federation (FATEL), representing 5,612 Telecom Argentina employees. The Argentine Federation of Telephone Workers and Employees and the Professionals Workers Center of Telecommunication Companies (CEPETEL) represents 308 employees. Two remaining unions, the Technical and Supervisory Telephone Personnel Federation (FOPSTTA) and the Telecommunications Union (UPJET), represent 1,763 middle Management employees of Telecom Argentina. Personal has 1,768 employees represented by the Argentine Federation of Commercial and Service Employees (FAECyS) and 1,042 employees represented by the Federation of Telephone Workers and Employees of Argentina (FOETRA) in Buenos Aires.

Salary agreements with labor organizations are reviewed annually or from time to time, in a context of increased social claims and an increased cost of living.

In 2014, Telecom Argentina continued negotiating with telecommunication labor organizations through the Mesa de Unidad Sindical de las Telecomunicaciones (the MUS Board of Trade Union Unity), which brings together FOEESITRA, FATEL, FOPSTTA and UPJET. The negotiations resulted in an agreement to implement a gradual and non-cumulative increase in salaries, which has amounted 18.5% since July 2014 and 11.5% as from January 2015. Additionally, 1% of the aggregate salaries were assigned since March 2015, to increase certain variable employee compensation items or promotions. Moreover, salary agreements for call centers activity were reached with FOETRA, SITRATEL (Telephone Union Employees from Rosario) and FOEESITRA, resulting in the same salary increases as those agreed with the MUS.

Additionally, negotiations continued with CEPETEL (which is not part of the MUS) which resulted in a salary agreement reached in September 2014 with same terms and conditions as the other telecommunication labor organizations.

With respect to Personal, during 2014, the mobile telephony collective bargaining agreement N ° 676/13 on February 1, 2014, was implemented with the Buenos Aires FOETRA Union. The remaining areas, at the time of preparation of this Annual Report, are represented by the FAECyS, with their respective agreements. However, it is important to point out that collective bargaining agreements regarding mobile telephony were signed with FATEL, FOEESITRA, FOPSTTA and UPJET, whose approvals are still pending. These collective bargaining agreements are expected to be in force by 2015.

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Telecom Personal salary agreements contemplated employees receiving a 27% increase (17% in April 2014 and 10% non-cumulative in September 2014) and two installments of non-remunerative amounts of P\$1,200 each, in June and November 2014.

See Item 8 Financial Information Legal Proceedings Labor Claims for more detail on labor claims filed against Telecom Argentina and Personal

#### Employees by Segment

The table below shows the number of employees as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 by segment (1):

	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2012
Fixed Services	11,056	11,002	11,115
Personal Mobile Services	4,958	5,155	5,254
Núcleo Mobile Services	402	424	439
Total	16,416	16,581	16,808

(1) Includes temporary employees

### Share Ownership

Share Ownership by directors, executive officers, and Supervisory Committee members

Oscar Carlos Cristianci, who was appointed as Telecom Argentina s Chairman of the Board of Directors on April 16, 2015, has 11,700 Class B Shares of Telecom Argentina and Enrique Garrido, the Chairman of the Board of Directors until his resignation on April 16, 2015, holds 231 Class B Shares of Telecom Argentina. No other member of the Board of Directors or any member of the Supervisory Committee holds obligations or capital stock of Telecom Argentina.

Alejandro Quiroga López holds 4,450 Class B Shares of Telecom Argentina. No other member of Telecom Argentina s senior management holds obligations or capital stock of Telecom Argentina.

Share Ownership Plan

At the time of the privatization of ENTel in 1990, the Argentine government created a Share Ownership Plan, or SOP, for the employees of ENTel and CAT acquired by Telecom Argentina, Telintar, and Startel. Pursuant to the Privatization Regulations, 10% of Telecom Argentina s then-outstanding shares, consisting of 98,438,098 Class C Shares, were transferred by the Argentine government to Telecom Argentina, Telintar, and Startel employees previously employed by ENTel and CAT. This transfer was made through a general transfer agreement signed on December 29, 1992 (the General Transfer Agreement ). Our Class C Shares consist exclusively of shares originally sold in connection with the SOP. According to applicable law, to be eligible to continue to participate in the SOP, the employees had to remain employed by Telecom Argentina, Telintar, and Startel. Employees who terminated their employment with Telecom Argentina, Telintar, and Startel before the deferred purchase price was fully paid were required to sell their Class C Shares to another employee under the SOP or, if no other employee was available to purchase these shares, to a guaranty and repurchase fund (the Guaranty and Repurchase Fund ), at a price calculated according to a formula provided in the General Transfer Agreement.

On December 9, 1999, Decree No. 1,623/99 was issued, authorizing the accelerated repayment of the outstanding balance of the deferred purchase price for all Class C Shares, and lifting the transfer restrictions on the Class C Shares upon the satisfaction of certain conditions precedent. However, the shares held in the Guaranty and Repurchase Fund were still subject to transfer restrictions until an injunction prohibiting trading or selling of these shares was lifted. The Decree provides that once the injunction is lifted, the sale of an amount of shares in the Guaranty and Repurchase Fund, will take place in order to cancel the debt owed to the former employees for the acquisition of shares transferred to the Guaranty and Repurchase Fund. The remaining shares held in the Guaranty and Repurchase Fund will then be distributed in accordance with the decision of the majority of the employees taken in a special meeting of the SOP.

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In accordance with Decree No. 1,623/99, at the extraordinary and special Class C Shareholders Meeting held on March 14, 2000, Telecom Argentina s shareholders approved the conversion of up to 52,505,360 Class C Shares into Class B Shares in one or more tranches from time to time, as determined by the trustee of the SOP, Banco de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, based on the availability of Class C Shares that were not affected by judicial restrictions on conversion.

A first tranche of 50,978,833 Class C Shares was converted into Class B Shares for public resale. This transaction was authorized in Argentina by the CNV and was registered in the United States with the SEC on May 3, 2000. The rest of the Class C Shares authorized for conversion were converted into Class B Shares in four more tranches ending in 2005.

As requested by the Executive Committee of the SOP, the ordinary, extraordinary and special Class C shareholders meetings held on April 27, 2006 approved the delegation of authority to Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors for the conversion of up to 41,339,464 ordinary Class C Shares into an equal quantity of Class B Shares, in one or more conversions. As of December 31, 2011, all the 41,339,464 shares were converted into Class B Ordinary Shares in eleven tranches.

The remaining 4,593,274 Class C shares were affected by an injunction measure recorded in file *Garcías de Vicchi, Amerinda y otros c/ Sindicación de Accionistas Clase C del Programa de Propiedad Participada s/nulidad de acto jurídico*, which has been lifted. Therefore, the General Ordinary and Extraordinary and Special Class C Shares Meetings held on December 15, 2011, approved the delegation of authority to Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors for the conversion of up to 4,593,274 Class C ordinary shares into an equal quantity of Class B ordinary shares in one or more tranches. As a result, 4,326,492 Class C Shares have been converted to Class B Shares in eight tranches. As of the date of this Annual Report, the outstanding number of Class C Shares is 266,782.

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### ITEM 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### **Major Shareholders**

Our principal shareholder is Nortel. As of December 31, 2014, Nortel owned all of Telecom Argentina s Class A Ordinary Shares (51% of Telecom Argentina s total capital stock) and approximately 7.64% of the Class B Ordinary Shares (3.74% of Telecom Argentina s total capital stock) which, in the aggregate, represented approximately 54.74% of the total capital stock or 55.6% of the total outstanding shares considering the 15,221,373 Class B Ordinary Shares which were repurchased and are held in treasury. Telecom Argentina is directly controlled by Nortel by virtue of Nortel s ownership of a majority of Telecom Argentina s capital stock; however, Nortel s controlling interest is subject to certain agreements among Sofora s shareholders. See Shareholders of Nortel below.

Nortel was incorporated in Buenos Aires, Argentina on October 19, 1990 and registered with the Buenos Aires Public Registry of Commerce on October 31, 1990 under No. 8,025, book 108, Volume A of Corporations. Nortel is a holding company that was formed in 1990 by a consortium including the Telecom Italia Group and FCR in connection with the privatization of ENTel and formation of Telecom Argentina.

In the event of certain payment defaults or breaches of covenants, holders of Nortel s preferred stock collectively have the right to elect one director of Nortel and obtain voting rights.

Nortel s offices are located at Alicia Moreau de Justo 50, 11th floor, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

#### **Shareholders of Nortel**

As of December 31, 2014, Nortel s capital stock was represented by ordinary shares (78.38% of the capital stock) and Preferred Series B shares (21.62% of the capital stock). All of Nortel s ordinary shares are owned by Sofora. Nortel s total Series B Preferred Shares have no voting rights.

During 2011, Telecom Italia International N.V. (a company of the Telecom Italia Group) acquired 8% of Nortel s total Series B Preferred Shares and also made a public announcement together with Telecom Italia S.p.A. regarding the acquisition of Series B Shares representing 1.58% of Telecom Argentina s capital stock through the local company Inversiones Milano S.A. (which has changed its name to Tierra Argentea S.A.).

W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L., Telecom Italia S.p.A. and Telecom Italia International N.V. have signed a shareholders agreement for the joint management of Sofora, Nortel, Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries, including Personal which was amended in August 2010, October 2010 and March 2011. See Shareholders Agreement below.

On August 5, 2010, the Shareholders Agreement was amended by the parties. As a result of the commitment of the shareholders of Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A. before the CNDC, on October 13, 2010 further modifications were introduced. On March 9, 2011, in connection with the transfer of 10% of the share capital of Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A. in favor of Telecom Italia International N.V. held on that date, further amendments to the Shareholders Agreement were introduced in order to preserve the government rights that parties had until then, clarifying that even though W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L. would have 32% of the share capital of Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A., W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L. kept the same government rights that it had under the Shareholders Agreement, as if it continued to hold 42% of the share capital of Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A. (hereinafter the Shareholders Agreement and its modifications, the New Shareholders Agreement ). For additional information about the New Shareholders Agreement, see Shareholders Agreement.

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On November 14, 2013 Telecom Italia S.p.A and Telecom Italia International N.V. (collectively, the Sellers) and Tierra Argentea S.A. (Tierra Argentea, a company controlled by the Sellers) announced their acceptance of the offer made by Fintech to acquire Telecom Italia s controlling stake in Telecom Argentina owned by the Sellers through their subsidiaries Sofora, Nortel, and Tierra Argentea. The purchase offer was for a total amount of US\$960 million, of which US\$859.5 million would be paid as consideration for the sale of:

• 68% of the ordinary shares of Sofora held by Telecom Italia and Telecom Italia International (US\$750.8 million);

• 15,533,834 Class B Shares of Telecom Argentina, representing 1.58% of the share capital, held by Tierra Argentea (US\$61.2 million);

• 2,351,752 American Depositary Shares, representing 117,588 Preferred B Shares of Nortel, equal to 8% of the Preferred B Shares held by Tierra Argentea (US\$47.5 million).

The remaining US\$100.5 million would be paid pursuant to additional agreements related to the transaction, including an agreement to continue providing the Telecom Argentina companies technical support and other services for up to three years, the waiver and amendment of certain rights under the current Shareholders Agreement relating to Telecom Argentina, in favor of the Werthein Group, which will retain 32% of the voting shares of Sofora, and the commitment by Fintech to pay amounts already reserved for dividends by Telecom Argentina, if such dividends are not declared and paid by the Telecom Argentina group prior to closing.

In implementing the above-mentioned agreements, on December 10, 2013, the Class B Shares of Telecom Argentina and the Class B Shares of Nortel owned by Tierra Argentea were transferred to Fintech for a total amount of US\$108.7 million. As a result, the Telecom Italia Group s economic interest in Telecom Argentina was reduced to 19.3%.

At the end of the third quarter (September 30, 2014) Sofora s shares belonged to Telecom Italia S.p.A, (32.5%), to Telecom Italia International N.V. (35.5%), (Telecom Italia S.p.A. y Telecom Italia International N.V., jointly, the Telecom Italia Group ) and to W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L. (32%).

On October 25, 2014, Telecom Italia S.p.A. announced the acceptance of an offer made by Fintech to amend and restate the agreement announced on November 14, 2013. Under this amending agreement: 1) on October 29, 2014 Telecom Italia International N.V. transferred 17% of the capital stock of Sofora to Fintech; 2) it was confirmed that the transfer of the 51% controlling interest in Sofora is subject to the prior regulatory approval of the SC and closing of the transaction will not occur until such approval is obtained. It is expected that the transfer of such controlling interest will take place within the next two and a half years.

It was announced that the majority of the members of Sofora s Board of Directors will continue to be appointed by the Telecom Italia Group until the regulatory authorizations in Argentina are obtained and the transfer of the 51% controlling interest in Sofora is completed. No material changes in Sofora and its subsidiaries corporate governance are expected.

It was also announced that: *if the sale of 51% of Sofora to Fintech is not completed within two and one-half years, Telecom Italia may then elect to either (i) terminate the agreement with Fintech and receive a six-month call option to purchase (or designate a Telecom Italia Group company to purchase) the 17% minority interest in Sofora previously sold to Fintech pursuant to an agreed formulation or (ii) pursue a sale of its 51% controlling interest in Sofora to a third party purchaser, subject to applicable regulatory approval and as to which Fintech has agreed to guarantee that Telecom Italia will receive an overall amount of at least US\$ 630.6 million. After such third party sale is consummated, if the overall amount received in connection with such approved sale exceeds the purchase price amount guaranteed by Fintech, any excess will be allocated between the parties according to an agreed formula.* 

If it is not possible for Telecom Italia to sell to a third party within a period of two and one-half years, the agreement with Fintech will be terminated, Fintech will pay to Telecom Italia an amount of US\$ 175 million and Telecom Italia will have an option to purchase (or designate a Telecom Italia Group company to purchase) within a period of sixth months the 17% minority interest in Sofora previously transferred to Fintech, pursuant to a formula agreed by the parties.

As of the date of issuance of this Report, Sofora s shares belong to Telecom Italia S.p.A. (32.5%), Telecom Italia International N.V. (18.5%); W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L. (32%) and Fintech Telecom LLC (17%).

The economic rights of Telecom Italia Group in Telecom Argentina amount to 14.5% as of the date of this Annual Report.

More information about the agreement between the Telecom Italia Group and Fintech is available in the Relevant Facts Section of the CNV at www.cnv.gob.ar, and in the Company filings search Section (Telecom Italia S.p.A and Telecom Argentina) of the SEC in www.sec.gov.

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The transfer to Fintech of the 51% controlling interest held by the Telecom Italia Group in Sofora is conditional upon prior approval by regulatory authorities.

If the transaction is consummated, Fintech will have the ability to exert significant control over us, including the right to nominate, through our parent companies, Sofora and Nortel, the majority of our directors pursuant to the terms of the Shareholders Agreement.

#### The Telecom Italia Group

The Telecom Italia Group operates mainly in Europe, South America and the Mediterranean Basin.

The Telecom Italia Group is engaged principally in the communications sector and, particularly, the fixed and mobile national (Italy) and international telecommunications sector.

As of December 31, 2014, the Telecom Italia Group had approximately 12.5 million physical Accesses (retail) in Italy, a decrease of 0.7 million compared to December 31, 2013. The Wholesale customer portfolio in Italy reached approximately 7.2 million Accesses for telephone services at December 31, 2014 (stable compared to December 31, 2013).

The Broadband portfolio in Italy reached 8.8 million Accesses at December 31, 2014 (consisting of approximately 6.9 million retail Accesses and 1.9 million wholesale Accesses), substantially stable compared to December 31, 2013 (8.7 million Accesses).

In addition, the Telecom Italia Group had approximately 30.4 million mobile telephone lines in Italy at December 31, 2014, a decrease of approximately 0.8 million compared to December 31, 2013.

As of December 31, 2014, the Telecom Italia Group had 75.7 million mobile telephone lines in Brazil (73.4 million at December 31, 2013).

W de Argentina Inversiones S.L.

W de Argentina Inversiones, a company of the Werthein Group, is a company owned by Daniel Werthein, Adrián Werthein, Gerardo Werthein and Darío Werthein. The Werthein Group s main lines of business include farming and oil operations, insurance and real estate activities, as described below:

• *Farming and Oil Operations*. Gregorio, Numo y Noel Werthein S.A.A.G.C. e I. (GNNW) is the name of the company that handles the businesses of the Werthein Group, mainly related to agribusiness activities and food products. The company owns more than 196,453 acres in the primary farming areas of Argentina, harvesting more than 31,327 tons of different crops and with more than 20,484 heads of cattle dedicated to meat production. It is also involved in the manufacturing of processed fruits as well as teas and other infusions. Most of its products are aimed at the international markets with important exports worldwide. GNNW is also carrying out, through joint ventures, studies, exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbon in Province of La Pampa, Argentina.

• *Insurance Activities.* The Werthein Group controls Los W S.A., which had an interest in Caja de Ahorro y Seguro S.A., or CAYSSA, a leading insurance company in Argentina until March 31, 2015. CAYSSA controls, directly or indirectly, several subsidiaries that offer general, personal, life, accident, work risk insurance products and retirement insurance and life insurance products that complement retirement insurance. CAYSSA also has shareholdings in companies that provide marketing services and travelers assistance services. Since March 31, 2015, the Werthein Group has increased to 100% its interests in La Caja Aseguradora de Riesgos del Trabajo ART S.A., a leading work risk insurance company in Argentina, and La Caja de Seguros de Retiro S.A., a retirement insurance company in Argentina. Additionally, as from that date, together with certain third party individuals, the Werthein Group attained control of La Estrella S.A. Compañía de Seguros de Retiro, a leading retirement insurance company in Argentina.

• *Real Estate Activities.* The Werthein Group conducts real estate, construction, consulting, public works and other real estate-related activities through its interests in other companies.

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#### **Ownership of Telecom Argentina Common Stock**

The following table sets forth, as of March 31, 2015, based upon information available to us, each beneficial owner of 5% or more of each class of Telecom Argentina s shares. However, current holdings may be different.

			Percent of
	Number of Shares Owned	Percent of Class	Total Capital Stock (1)
Class A Ordinary Shares:			
Nortel	502,034,299	100.00%	51.00%
Class B Ordinary Shares (listed in NYSE and BCBA):			
ANSES	246,018,839	51.03%	24.99%
Nortel	36,832,408	7.64%	3.74%
Treasury Shares	15,221,373	3.16%	1.55%
Others	184,007,277	38.17%	18.69%
Class C Ordinary Shares:			
Others	266,782	100.00%	0.03%

(1) Represents percentage of total of all our ordinary shares, regardless of class.

As of March 31, 2015, there were approximately 29.0 million American Depositary Shares outstanding (representing 145.0 million Class B Shares or 32.6% of total Class B Shares, excluding those held by Nortel and Treasury Shares). Moreover, as of that date, there were approximately 77 registered holders of Class B Shares represented by American Depositary Shares in the United States and approximately 21,000 depositaries of Class B Shares in Argentina. Because some Class B Shares are held by representatives, the number and domicile of registered shareholders may not exactly reflect the number and domicile of beneficial shareholders.

All shares have equal voting rights. Nevertheless, pursuant to Section 221 of the LSC, the rights of treasury shares shall be suspended (including voting rights) until the shareholders in a Shareholders' Meeting determine the allocation of such shares.

### Telco and TI-W Commitments

On October 25, 2007, a consortium made up of Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A., Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A., Mediobanca S.p.A., Sintonia S.A. (Benetton) and Telefónica, S.A. (of Spain) bought Olimpia S.p.A. s entire stock through the Italian company Telco S.p.A., which held approximately 23.6% of Telecom Italia S.p.A. s voting shares (the Telco Transaction ). On December 22, 2009, Sintonia S.A. (Benetton) left the consortium and its participation was assumed by the remaining shareholders of Telco S.p.A. on a pro rata basis. As of December 31, 2014, Telco holds 22.3% of Telecom Italia S.p.A. s voting shares.

The Telco Transaction has generated different opinions with respect to its impact on Argentina s telecommunications market in light of the Argentine Antitrust Law and the existing regulatory framework.

Consequently, the Telco Transaction led to the intervention of various administrative bodies whose decisions have been subject to various presentations and complaints before administrative and judicial courts.

On August 5, 2010, Telecom Italia S.p.A., Telecom Italia Internacional N.V. and W de Argentina agreed to:

• A settlement agreement to end all legal proceedings existing between the parties as direct shareholders of Sofora and indirect shareholders of the remaining companies of the Telecom Argentina Group (Sofora, Nortel, Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries and Personal and its subsidiaries), which has been originated as a result of the Teleco Transaction.

• Amend the 2003 Shareholders' Agreement. The amendment includes, among other things, certain measures to guarantee a more efficient corporate governance of the Telecom Argentina Group companies. As part of the agreement, a Telecom Argentina and Personal s Regulatory Compliance Committee was created and will remain in place for as long as Telefónica, S.A. (of

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Spain) owns any subsidiaries in Argentina and concurrently maintains any direct or indirect participation in the Telecom Italia Group and maintains corporate rights similar to those provided by the Telco Transaction.

• The transfer of 8% of the capital stock of Sofora from W de Argentina to Telecom Italia International N.V., subject to the applicable authorizations. This increased Telecom Italia Group s participation to 58% of the capital stock of Sofora (the TI-W Transaction ).

On October 6, 2010, Telefónica, S.A. (of Spain), Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A., Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A., Mediobanca S.p.A., Telco S.p.A, and, as intervening parties, Telecom Italia S.p.A., Telecom Italia International N.V., Sofora, Nortel, Telecom Argentina, Personal, Telefónica de Argentina S.A. and Telefónica Móviles Argentina S.A., submitted before the CNDC an agreement (the Telco Commitment ). The Telco Commitment ensures the separation and independence of the activities in the Argentine telecommunications market, of Telefónica, S.A. (of Spain) and its controlled subsidiaries, on one hand, and Telecom Italia S.p.A., Telecom Italia International N.V., Sofora, Telecom Argentina and Personal, on the other, preserving and encouraging the competition conditions of such companies activities in the national market.

In addition, in connection with the TI-W Transaction, Sofora s shareholders submitted before the CNDC an agreement with respect to the administration and governance of the Telecom Argentina Group (the TI-W Commitment ).

On October 12, 2010, the CNDC issued Opinions No. 835 and 836 in connection with the Telco Transaction and the TI-W Transaction, respectively. In Opinion No. 835, the CNDC advised, among other things, the Secretary of Economic Policy of the Economy Ministry to accept the Telco Commitment with the clarifications and specifications made in Title XIV of such Opinion, and, consequently, subject to the approval of the Telco Transaction, pursuant to Section 13, paragraph b) of the Argentine Antitrust Law to the irrevocable and effective fulfilling of the Telco Commitment with the clarifications and specifications as mentioned. In addition, the CNDC made some pro-competition recommendations to the SC and to the CNC, which are included as Annex I to such Opinion.

The terms and conditions of the Telco Commitment offered by the above-mentioned companies are detailed in Title XIV of the above-mentioned Opinion, together with the clarifications and specifications made by the CNDC.

In Opinion No. 836, the CNDC advised, among other things, to accept the TI-W Commitment, with the clarifications and specifications made in Title V.2 of the same Opinion and, consequently, to authorize the TI-W Transaction, pursuant to Section 13, paragraph b) of the Argentina Antitrust Act. The terms and conditions of the TI-W Commitment are described in Title V of the Opinion, together with the observations made by the CNDC.

On October 13, 2010, the Secretary of Economic Policy of the Economy Ministry issued Resolution No. 148/10 which, in its operative part, among other issues, authorizes the Telco Transaction subject to the irrevocable and effective fulfillment of the Telco Commitment with the clarifications and specifications made in Title XIV of CNDC Opinion No. 835/10. On the same date, the Secretary of Economic Policy of the Economy Ministry issued its Resolution No. 149/10, in which it accepted the TI-W Commitment and approved the TI-W Transaction in the terms of Section 13 paragraph b) of the Argentine Antitrust Law.

On October 13, 2010, the SC issued Resolution No. 136/10 which, among other issues, in its operative part authorizes the change of control that happened at Telecom Argentina and Personal as a consequence of the TI-W Transaction. On the same resolution, the legal figure of the Operator included in the List of Conditions, Decree No. 62/90 as amended, was left without effect with respect to Telecom Argentina.

On October 13, 2010, the transfer of 8% of the shares of Sofora in favor of Telecom Italia International N.V. was perfected. Based on information provided by Sofora s shareholders, the consideration was (i) US\$1 (one U.S. dollar w/o cents) and (ii) the execution of certain agreements dated as of August 5, 2010, between the Telecom Italia Group and the Werthein Group. Thus, the Telecom Italia Group reached a participation of 58% of the shares and possible votes in Sofora while W de Argentina reached the remaining 42% of such shares and votes.

On October 26, 2010, Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors ratified the execution by Telecom Argentina of the Telco Commitment, accepted all the obligations and commitments that Telecom Argentina has assumed in the Telco Commitment, with the clarifications and specifications relating to

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them, made by the CNDC in Chapter XIV of its Opinion No. 835, and adopted a number of measures for its effective implementation, including the creation of a Regulatory Compliance Committee. In addition, it accepted Telecom Argentina s obligations arising from the TI-W Commitment submitted to the CNDC, in the file referring to the TI-W Transaction, with the clarifications and specifications that are referred to them, made by the CNDC in Paragraph V.2 of its Opinion No. 836 dated October 12, 2010, and adopted a series of measures for their effective implementation.

The Telco Commitment and the TI-W Commitment are available to the public in Spanish at www.telecom.com.ar/compromisos and a summary of them is available in English at the SEC website (www.sec.gov).

On March 9, 2011, Telecom Italia International N.V., Telecom Italia S.p.A and certain entities of the Werthein Group entered into a share purchase agreement under which the Werthein Group agreed to sell common shares of Sofora representing 10% of Sofora s share capital, to Telecom Italia International NV.

#### Shareholders Agreement

On August 5, 2010, Telecom Italia S.p.A. and Telecom Italia International N.V. (jointly, the Telecom Italia Group ) and W de Argentina Inversiones (jointly with the Telecom Italia Group, the Parties ) entered into the 2010 Amended and Restated Shareholders Agreement, as amended on October 13, 2010 as a consequence of the TI-W Commitment and on March 9, 2011 (the New Shareholders Agreement ) that amended the provisions and terms of the 2003 Amended and Restated Shareholders Agreement (the 2003 Shareholders Agreement ).

As a result of the acquisition of the 17% of Sofora s shares which was concluded on October 29, 2014, Fintech Telecom LLC adhered as a part of the New Shareholder s Agreement.

Below is a brief summary of the main terms and conditions of the New Shareholders Agreement and the principal amendments to the 2003 Shareholders Agreement:

With respect to Sofora:

• W de Argentina shall have the right to appoint four out of nine Board members and the Telecom Italia Group shall have the right to appoint the remaining five Board members. Decisions will be made by the majority of directors present at each meeting.

W de Argentina shall have the right to nominate the Chairman of the Supervisory Committee.

With respect to Nortel:

• W de Argentina shall have the right to appoint two out of seven Board members and the Telecom Italia Group shall have the right to appoint four Board members. The seventh director will be nominated by the Preferred Series A and Preferred Series B Shareholders of Nortel, as long as they have such rights in accordance with the terms and conditions of issuance of the preferred shares (as of December 31, 2014 there were no outstanding Preferred Series A shares). In the event that Preferred Series A shares and / or Preferred Series B shares lose their right to appoint a director, the Telecom Italia Group and W de Argentina acquire the right to jointly appoint a director. As of December 31, 2014 there were no outstanding Preferred Series A shares. Decisions will be made by the majority of directors present at each meeting. In case of a tie, the chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

W de Argentina shall be entitled to nominate the Chairman of the Audit Committee of Nortel.

With respect to Telecom Argentina:

• As a general rule, Nortel shall have the right to nominate six directors and the minority shareholders shall have the right to nominate one director. Four of the above-mentioned six Board members to be nominated by Nortel shall be nominated by the Telecom Italia Group and the remaining two shall be nominated by W de Argentina. In the event that other shareholders of Telecom Argentina had the right to appoint more than one director, the composition of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina shall be modified so that the Telecom Italia Group shall nominate the majority of the members of the Board of Directors. Decisions will be made by the majority of directors present at each meeting. In case of a tie, the Chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

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• W de Argentina shall be entitled to nominate the Chairman of the Audit Committee of Telecom Argentina. The New Shareholders Agreement also provides that the resolutions of the Audit Committee shall be taken by the unanimous vote of its members.

• The Chairman of Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors shall meet the following requirements: (i) be an Argentine professional of recognized reputation and (ii) shall not have served as member of the Board of Directors or officer at any direct or indirect competitor of any company of the Telecom Argentina Group in the Argentine telecommunications market within the previous twelve months from his appointment.

The New Shareholders Agreement provides for the establishment of a Regulatory Compliance Committee for Telecom Argentina, composed of three members to be selected among the members of Telecom Argentina s and Personal s Boards of Directors, other than those members nominated exclusively by the Telecom Italia Group or jointly with W de Argentina.

The New Shareholders Agreement also provides for the establishment of a Steering Committee for Telecom Argentina, which shall be composed of two members appointed by the Telecom Italia Group and two members appointed by W de Argentina. The Steering Committee shall be in charge of resolving matters concerning Telecom Argentina s business plan, annual budget and general employee compensation policy for Telecom Argentina and Personal, among others. The Steering Committee shall meet with the majority of its members and resolve any matter by unanimous vote of the members attending the meeting. In case any matter is not approved by the unanimous vote of its members, the Board of Directors shall resolve such matter.

The New Shareholders Agreement still provides for meetings between the Telecom Italia Group and W de Argentina (set forth in Section 4 of the New Shareholders Agreement) before Shareholders or Board of Directors meetings of Sofora, Nortel, Telecom Argentina or its subsidiaries regarding matters that must be treated at shareholders meetings or those related to preferred Shareholders of Nortel, but it excludes resolutions to be adopted by certain non-executive committees. Therefore, the resolutions to be adopted at the Audit Committee, the Supervisory Committee and the Regulatory Compliance Committee will not be dealt with in such prior meetings, but following the rules of the majority of each of those committees.

Similar to the 2003 Shareholders Agreement, two members of the Telecom Italia Group and one member of W de Argentina shall attend the meetings and the decisions will be taken through the affirmative vote of the majority of its members.

W de Argentina shall maintain substantially similar veto rights as provided for in the 2003 Shareholders Agreement, upon the following matters:

the approval of any amendment to the bylaws, other than the amendments expressly set forth in the New Shareholders Agreement;

dividend policy;

- any capital increase or decrease, except for any capital increase or decrease connected to any possible debt restructuring;
- changing the location of the headquarter offices;

•

- any acquisition of subsidiaries and/or creation of subsidiaries;
- the sale, transfer, assignment or any other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets or any of its subsidiaries;
- decisions relating to the establishment of joint ventures;

• constitution of any charges, liens, encumbrance, pledge or mortgage over assets, exceeding the amount of US\$20,000,000 (twenty million U.S. dollars);

• any change of external auditors, to be chosen among auditors of international reputation;

• any related party transaction which is not carried out according to usual market conditions, exceeding the amount of US\$5,000,000, with the exception of (i) any correspondent relationships, traffic agreement and/or roaming agreements with any national and/or international telecommunications carriers/operators, including the establishment, expansion or

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amendment of such correspondent relationships with any new telecommunications carriers; and (ii) any transaction connected with the debt restructuring;

• any extraordinary transaction involving the Telecom Argentina Group, exceeding the amount of US\$30,000,000, except for any operation connected with the debt restructuring of the Telecom Argentina Group; and

• any change to the rules of the Steering Committee, the Regulatory Compliance Committee or the Audit Committee; and the creation, changes or dissolution of any committee of the Telecom Argentina Group with similar functions.

On November 14, 2013 Telecom Italia S.p.A and Telecom Italia International N.V. (collectively, the Sellers ) and Tierra Argentea S.A. ( Tierra Argentea , a company controlled by the Sellers) announced their acceptance of the offer made by Fintech to acquire Telecom Italia s controlling stake in Telecom Argentina owned by the Sellers through their subsidiaries Sofora, Nortel, and Tierra Argentea. See Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Shareholders of Nortel.

Pursuant to the Amended and Restated Mutual Shareholder Release and the Amended and Restated Deed of Adherence each dated as of October 24, 2014, upon the closing of the Fintech transaction, all of the Sellers rights, liabilities and obligations under the Shareholders Agreement will be terminated, and Fintech shall be vested with all rights and obligations established under the Shareholders Agreement for the benefit of Telecom Italia S.p.A. and Telecom Italia International N.V.

#### Changes in Telco S.p.A.'s ownership

As disclosed by Telecom Italia S.p.A. hereinafter TI in its latest available public information, the Italian company Telco is one of its main shareholders, with a participation of the 22.3% of the voting shares of TI, the company that indirectly controls Telecom Argentina.

On September 24, 2013, the Company s Management became aware that Telefónica, S.A. (de España), hereinafter Telefónica, publicly disclosed that it had reached an agreement with the other Telco shareholders with respect to their ownership of Telco. On the same day, the Company issued a Relevant Fact notification pursuant to the CNV rules, reproducing the information published by Telefónica. The pertinent portion of Telefónica s notification states as follows:

Telefónica and the remaining shareholders of the Italian company Telco, S.p.A. (which holds a capital stake of 22.4% of the voting share capital of Telecom Italia S.p.A.) have reached an agreement by virtue of which:

As of today, Telefónica has subscribed for and paid out a capital increase in Telco, S.p.A., through the contribution of 323,772,468 euros in cash, receiving in return non-voting shares of Telco, S.p.A. As a result of this capital increase, the interest held by Telefónica in the voting share

capital of Telco, S.p.A. remains unchanged (i.e. 46.18%, as Telefónica currently holds), although its interest in the total share capital of Telco, S.p.A. is increased to 66%. The current governance at Telco, S.p.A. s level remains unaffected, including the obligation by Telefónica of abstaining from participating or influencing in any decisions which could affect the markets in which both Telefónica and Telecom Italia S.p.A. are present.

Telco, S.p.A. will use the proceeds received from the capital increase to reduce its banking debt.

Subject to receiving any required anti-trust and telecommunications approvals (including in Brazil and Argentina), Telefónica will subscribe for and pay out a second capital increase in Telco, S.p.A., through the contribution of 117,227,532 euros in cash and receiving in return non-voting shares of Telco, S.p.A. As a result of this second capital increase, the interest of Telefónica in the voting share capital of Telco, S.p.A. will remain unchanged (i.e. 46.18%, as Telefónica currently holds), although its interest in the total share capital will be then increased to 70%.

Telco, S.p.A. will use the proceeds received from the second capital increase to partially repay its notes.

Starting from January 1, 2014, subject to receiving any required relevant antitrust and telecommunications approvals (including in Brazil and Argentina), Telefónica may convert all or a portion of the non-voting shares in Telco, S.p.A. held by Telefónica, reaching a maximum of 64.9% of the voting share capital of Telco, S.p.A.

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The Italian shareholders of Telco, S.p.A. have granted to Telefonica a call option to acquire all of their shares in Telco, S.p.A., whose exercise is subject to receiving any required anti-trust and telecommunications approvals (including in Brazil and Argentina). The call option may be exercised by Telefonica starting from January 1, 2014 while the Shareholders' Agreement remains in effect, except (i) between June 1,2014 and June 30, 2014 and between January 15, 2015 and February 15, 2015, and (ii) during certain periods, in case the Italian shareholders Telco, S.p.A. request the demerger of Telco, S.p.A.

The purchase price of the shares, payable in cash, will be based on the equity of Telco, S.p.A. at the end of the month prior to the closing. For this purpose, the value of the shares in Telecom Italia S.p.A. held by Telco, S.p.A. will be valued at the higher of: (i) 1.10 euros per share of TI, and (ii) the average closing trading price of the 30 days prior to the call option exercise notice.

As of today, Telefónica will acquire from the remaining Telco, S.p.A. s shareholders 23.8% of the non-convertible notes issued by Telco, S.p.A., in exchange of 39,021,411 Telefónica s treasury shares, which represent 0.9% of its share capital. In this respect, the remaining Telco, S.p.A. s shareholders have committed: i) to refrain from selling the aforementioned shares during the next 15th business days, and ii) to assume some restrictions that, in case of sale, ensure an orderly sale of such shares.

Telefónica has assumed a standstill obligation under which Telefónica commits not to buy shares in Telecom Italia S.p.A. except if a third party acquires a relevant stake (10% or higher) in the aforementioned company.

Madrid, September 24, 2013.

Information on the demerger of Telco S.p.A

On June 26, 2014 Telco S.p.A issued a press release calling a General Extraordinary Shareholders Meeting, to be held on July 9, 2014, in order to consider its own demerger, pursuant to the right of its shareholders, Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A., Mediobanca S.p.A. and Intesa SanPaolo S.p.A., to require such demerger, which closing is subject to obtaining the corresponding authorizations from the applicable authorities.

The relevant portion of the press release issued by Telco S.p.A is follows:

(). The Board also acknowledged receipt of the notices received from shareholders Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A. (also in the name and on behalf of the Telco S.p.A shareholders which are also Generali group companies), Mediobanca S.p.A. and Intesa Sanpaolo S.p.A. on June 16, 2014, stating their intention to exercise their right to request the demerger of Telco S.p.A under the terms of the shareholders agreement. The Board also unanimously approved the proposed partial demerger of the company (the Demerger) as a result of which four newly-incorporated beneficiary companies, 100%-owned by each shareholder, will be allocated the respective shareholder s stake in Telecom Italia currently held by Telco S.p.A (equal to 22.4% of Telecom Italia s ordinary share capital), as follows: 14.77% to the newco owned by Telefónica, 4.32% to the newco owned by the Generali Group, and 1.64% to each of the newcos owned respectively by Intesa Sanpaolo and Mediobanca.

As part of the Demerger, Telco will also repay all its bank debt outstanding (660 million as of April 30, 2014) and the bond issue subscribed to by its shareholders (1,750 million nominal value, plus 70 million in interest accrued to April 30, 2014), plus the interest that will accrue until the repayment date, via funds to derive from a shareholders loan to Telco S.p.A, which will be disbursed pro rata to the shareholders investment in the company immediately prior to the execution of the Demerger. With the Demerger, then, each newco will be allocated the respective share of the shareholders loan as well as the relevant Telecom Italia stake.

Completion of the Demerger is subject to the requisite clearances from the following authorities: Conselho Administrativo de Defensa Econômica CADE (Brazilian antitrust authority); Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações ANATEL (Brazilian regulatory authority); Comision Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia CNDC (Argentinean antitrust authority) and, for those matters which fall within its scope of responsibility, Istituto per la Vigilanza sulle Assicurazioni IVASS (Italian insurance regulatory authority).

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Telco S.p.A will continue to exist with a minimal share capital and with no Telecom Italia shares held, in order to deal with the remaining assets and liabilities on the balance sheet. The company will then be placed in liquidation once this phase is complete.

The Telco S.p.A demerger will also be submitted to the approval of shareholders in the extraordinary general meeting called to take place on July 9th.

As of the date on which the Demerger becomes effective, every effect of the shareholders agreement in force between the shareholders of Telco S.p.A shall cease to be effective.

Milán, June 26, 2014.

Following up on the above information, on July 9, 2014 Telco S.p.A. issued a new press release, informing that the General Extraordinary Shareholders Meeting held on such date approved the proposed partial demerger of Telco S.p.A, as already approved by the Board of Directors and disclosed on June 26, 2014, the completion of which is subject to the requisite clearances from CADE (Brazilian Antitrust Authority), Anatel (Brazilian Regulatory Authority), CNDC and, for those matters which fall within its scope of responsibility, Istituto per la Vigilanza sulle Assicurazioni IVASS.

To date, IVASS, Anatel and CADE have approved the transaction. Both ANATEL and CADE conditioned their approval on, among others, (i) the suspension of all political rights of Telefónica in Telecom Italia and its controlled companies and (ii) the sale of all Telecom Italia shares to be held directly or indirectly by Telefónica.

In compliance with the conditions set forth by ANATEL while approving the demerger (through Ato on December 22, 2014, as amended on March 12, 2015), on March 20, 2015, Telefónica committed (such a commitment being qualified as a shareholder agreement pursuant to Italian law) to waive all its political rights in relation to Telecom Italia, as well as any of Telecom Italia s subsidiaries, for as long as Telefónica holds a stake in Telecom Italia. Therefore, Telefónica will not:

• appoint any members to the Board of Directors, Board of Statutory Auditors, Board of Officers, or to any other corporate bodies with equivalent attributions of the above-mentioned companies;

• exercise any voting and veto rights at any shareholders meetings of the above-mentioned companies, or at any other deliberative forum of TI with equivalent attributions, and;

• access to, or participate by means of the registry of its attendance for the purposes of forming installation or deliberation quorums at, shareholders meetings of the above-mentioned companies, or in any other deliberative forum of TI with equivalent attributions.

Furthermore, on March 26, 2015, Telco, at the request of Telefónica, submitted a request to Telecom Italia for an item to be added to the agenda of the annual general shareholders' meeting to be held on May 20, 2015, asking for a modification of the Telecom Italia Bylaws in response to the rulings issued by ANATEL. Such modification is intended to comply with the provisions contained in the aforementioned rulings which authorized the Demerger subject, inter alia, to the neutralization of Telefónica s political rights in Telecom Italia and its subsidiaries.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

We have been involved in a number of transactions with our related parties since the Transfer Date.

Our policy is to make transactions with related parties on arm s-length basis. In addition, Section 72 of Law No. 26,831 provides that before a publicly-listed company may enter into an act or contract involving a relevant amount with a related party or parties, the publicly-listed company must obtain approval from its Board of Directors and obtain a valuation report from its Audit Committee or two independent valuation firms that demonstrates that the terms of the transaction are consistent with those that could be obtained at an arm s-length basis. If the Audit Committee or two independent valuation firms do not find that the terms of the contract are consistent with those that could be obtained on an arm s-length basis, approval must be obtained from the shareholders. Relevant amount means an amount which exceeds 1% of the issuers equity as contained in the latest approved financial statements.

Transactions with related parties of Sofora (including Telecom Italia and W de Argentina Inversiones and/or their respective affiliates) resulted in expenses or purchases of approximately

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P\$571 million for the year ended December 31, 2014. Of that amount, P\$472 million was incurred with Telecom Italia and its affiliates for telecommunications services received by Telecom, international capacity hiring, purchases of equipment and materials and other services provided to Telecom, and P\$99 million incurred with W de Argentina Inversiones affiliates for insurance and labor costs.

Transactions with related parties of Sofora resulted in income for services rendered by us of approximately P\$452 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, corresponding to services rendered to Telecom Italia and its affiliates of P\$48 million and to W de Argentina Inversiones of P\$404 million for telecommunications services provided by Telecom.

In addition, there were no financial transactions with related parties of Sofora for the year.

See Note 27 to our Consolidated Financial Statements for more detail regarding related parties transactions for the year ended December 31, 2014.

During 2014, Personal entered into a technical services agreement with Telecom Italia which expired in December 2014. Under this agreement, P\$4.6 million were incurred as expenses for the year ended December 31, 2014. As of the date of this Annual Report, a new technical services agreement with Telecom Italia is pending of renegotiation by Personal.

In addition, although the technical service agreement of Telecom Argentina expired in December 2012, the company does not expect its renegotiation.

These agreements were submitted to an independent firm for evaluation, which found them to be reasonable and in accordance with market practice in all material respects and in accordance with the procedure established by Law No. 26,831 for contracts with related parties. These were also submitted and approved by Telecom Argentina s Audit Committee and its Board of Directors.

As of December 31, 2014, we had no loans outstanding to the executive officers of Telecom Argentina.

#### **Interests of Experts and Counsel**

Not applicable.

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#### **ITEM 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

#### **Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information**

See Item 18 for the Company's Financial Statements. For a description of events that have occurred since the date of the Company's Financial Statements, see Item 4 Information on the Company Introduction Recent Developments.

### Legal Proceedings

We are parties to several civil, tax, commercial, labor and regulatory proceedings and other claims that have arisen in the ordinary course of business. As of December 31, 2014, Telecom has established provisions, excluding asset retirement obligations, in an aggregate amount of P\$1,241 million to cover potential losses related to these claims and proceedings in its Consolidated Financial Statements (P\$85 million for regulatory deducted from assets and P\$1,156 million included under liabilities). In addition, as of December 31, 2014, P\$49 million deposited in the Company s bank account have been restricted to be used due to some judicial proceedings.

See Note 17 to our Consolidated Financial Statements for additional information.

Labor Claims

Profit Sharing Bonds

Various legal actions are brought, mainly by former employees of Telecom Argentina, against the Argentine government and Telecom Argentina, requesting that Decree No. 395/92 which expressly exempts Telecom Argentina from issuing the profit sharing bonds provided in Law No. 23,696 be struck down as unconstitutional. The plaintiffs also claim compensation for damages they suffered because such bonuses have not been issued.

In August 2008, the Argentine Supreme Court of Justice found Decree No. 395/92 unconstitutional when resolving a similar case against Telefónica and ordered that the proceedings be remanded back to the court of origin so that such court could decide which defendant was compelled to pay the licensee and/or the Argentine government- and the parameters that were to be taken into account in order to quantify the remedies requested (percent of profit sharing, dismissals of claims due to expiration of the applicable statute of limitations, and distribution method between the program beneficiaries). The Supreme Court of Justice has deemed that the resolution against Telefónica's case is applicable to Telecom Argentina when resolving the appeals filed by Telecom Argentina. That criterion has been followed by lower courts.

The Supreme Court has left the determination of incidental issues to the lower courts and asked to take into account that it was the Argentine government who issued the legal rule found to be unconstitutional. On that basis, most of the appellate courts have also found the Argentine government liable and established different methods to calculate the compensation.

Telecom Argentina has filed motions in support of its rights, regarding for example the statute of limitations and the method to calculate the compensation.

On March 16, 2015, the Attorney General s Office issued an opinion in the *Ramollino Silvana v. Telecom Argentina S.A.*, case as a result of a complaint introduced by certain co-plaintiffs who were not part of the Share Ownership Plan. The Labor Chamber of Appeals had rejected this action as it considered that such employees joined Telecom Argentina following the transfer of staff to the privatized entity and the only beneficiaries who could collect bonds were employees who participated in the Share Ownership Plan during the privatization. The Attorney General s Office ruled that the co-plaintiffs are not included among the persons who have the right to participate in profit sharing programs created under Law No. 23,696, as such law only covers those individuals who were employeed by the company to be privatized at the time they joined the program. He noted that *the legislative design of these programs does not constitute a harm to the plaintiffs and cannot be considered discriminatory. The difference in treatment between those who joined the ex-Entel and employees of the entity once it was privatized seems a reasonable regulation of different situations*. As of the date of this Annual Report, the Supreme Court has not issued a decision in this case.

As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, has recorded provisions for contingencies that it estimates are sufficient to cover the risks associated with these claims, having considered the legal background.

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Additionally, on June 3, 2013 Telecom Argentina was notified of a lawsuit filed by four unions claiming the issuance of a profit sharing bonds (hereinafter the bonds) for future periods and for periods for which the statute of limitations is not expired. In order that this claim will be sustained, the plaintiffs require that Decree No. 395/92 should be declared unconstitutional.

Telecom Argentina, based on the advice of its legal counsel, believes that there are strong arguments to defend its rights based on the expiration of the statute of limitations of the claim for the unconstitutionality of Decree No. 395/92 and the lack of active legal standing for collective claim for bonds issuance due to the existence of individual claims, among other reasons.

This collective lawsuit is for an unspecified amount. The plaintiffs presented the criteria that should be applied for the determination of the percentage of participation in the Company s profit. The lawsuit requiring the issuance of a profit sharing bonds represents an obligation with potential future economic impacts for Telecom Argentina.

In June 2013, Telecom Argentina filed its answer to the claim, arguing that the labor courts lack jurisdiction. On October 30, 2013, the judge rejected the lack of jurisdiction plea and deferred ruling on the defenses of res judicata, lis pendens and on the third party citation required until after a hearing is held by the court. Telecom Argentina has appealed the judge s ruling.

On December 12, 2013 this hearing took place and the intervening court deferred the defense of statute of limitations filed by Telecom Argentina to the moment of the final ruling. It also ordered the plaintiff to establish that they have permission to bring the case on behalf of the Company s employees included in the claim; meanwhile the trial proceeding will be suspended. The plaintiff appealed the decision and the judge deferred this issue to the time of sentencing.

As of the date of this Annual Report, Telecom Argentina s appeal is pending until the documentation requested by the Court of the plaintiffs is resolved.

Regarding Profit Sharing Bonds there are two cases initiated against Telefónica de Argentina S.A. which represent recent case law as described below:

Domínguez c/ Telefónica de Argentina S.A.

In December 2013, the Argentine Supreme Court ruled on a similar case, Domínguez c/ Telefónica de Argentina S.A., overturning a lower court ruling that had barred the claim as having exceeded the applicable statute of limitations since ten years had passed since the issuance of Decree 395/92.

The Argentine Supreme Court ruling states that the Civil and Commercial Proceedings Court must hear the case again to consider statute of limitations arguments raised by the appellants that, in the opinion of the Argentine Supreme Court, were not considered by the lower court and are relevant to the resolution of the case.

As of the date of this Annual Report, there is no assurance as to how such a similar case may be resolved, either by a new ruling at the lower court or by any further appeal. Two chambers of the Civil and Commercial Federal Proceedings Court have issued opinions interpreting the doctrine developed by the Argentine Supreme Court in its ruling, acknowledging that the statute of limitations must be applied periodically as of the time of each balance sheet- but limited to five years; and Chamber III ruled, by a majority of votes, that the statute of limitations must not be applied periodically, but that instead, was exceeded ten years after the issuance of Decree No. 395/92.

As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, has recorded provisions for contingencies that it estimates are sufficient to cover the risks associated with the new criteria regarding the applicable statute of limitations, having considered the legal background.

Perota c/ Estado Nacional y Telefónica de Argentina S.A.

In addition, on February 27, 2014, the Civil and Commercial Appeals Court issued its decision in a Telefónica de Argentina case, ruling that the amount of a profit sharing bonds should be calculated based on the revenues earned in each period deducting all ordinary and extraordinary expenses before income tax obtained by Telefónica de Argentina S.A.

The Court explained that in order to make such determination: *it is necessary to clarify that taxable income (pre-tax income) means the amount of income subject to the income tax that the company must pay, which generally means gross income, including all revenue obtained during the* 

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fiscal year (including contingent or extraordinary revenue), minus all ordinary and extraordinary expenses accrued during such fiscal year.

As of December 31, 2014, the Company s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, has adjusted the provisions for contingencies that it estimates are sufficient to cover the risks associated with the new criteria for relevant profit, having considered the legal background as of the date of this Annual Report.

Contractors and Subcontractors Employees Labor Claims

Certain contractors and subcontractors employees have continued initiating lawsuits against contractors and Telecom Argentina claiming for direct or indirect responsibility based on a broad interpretation of the rules of labor law. The plaintiffs claimed for the application of the telecommunication bargain collective agreement instead of the telecommunication Section of construction collective agreement, resulting in wage differences. As of the date of this Annual Report, Telecom Argentina s Management, based on the advice of its legal counsel, has recorded provisions that it estimates are adequate to hedge the risks associated with these claims.

Wage differences by food vouchers and non-remunerative sums

The Company is subject to various lawsuits initiated by some employees and former employees who claim wage differences caused by the impact of the concepts of non-remunerative sums (amounts not subject to social security contributions) and food vouchers over the settlement of items such as overtime, productivity, vacation, supplementary annual salary and other additional benefits provided by the Collective Bargaining Agreement. In this regard, the Supreme Court of Justice has recognized that food vouchers are remunerative and are part of the employees compensation, declaring the unconstitutionality of Sect. 103 bis, inc. C of the Argentine Employment Contract Act (which gives them the character of social benefits). In addition, the Supreme Court of Justice in a case against Cervecería y Maltería Quilmes ruled that non-remunerative items resulting from collective bargaining agreements should be considered salaries for all purposes. During 2014 non-remunerative sums claims continued while food vouchers claims have decreased. Considering the judicial precedents, as of December 31, 2014, the Company s Management, based on the advice of its legal counsel, has recorded a provision that it estimates is sufficient to cover the risks associated with these claims.

Sales representative claims

Former sales representatives of Personal have brought legal actions for alleged untimely termination of their contracts and have submitted claims for payment of different items such as commission differences, seniority bonuses and lost profit. Personal believes, based on the advice of its legal counsel, that certain items included in the claims would not be sustained while other items, if sustained, would result in significantly lower amounts. As of the date of this Annual Report, Personal s Management, based on the advice of legal counsel, has recorded provisions that it estimates are sufficient to cover the risks associated with these claims. However, we cannot guarantee the outcome of these proceedings.

Interest rate applicable to the matters under Labor Courts of the City of Buenos Aires

In addition, on May 21, 2014 the National Labor Court of Appeals agreed, as a result of a divided vote, that the interest rate applicable to the matters under its jurisdiction in the City of Buenos Aires shall be the nominal annual rate for personal loans with free use of funds of the Argentine National Bank of Argentina for a 49 to 60 month term (currently 3% per month). The Court also resolved that in those cases that the Court sentences are still pending, this new rate shall be applied as from the date on which each amount is due.

As from 2002 the above mentioned Court had resolved to apply the interest rate resulting from the monthly average of the interest rate used by the National Bank of Argentina for the granting of loans (currently 2.055% per month). Therefore, this new disposition represents an increase in the interest rate, which the Company has reflected in its assessment of the provisions for pending labor claims. Although this Court s decision is not compulsory for lower Courts, an additional risk exists since the Courts might intend to apply such rate retroactively to labor credits not yet acknowledged by a Court sentence.

Telecom Group s Management, with the advice of its legal counsels, considers that there are solid legal arguments to argue against the retroactive application of this new rate. As of the date of this

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Annual Report, the result deriving from this decision of the Court of Appeals is not clear, until the lower Courts issue future opinions making their positions clear. As a result, the Company has classified this matter as a possible contingency. Nevertheless, should a disadvantageous resolution prevail, we estimate that it shall not have a significant impact on the Group s financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

#### **Tax Matters**

Tax Matters Relating to Telecom Argentina

In December 2008, the National Congress approved Law No. 26,476, the Law on Tax Regularization and Repatriation of Capital establishing a regime for the regularization of tax liabilities, the repatriation of funds and the registration of employees. Title I of the law provides taxpayers with a complete exemption for penal responsibilities in tax matters, for fines and a partial exemption for interest arising out of tax or social security liabilities prior to December 31, 2007.

As discussed in previous Annual Reports, Telecom Argentina was party to various legal proceedings arising from claims by AFIP with regards to:

(a) AFIP s claim for income tax for fiscal years 1993 to 1999 arising from its disagreement with Telecom Argentina s calculation of the depreciation of its fiber optic network;

(b) AFIP s claims for income tax for fiscal years 1997 to 2000 challenging Telecom Argentina s certain deductions it made for bad debt expenses; and

(c) AFIP s claims regarding invoices for certain kinds of services.

Upon detailed analysis of the Regularization Regime, on April 30, 2009 Telecom Argentina decided to settle the AFIP s claims in the time frame established by Title I of the above-mentioned law. The settlement for the above-mentioned tax claims was complete except for item (b), which was partially settled.

In order to qualify for the Regularization Regime, Telecom Argentina had to voluntarily dismiss legal proceedings previously initiated against AFIP s claims. As a result of the Regularization Regime, regarding the matter mentioned in (c) above, Telecom Argentina has requested the Court to suspend the penal proceedings and dismiss the claims against officers and employees who had been called to give testimony, since the law provides for the suspension of penal proceedings upon adoption of the Regularization Regime, and complete extinguishment of a penal case upon cancellation of all amounts due under the payment plan pursuant to this Regime. In October 2014 the Court declared the extinguishment of the penal proceedings despite not having completed the cancellation of all the installment payment plan. The prosecutor appealed such

resolution. As of the date of this Annual Report the matter is pending before the Penal and Economic National Chamber of Appeals.

Telecom Argentina s compliance with the Regularization Regime generated recognition of a debt owed to AFIP in the amount of P\$38 million (nominal value) payable in 120 monthly installments at an annual interest rate of 9%. The Company also recognized a debt for legal fees in connection with these regularized processes in the amount of P\$14 million (nominal value). The value of both liabilities has been set forth under the captions Income Tax Payables and Other Liabilities classified by the nature and due date of each liability. As of December 31, 2014 such liabilities amounted to P\$12 million and P\$5 million, respectively.

#### Tax Matters Relating to Personal

In December 2006, the AFIP assessed an additional income tax and tax on minimum presumed income for the 2000 and 2001 tax years claiming that Personal incorrectly deducted certain uncollectible receivables. Personal appealed this assessment before the National Fiscal Tribunal. The AFIP s claim is contrary to certain legal precedents issued by the National Fiscal Tribunal. On February 4, 2014, the National Fiscal Tribunal rejected the AFIP's claim and this is final judgment since no additional proceedings were filed.

Provincial Taxes

Some provincial tax authorities have filed claims regarding turnover tax and stamp tax. As of the date of this Annual Report, the Company s Management has recorded provisions that it estimates are adequate to hedge the risks.

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Municipal Fees

Since 2005, the Company has seen a noticeable increase in legal and extrajudicial claims seeking the collection of various municipal fees in the City of Buenos Aires and various municipalities. As of the date of this Annual Report the Company has recorded provisions that estimate sufficient to cover these claims.

Alleged Omission in Telcom Argentina s Income Tax Declaration

On December 17, 2014, the AFIP notified Telecom Argentina of an alleged omission in reporting the balances of two bank accounts, held in the HSBC Private Bank (Swiss) S.A, in the company s income tax declaration corresponding to the fiscal year 2006. On February 6, 2015, Telecom Argentina proceeded to deny this allegation, providing documentary proof which certifies that such balances had been reported in a timely manner on the tax declaration and were recorded in Telecom Argentina's financial statements. Several people, who had power of attorney to manage those accounts in representation of Telecom Argentina, were also notified of the same alleged omission regarding their personal tax declarations. Telecom Argentina believes that all the AFIP claims will be dismissed.

#### **Regulatory Proceedings**

See Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory and Legal Framework Regulatory Framework Increase in the Regulator s Penalty Activities

**General Proceedings** 

Environmental Proceedings

In 1999, the Argentine national environmental agency (*Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable*) initiated an administrative proceeding against us in connection with our waste management. This agency alleged problems with our liquid drainage at an underground chamber in violation of Argentine environmental law. The agency sought to require Telecom Argentina s registration with the National Register of Generators and Operators of Hazardous Waste. This registration would require Telecom Argentina to pay an annual fee calculated in accordance with a formula that takes into consideration the hazard s extent and the waste quantity. Telecom Argentina believes that its activities did not generate this waste, and that the waste in the underground chamber was generated by other parties. Telecom Argentina nonetheless removed the liquid drainage in accordance with environmental law. We have filed the requisite official responses and we believe that we will not have to register with any environmental agency as a result of this liquid drainage.

In February 2009, Telecom Argentina received a notification from the environmental agency once again requesting that Telecom Argentina be registered in the National Registry of Generators and Operators of Hazardous Waste. In March 2009, Telecom Argentina filed a request for

administrative review seeking to obtain rejection of the environmental agency s ordinance. As of the date of this Annual Report, there has yet to be a resolution on the matter.

Considering the evolution and development of environmental legislation and related agencies, Telecom Argentina is in the process of reviewing its interpretation in relation to the registration as a Hazardous Waste Generator that in any case will refer to a reduced number of materials that we use in our operations. Based on the information available to us, the possibility that environmental proceedings will have a significant impact on our financial position and cash flows is remote.

Consumer Trade Union Proceedings

Proceedings other than remote

The Company has been notified of the following complaints filed by Consumer Trade Unions for which although Personal believes there are strong defense arguments for which the claims should not succeed, in the absence of jurisprudence on the matter, Personal s Management (with the assistance of its legal counsel) has classified the claims as possible until a judgment is rendered.

In November 2011, Personal was notified of a lawsuit filed by Consumidores Financieros Asociación Civil para su Defensa claiming that Personal made allegedly abusive charges to its customers by implementing per-minute billing and setting an expiration date for prepaid telecommunication cards.

The plaintiff is seeking damages for unspecified amounts and requests Personal to (i) cease such practices and bill its customers only for the exact time of telecommunication services used; (ii) reimburse the amounts collected in excess in the ten years preceding the date of the lawsuit; (iii) credit

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its customers for unused minutes on expired prepaid cards in the ten years preceding the date of the lawsuit; (iv) pay an interest equal to the lending rate charged by the Banco de la Nación Argentina; and (v) pay punitive damages provided by Section 52 bis of Law No. 24,240.

Personal responded in a timely manner, arguing the grounds by which the lawsuit should be dismissed, with particular emphasis on the regulatory framework that explicitly endorses Personal s practices, now challenged by the plaintiff in disregard of such regulations.

Although Personal believes there are strong defenses to the claim, in the absence of jurisprudence on the matter, Personal s Management (with the assistance of its legal counsel) has classified the claim as possible until a judgment is rendered. As of the date of this Annual Report, the case is in the discovery phase.

In June 2012 Asociación Protección Consumidores Del Mercado Común Del Sur - Proconsumer filed a lawsuit against Personal claiming that the company did not provide the clients with enough information regarding the new prices for the services provided by Personal between May 2008 and May 2011. It demands the reimbursement of the increase in the price billed to customers for a period of two months. The plaintiff is seeking damages for unspecified amounts. In August 2012 Personal answered the complaint arguing that the company adequately informed its clients the modifications of the terms and conditions in which the service would be provided. It also filed a jurisdictional plea and a motion alleging the lack of active legal standing of the plaintiff. The Commercial Court declared itself as incompetent in the matter. Accordingly, the case was sent to the Administrative and Contentious court, which in turn also declared itself as incompetent. Consequently, the matter must be resolved by the Supreme Court.

While management considers that there are solid arguments for the favorable resolution of this lawsuit, in the event this is resolved unfavorably, it would not have a significant impact on our financial position and results.

Legal Procedures related to the definition of the scope of Fixed and Mobile Telephone Services under Broadcasting Law No. 22,285, repealed by Law No. 26,522 of Audiovisual Communication Services

The Group offers a wide range of telecommunications services in the market, including, among others, those referred to as VAS, which provide additional functionality to the basic services of voice transmission through a telecommunications network.

Certain legal developments took place during the second quarter of 2014 in connection with the VAS, which could have an effect on two existing claims initiated against Telecom Argentina as detailed below:

Supercanal Case

Within the context of a claim filed by Supercanal S.A. in 2003, an injunction was ordered against the fixed and mobile telephone companies, by which the Court ordered them to abstain from *providing supplementary broadcasting services or issuing any kind of broadcasting contents and programming*, as well as *making any advertisement relating to future services to be provided, or the provision of television services as VAS or any other kind of technical method through the fixed or mobile telephone and Internet services that they provide.* 

In 2012 a lower court decided to consider the case without merit and to terminate the injunction. However, on February 18, 2014, the Court of Appeals overruled such decision, and the judge must now issue a decision on the appeal filed against the injunction, which is still pending.

On June 16, 2014 Telecom Argentina filed before the Courts a request to terminate the injunction, arguing among other reasons that new Law No. 26,522 of Audiovisual Communication Services has repealed the former law, under which the injunction had been ordered. Alternatively, Telecom Argentina has also requested that the injunction be adjusted according to the new law, thus excluding from its scope the VAS, Internet and/or video on demand services. In December 2014, Supercanal alleged that Telecom Argentina s request is based on unconstitutional grounds. As of the date of this Annual Report the allegations of both parties are pending before the Courts.

In March 2015, Telecom Argentina reported in the case the enactment of Law No. 27,078 LAD and requested that it be considered at the time of the Judge s ruling.

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Products marketed by the Telecom Group that could be affected by this claim are those called Arnet Play and Personal Video, which revenues during the year ended December 31, 2014, amounted to approximately P\$36 million and P\$217 million, respectively.

Claim by the Argentine Association of Cable Television

Within the context of a claim filed by the Argentine Association of Cable Television in 2006, an injunction was ordered against the fixed and mobile telephone companies, by which the Court ordered them to abstain from *transmitting, repeating and/or providing directly or indirectly broadcasting services or their supplementary services*, based on the former Broadcasting Law No. 22,285.

Subsequently, such injunction was extended to the marketing of the Superpack service (joint offer of satellite television services provided by DirecTV and telephone and Internet services provided by Telecom Argentina, where each entity invoiced the services provided by it directly to the final customer), which was suspended by an appeal filed by Telecom Argentina before the Supreme Court of Justice. However, on June 3, 2014, the Supreme Court rejected such appeal because it did not refer yet to a final decision on the substantial issue that must be resolved by such Court. Accordingly, Telecom Argentina prudentially suspended the marketing of the above referred joint offer with DirecTV from June 4, 2014. The suspension of this joint offer only meant to the Telecom Group a decrease in commissions revenues for new subscribers that our network marketed in favor of DirecTV, and a decrease in costs from commissions conceded to DirecTV for subscribers that the latter captured for the Telecom Group, which were not material during the year ended December 31, 2014.

On June 10, 2014, Telecom Argentina claimed to the Courts that the substantial issues under the claim are without merit and the injunctions have become ineffective as a result of the new Law No. 26,522 of Audiovisual Communication Services which repealed the former law under which the injunction had been ordered.

On October 7, 2014, the court notified Telecom Argentina and Personal of a breach complaint related to the above referred injunction. Such notification was answered rejecting its whole content and requesting that the CNC and the SC become part of the process.

On December 19, 2014, Law N ° 27,078 came into force. In Article 9 paragraph 2 states that licensees of services under the Law such as Telecom Argentina and Personal- may provide audiovisual media services. This legislation reinforces the legal arguments used by the Company to continue providing the VAS analyzed in these cases.

As of the date of this Annual Report, the court has upheld the request of Telecom Argentina to add of the regulatory authorities to this process. The matters relating the lifting of the precautionary measure, its default and the declaration of the case as being without merit are pending before the court.

Although the Company s Management, with the advice of its legal counsel, believes that there are solid legal arguments to continue providing the VAS discussed in these procedures, as of the date of issuance of this Annual Report, we cannot assure the final result of these claims.

#### **Remote Proceedings**

Additionally, Consumer Trade Unions have filed several proceedings against the Company. Although we cannot guarantee the outcome of these proceedings, in our opinion, based on the information available to us and the opinion of our legal counsel, the Company has classified those consumer trade unions proceedings as remote.

### **Dividend Policy**

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The declaration, amount and payment of dividends are determined by a majority vote at an ordinary meeting of all shareholders of Telecom Argentina s capital stock. Under the Argentine Corporations Law, dividends may only be declared out of liquid and realized profits determined based on non-consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP effective in Argentina (IFRS in the case of listed companies as Telecom Argentina) and other applicable regulations issued by the CNV and other regulatory bodies. Furthermore, liquid and realized profits can only be distributed when all accumulated losses from past periods have been absorbed and the legal reserve has been constituted (or reconstituted).

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According to CNV rules (New Text 2013), Shareholders Meetings that approve financial statements in which retained earnings are positive must make a specific determination on the use of such earnings in accordance with the Law No. 19,550 and, as a result, must resolve on its distribution as cash dividends, capitalization with issuance of paid-in shares, use to create reserves other than statutory reserves, or a combination of such alternatives. As a result of this rule the balance of retained earnings after the allocation approved by the Annual Shareholders Meeting should be zero.

Under the above-described restrictions, the legal ability of shareholders at any annual meeting of Telecom Argentina to vote to distribute dividends depends on: (i) the existence of liquid and realized profits and (ii) satisfaction of the financial conditions necessary to distribute dividends without negatively affecting the interests of Telecom Argentina.

In preparing the Annual Report in compliance with Argentine requirements, at the end of each fiscal year, the Board of Directors analyzes Telecom Argentina s economic and financial position and its compliance with the above-mentioned restrictions. The Board of Directors also takes into account the funds needed for operative purposes for the following fiscal year. The Board of Directors then proposes a course of action with respect to retained earnings, which may or may not include a dividend distribution. The decision with regards to the Board s proposal is made by the Telecom Argentina s shareholders at the Shareholders Meeting.

Telecom Argentina shareholders meeting held on April 29, 2014, adjourned to May 21, 2014, approved the allocation of Telecom Argentina s retained earnings as of December 31, 2013, resolving to allocate: (i) P\$9.4 million to the Legal Reserve; (ii) P\$1,202 million (P\$1.24 per outstanding share) to the distribution of cash dividends in two equal installments of P\$601 million each, to be paid in May and September 2014; and (iii) P\$1,991 million to a Voluntary Reserve for Capital Investments. The Shareholders Meeting also decided the delegation of authority in Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors to determine the allocation of the Voluntary Reserve for Capital Investments.

Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors, at their meeting held on March 17, 2015, called an ordinary shareholders meeting to be held on April 29, 2015, to consider among other issues the allocation of Telecom Argentina's retained earnings as of December 31, 2014, (P\$3,673 million) suggested by the Board of Directors as follows: (i) P\$804 million (P\$0.83 per outstanding share) for distribution as cash dividends to be paid on May 11, 2015; (ii) P\$2,869 million to the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends ; and (iii) the delegation of authority to the Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors to determine the allocation, depending on the performance of the business, in one or more installments, of an amount up to P\$649 million of the Reserve for Future Cash Dividends and its distribution to the shareholders as cash dividends, during fiscal year 2015.

#### Significant Changes

No undisclosed significant changes have occurred since the date of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

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On May 22, 2013, Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors, based on the authority delegated by the Ordinary Shareholders meeting held on May 21, 2013 to allocate the Voluntary Reserve for Capital Investments, approved the terms and conditions of the Telecom Argentina s Treasury Shares Acquisition Process. Such an acquisition process has to be made in pesos in the market in order to avoid any possible damages to Telecom Argentina and its shareholders derived from fluctuations and imbalances between the shares price and Telecom Argentina s solvency.

The main terms and conditions of the Treasury Shares acquisition process are:

- Date of announcement: May 22, 2013
- Maximum amount to be invested: P\$1,200 million.

• Maximum amount of shares subject to the acquisition: the amount of Class B ordinary shares of the Company, P\$1 of nominal value and with one vote each, that may be acquired with the maximum amount to be invested, which amount may never exceed a limit of 10% of the capital stock.

• Price to be paid by share: between a minimum of P\$1 and a maximum of P\$32.50 per share. On August 29, 2013 the maximum price was raised by Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors up to P\$40 per share.

• Deadline for the acquisition process: April 30, 2014.

By virtue of the offer made by Fintech on November 7, 2013 for the acquisition of the controlling interest of Telecom Italia Group in Telecom Argentina, Telecom Argentina suspended the acquisition of treasury shares. In addition, Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors considered it was appropriate to require the opinion of the CNV regarding the interpretation of the provisions of the CNV rules on this matter. The CNV did not answer the Company s request and Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors, at its meeting held on May 8, 2014 decided to conclude the request considering that the Treasury Shares Acquisition Program finished on April 30, 2014. Such Program had been approved by Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors Meeting held on May 22, 2013.

Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors, at its meeting held on June 27, 2014, decided to request a new opinion from the CNV to confirm whether Telecom Argentina is obliged to refrain from acquiring treasury shares in the market under Section 13, Chapter I, Title II of the CNV rules (NT2013).

Pursuant to Section 67 of Law No. 26,831, the Company must sell its treasury shares within three years of the date of acquisition. Pursuant to Section 221 of the LSC, the rights of treasury shares shall be suspended until such shares are sold, and shall not be taken into account to determine the quorum or the majority of votes at the Shareholders Meetings. No restrictions apply to Retained Earnings as a result of the creation of a specific reserve for such purposes named Voluntary Reserve for Capital Investments.

The last acquisition made by Telecom Argentina was on November 5, 2013. The total treasury shares acquired were 15,221,373 by a total amount of P\$461 million (P\$30.29 average per share). Such acquisitions were recorded at the acquisition cost and deducted from equity under the caption Treasury shares acquisition cost. No profit or loss resulting from holding the treasury shares has been recognized in the income statement. See Note 19.d). and Note 3.s). to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

As of December 31, 2014, the capital stock of Telecom Argentina was divided into three classes: Class A Ordinary Shares, nominal value P\$1.00 each (Class A Shares), representing 51.00% of the total capital stock of Telecom Argentina, Class B Ordinary Shares, nominal value P\$1.00 each (Class B Shares), representing approximately 48.97% of the total capital stock of Telecom Argentina, and Class C Ordinary Shares, nominal value P\$1.00 each (Class C Shares), representing approximately 0.03% of Telecom Argentina s total capital stock.

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#### The number of shares as of December 31, 2014 was as follows:

		Outstanding	Treasury	Total
Class of shares		shares	shares	capital stock
Class A Shares		502,034,299		502,034,299
Class B Shares		466,858,524	15,221,373	482,079,897
Class C Shares		266,782		266,782
	Total	969,159,605	15,221,373	984,380,978

The Class B Shares are currently listed on the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange. The ADSs representing Class B Shares are currently listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol TEO. Each ADS currently represents 5 Class B Shares.

The table below shows the high and low closing prices of the Class B Shares in pesos for the periods indicated on the *Mercado de Valores de Buenos Aires* (the Buenos Aires Stock Market or BASM), the current principal non-U.S. trading market for such securities. See The Argentine Securities Market. See Item 3 Key Information Exchange Rates for the exchange rates applicable during the periods set forth below.

	Pesos per Class B Share on BASM (1)	
	High	Low
Annual		
2010	20.80	11.90
2011	22.70	16.10
2012	20.40	12.30
2013	39.50	16.40
2014	62.30	28.00
Quarterly		
2013		
First Quarter	25.95	16.40
Second Quarter	31.00	22.50
Third Quarter	37.00	22.80
Fourth Quarter	39.50	28.50
2014		
First Quarter	38.40	28.00
Second Quarter	49.00	34.50
Third Quarter	62.10	42.00
Fourth Quarter	62.30	43.70
Monthly		
2014		
October	61.70	51.70
November	62.30	51.00
December	52.55	43.70
2015		
January	50.60	45.15
February	55.95	46.25
March	63.00	53.00
April (through April 21, 2015)	55.00	51.00

(1) Reflects peso nominal amounts as of that date.

Source: Bolsa de Comercio de Buenos Aires.

The Class B Shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange in the form of ADSs issued by the Depositary under the Deposit Agreement dated as of November 8, 1994, among Telecom Argentina, the Depositary and the registered holders from time to time of the ADSs issued there under (the Deposit Agreement ). Each ADS represents 5 Class B Shares.

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The table below shows the high and low closing prices of the ADSs in U.S. dollars on the New York Stock Exchange for the periods indicated.

	US\$ per A	DS
	High	Low
Annual		
2010	25.78	15.02
2011	26.92	17.28
2012	21.94	9.37
2013	21.19	12.13
2014	25.09	14.78
Quarterly		
2013		
First Quarter	15.92	12.13
Second Quarter	16.73	13.40
Third Quarter	20.11	13.93
Fourth Quarter	21.19	17.10
2014		
First Quarter	19.07	14.78
Second Quarter	23.86	17.77
Third Quarter	25.09	18.65
Fourth Quarter	23.18	19.13
Monthly		
2014		
October	23.13	19.13
November	23.18	21.13
December	22.06	19.35
2015		
January	20.76	18.85
February	23.44	18.94
March	26.04	22.21
April (through April 21, 2015)	22.87	21.30

On April 21, 2015, the reported last sale price of the ADSs on the New York Stock Exchange was US\$21.94.

### **Plan of Distribution**

Not applicable.

The Argentine Securities Market

As of March 2015, eleven securities exchanges exist in Argentina, of which five (including the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange) have affiliated stock markets and are authorized to quote publicly-offered securities. The oldest and largest of these exchanges is the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, founded in 1854. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the ten most actively traded equity issues represented approximately 85% of the total volume of equity traded on the market. Trading in securities listed on an exchange is conducted through a *Mercado de Valores* (Stock Market) affiliated with such exchange.

Securities may also be listed and traded on the *Mercado Abierto Electrónico S.A.* (the MAE ), an electronic over-the-counter market trading system that functions independently from the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange and the Buenos Aires Stock Market. However, in March 1992, the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, the Buenos Aires Stock Market and representatives of the dealers on the MAE implemented an agreement that causes trading in equity and equity-related securities to be conducted exclusively on the Buenos Aires Stock Market, while all corporate debt securities listed on the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange may also be traded on the MAE. Trading in Argentine government securities,

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which are not covered by the agreement, is expected to be conducted principally on the MAE. The agreement does not extend to other Argentine stock exchanges.

The CNV is responsible for the regulation and supervision to ensure the correct application of the rules governing the Argentine Securities Market, which will continue under the new regulatory framework described as follows.

Capital Markets Law Law No. 26,831

On December 28, 2012, the new Capital Markets Law (Law No. 26,831) was published in the Official Bulletin. This Law eliminates capital market s self-regulation and grants new powers to the CNV, including the ability to request reports and documents, conduct investigations and inspections of natural and legal persons under its control, call to testify and take informative and testimonial declaration. Likewise, if as a result of investigations performed, it is determined that non-controlling interests or the interests of holders of securities subject to public offering have been harmed, the CNV, according to the severity of the harm determined, may appoint overseers with the power to veto resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors and/or discontinue the Board of Directors for a maximum period of 180 days until deficiencies found are remedied.

Law No. 26,831 supersedes Law No. 17,811 and Decree No. 677/01, among other rules, and became effective on January 28, 2013.

In August 2013, the PEN issued Decree No. 1,023/13 regulating certain sections of Law No. 26,831, and in September 2013, the CNV issued the Resolution No. 622/13 which established the new comprehensive rules of the CNV and also implements regulation related to certain sections of Law No. 26,831.

#### The Buenos Aires Stock Market

The Buenos Aires Stock Market, which is affiliated with the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, is the largest stock market in Argentina. The Buenos Aires Stock Market is a corporation, whose approximately 128 shareholder members are the only individuals and entities authorized to trade in the securities listed on the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange. Trading on the Buenos Aires Stock Market is conducted by continuous open bidding, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each business day. The Buenos Aires Stock Market also operates a continuous electronic market system each business day, on which privately arranged trades are registered and made public.

Although the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange is one of Latin America s largest securities exchanges in terms of market capitalization, it remains relatively small and illiquid compared to major world markets, and therefore, is subject to greater volatility. To control price volatility, the Buenos Aires Stock Market operates a system which suspends dealing in a particular issuer s shares for fifteen minutes when the price changes 10% with respect to that day s opening price. Once trading resumes, the trading is then suspended for another fifteen minutes if the price changes more than 15% with respect to that day s opening price. If the price then changes 20% with respect to that day s opening price, and for every 5% fluctuation in price thereafter, the trading of such shares is interrupted for an additional ten minutes. Investors in the Argentine securities market are mostly individuals, mutual funds and companies. Institutional investors that trade securities on the Buenos Aires Stock Market, which represent a relatively small percentage of trading activity, consist of a limited number of investment funds.

Certain historical information regarding the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange is set forth in the table below.

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Market capitalization (P\$ billions) (1)	3,893	3,356	2,314	1,611	1,900
As percent of GDP (1)	87	124	106	87	132
Volume (P\$ million) (1)	621,831	367,830	242,324	207,805	177,614
Average daily trading volume (P\$ million) (1)	2,580	1,526	1,006	848	722
Number of traded companies (including Cedears)	202	256	267	241	275

(1) End-of-period figures for trading on the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange (includes domestic and non-domestic public companies).

Source: Instituto Argentino de Mercado de Capitales.

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### Selling Shareholders

Not applicable.

### Dilution

Not applicable.

Expenses of the Issue

Not applicable.

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**ITEM 10.** 

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

#### Register

Telecom Argentina s bylaws were registered in the *Inspección General de Justicia* (General Board of Corporations) on July 13, 1990 under number 4,570, book 108, volume A of Corporations. The bylaws with all amendments thereto were registered in the General Board of Corporations on March 31, 2011 under number 5,982, book 53 of Corporations.

### **Objects and Purposes**

Article I, Section 3 of the bylaws states that the object of Telecom Argentina is to render, either on its own account or on account of, or in association with, third parties, telecommunications public services, except for radio broadcasting, under the terms, if any, of the licenses granted by relevant authorities. The bylaws authorize Telecom Argentina to take all actions permitted by law to fulfill its aforementioned objects.

On March 1, 2001, the SC authorized Telecom Argentina to expand its corporate purpose, to include the marketing of equipment, infrastructure and goods of any type related or complementary to telecommunications, and the performance of works and provision of all types of services, including consulting and security related to telecommunications, as well as the development of telecommunications technology and information processing systems. This expansion of the corporate purpose has been approved by the CNV. As a result, the bylaws which reflect this change have been approved and registered in their final form.

On April 30, 2003, Telecom Argentina s shareholders voted not to adhere to the regime established by Decree No. 677/01 (the Statutory Regime of Public Offer of Mandatory Acquisition) and approved the consequent modification of Article 1° of Telecom Argentina s bylaws.

However, since January 28, 2013, when Law No. 26,831 became effective, the universal scope of the Statutory Regime of Public Offer of Mandatory Acquisition governs, as provided in the Law, which states: Article 90. Universal scope. The Statutory Regime of Public Offer of Mandatory Acquisition regulated in this chapter and the residual participation regulated in the following chapter includes all listed companies, even those that, under the previous regime, have opted to be excluded of its application.

On February 18, 2004, Telecom Argentina s shareholders voted to change the company s name to Telecom Argentina S.A.

#### Telecom Argentina s capital stock

The following is a summary of the rights of the holders of Telecom Argentina shares. These rights are set out in Telecom Argentina s *estatutos sociales* (bylaws) or are provided for by applicable Argentine law, and may differ from those typically provided to shareholders of U.S. companies under the corporations laws of some states of the United States.

Limited Liability of Shareholders

Under Argentine law, a shareholder s liability for losses of a company is generally limited to the value of his or her shareholdings in the company. Under Argentine law, however, a shareholder who votes in favor of a resolution that is subsequently declared void by a court as contrary to Argentine law or a company s bylaws (or regulations, if any) may be held jointly and severally liable for damages to such company, to other shareholders or to third parties resulting from such resolution. In connection with recommending certain actions for approval by shareholders, the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina occasionally obtained opinions of internal and/or external counsel concerning the compliance of the actions with Argentine law and our bylaws (or regulations, if any). We currently intend to obtain similar opinions in the future as the circumstances require it. Although the issue is not free from doubt, based on advice of counsel, we believe that a court in Argentina in which a case has been properly presented would hold that a non-controlling shareholder voting in good faith and without a conflict of interest in favor of such a resolution based on the advice of counsel that such resolution is not contrary to Argentine law or our bylaws or regulations, would not be liable under this provision.

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Voting Rights

In accordance with the bylaws, each share entitles the holder thereof to one vote at meetings of the shareholders of Telecom Argentina. All of Telecom Argentina s directors are appointed jointly by shareholders in an Ordinary General Shareholders Meeting.

Under Argentine law, shareholders are entitled to cumulative voting procedures for the election of up to one-third of the vacancies to be filled on the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee. If any shareholder notifies a corporation of its decision to exercise its cumulative voting rights not later than three business days prior to the date of a Shareholders Meeting, all shareholders are entitled, but not required, to exercise their cumulative voting rights. Under cumulative voting, the aggregate number of votes that a shareholder may cast is multiplied by the number of vacancies to be filled in the election, and each shareholder may allocate the total number of its votes among a number of candidates not exceeding one-third of the number of vacancies to be filled. Shareholders not exercising cumulative voting rights are entitled to cast the number of votes represented by their shares for each candidate. The candidates receiving the most votes are elected to the vacancies filled by cumulative and noncumulative voting. If no candidate for a particular vacancy receives an absolute majority of votes, the two candidates that received the most votes will participate in a run-off election, and the candidate receiving the most votes in the run-off election will be deemed elected.

In addition, any person who enters into a voting agreement with other shareholders in a public company must inform the CNV of that voting agreement and must file a copy of that voting agreement with the CNV.

#### Meetings of Shareholders

Shareholders Meetings may be ordinary meetings or extraordinary meetings. Telecom Argentina is required to hold an Annual Ordinary Meeting of shareholders in each fiscal year to consider the matters outlined in Article 234 of the Argentine Corporations Law, Article 71 of Law No. 26,831 and CNV rules, including but not limited to:

• approval of Telecom Argentina s financial statements and general performance of the directors and members of the Supervisory Committee for the preceding fiscal year;

- election, removal and remuneration of directors and members of the Supervisory Committee;
- allocation of profits; and
- appointment of external auditors.

Matters which may be considered at these or other ordinary meetings include consideration of the responsibility of directors and members of the Supervisory Committee, as well as capital increases and the issuance of negotiable obligations. Extraordinary Shareholders Meetings may be called at any time to consider matters beyond the scope of the ordinary meeting, including amendments to the bylaws, issuances of certain securities that permit profit sharing, anticipated dissolution, merger and transformation from one type of company to another, etc. Shareholders Meetings may be convened by the Board of Directors or the members of the Supervisory Committee. The Board of Directors or the members of the Supervisory Committee are also required to convene Shareholders Meetings upon the request of any shareholder or group of shareholders holding at least 5% in the aggregate of Telecom Argentina s capital stock. If the Board of Directors or the members of the Supervisory Committee fail to do so, the meeting may be called by the CNV or by the courts.

Notice of the Shareholders Meeting must be published in the Official Bulletin of the Republic of Argentina and in a widely circulated newspaper in Argentina at least twenty days before the meeting. In order to attend a meeting, shareholders must submit proper evidence of their ownership of shares via book-entry account held at the Caja de Valores S.A. If so entitled to attend the meeting, a shareholder may be represented by proxy.

Class B Shares represented by ADSs will be voted by the Depositary in accordance with instructions of the holders of the ADSs. In order for voting instructions to be valid, the Depositary must receive them on or before the date specified in the relevant notice. There is no guarantee that an ADS holder will receive voting materials in time to instruct the Depositary to vote.

The quorum for ordinary meetings consists of a majority of the stock entitled to vote and resolutions may be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the shareholders present that have issued a valid vote, without counting voluntary abstentions. If no quorum is present at the meeting, a

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second meeting may be called at which shareholders present, whatever their number, shall constitute a quorum and resolutions may be adopted by a majority of the shareholders present. The quorum for extraordinary meetings is 60% of the stock entitled to vote. However, if a quorum is not present at the first meeting, the quorum requirement for the second meeting will be 30% of the stock entitled to vote. In both cases, decisions are adopted by a majority of valid votes, except for certain fundamental matters such as:

• mergers and spin-offs, when Telecom Argentina is not the surviving entity and the surviving entity is not listed on any stock exchange;

- anticipated liquidation;
- change of our domicile to outside Argentina;
- total or partial repayment of capital; or
- a substantial change in the corporate purpose.

Each of these actions requires a favorable vote of more than 50% of all the stock entitled to vote.

In some of these cases, a dissenting shareholder is entitled to appraisal rights.

Any resolution adopted by the shareholders at Ordinary or Extraordinary Shareholders Meetings that affects the rights of one particular class of stock must also be ratified by a special meeting of that class of shareholders governed by the rules for ordinary meetings.

#### Dividends

Dividends can be lawfully paid and declared only out of our realized and liquid profit.

The Board of Directors submits to the shareholders for approval at an ordinary meeting of shareholders our financial statements for the previous fiscal year, together with a report thereon by the Board of Directors. The shareholders, upon approving the financial statements, determine the allocation of Telecom Argentina s net profits (if any). Under CNV Rules a Shareholders Meeting convened to approve the financial statements in which retained earnings are positive must make a specific decision on the use of such earnings in accordance with Law No. 19,550 and, as a result, must resolve on its distribution as cash dividends, capitalization with issuance of paid-in shares, use to create reserves other than statutory reserves, or a combination of such alternatives. In addition, the Argentine Corporations Law requires Argentine companies to allocate 5% of any net profits to legal reserve, until the amount of this reserve equals 20% of our capital stock. The legal reserve is not available for distribution. The remainder of net profits may be paid as dividends on common stock or retained as a voluntary reserve or other account, or a combination thereof, all as determined by the shareholders. As provided by CNV Resolution No. 609/12, positive retained earnings generated by the mandatory adoption of IFRS as from January 1, 2012, should be assigned to a Special Reserve that can only be utilized for its capitalization or to absorb negative retained earnings.

Dividends may not be paid if the legal reserve has been impaired, nor until it has been fully rebuilt. Notwithstanding, the obligation to pay declared dividends expires three years after the distribution date pursuant to Section 17 of Telecom Argentina s bylaws, as amended by the Shareholders Meeting held on April 24, 2002.

Argentine law permits the Board of Directors of certain companies (such as Telecom Argentina) to approve the distribution of anticipated dividends on the basis of a quarter balance or a balance sheet especially prepared for the purpose of paying such dividends, provided that both the external auditors and the Supervisory Committee have issued an opinion report. The actual payment of these dividends is made on an interim basis, and they are paid on account of the dividends to determine in the shareholders annual meeting on the basis of the financial statements for the year.

See Note 30 to our Consolidated Financial Statements regarding restrictions on distributions of profits and dividends.

Capital Increase and Reductions

Telecom Argentina may increase its capital upon authorization of the shareholders at an ordinary meeting. All capital increases must be registered with the CNV, published in the Official Bulletin and registered with the Public Registry of Commerce. Capital reductions may be voluntary or mandatory. Shares issued in connection with any increase in capital must be divided among the various classes in

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proportion to the number of shares of each class outstanding at the date of the issuance, provided that the number of shares of each class actually issued may vary based on the exercise of preemptive rights and additional preemptive rights in accordance with the procedure described under Preemptive Rights.

A voluntary reduction of capital must be approved by an Extraordinary Meeting of the shareholders and may take place only after notice thereof is published and creditors are given an opportunity to obtain payment or collateralization of their claims, or attachment, except in redemption cases (with liquid and realized profits).

In accordance with Article 206 of the Argentine Corporations Law, suspended by successive decrees until December 10, 2005, reduction of a company s capital stock is mandatory when losses have exceeded reserves and at least 50% of the stated capital (capital stock plus inflation adjustment).

Currently, Telecom Argentina is not required to reduce its capital stock.

#### Preemptive Rights

Under Argentine law, holders of a company s common shares of any given class have preferential or preemptive rights, proportional to the number of shares owned by each holder, to subscribe for any shares of capital stock of the same class as the shares owned by the shareholder or for any securities convertible into such shares issued by the company.

In the event of an increase in capital, shareholders of Telecom Argentina of any given class have a preemptive right to purchase any issue of shares of such class in an amount sufficient to maintain their proportionate ownership of Telecom Argentina s capital stock. For any shares of a class not preempted by any holder of that class, the remaining holders of the class will assume pro rata the non-preempting shareholders preemptive rights. Pursuant to the bylaws, if any Class B or Class C Shares are not preempted by the existing holders of each such class, the other classes may preempt such class. However, if any shares of Class A are not preempted by the existing holders of such class, holders of Class B or Class C Shares shall have no preemptive rights with respect to such shares of Class A unless otherwise approved by the regulatory authorities. Preemptive rights must be exercised within 30 days following the time when notices to the shareholders of their opportunity to preempt the capital increase are published for three days in the Official Bulletin of the Republic of Argentina and a widely circulated newspaper in Argentina.

Pursuant to the Argentine Corporations Law, preemptive rights may only be restricted or suspended in certain particular and exceptional cases by a resolution of an Extraordinary Meeting of shareholders when required by the interest of the company.

Conflicts of Interest

A shareholder that votes on a business transaction in which its interest conflicts with that of Telecom Argentina may be liable for damages under Argentine law, but only if the transaction would not have been approved without its vote. See Item 3 Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Argentina Shareholders may be liable under Argentine law for actions that are determined to be illegal or ultra vires. See also Powers of the Directors below for a description of conflict of interest regarding Directors.

Redemption or Repurchase

Telecom Argentina s stock is subject to redemption in connection with a reduction of capital by a majority vote of shareholders at an extraordinary shareholders meeting. Pursuant to the Argentine Corporations Law, Telecom Argentina may repurchase the stock with liquid and realized profits or available reserves, upon a determination of the Board of Directors that the repurchase is necessary in order to avoid severe damage to our business (subject to shareholder consideration) or in connection with a merger or acquisition. In addition, Telecom Argentina can purchase up to 10% of its capital stock in the Buenos Aires stock exchange pursuant to Law No. 26,831, complying with the requirements and procedures stated therein. If the purchase is made pursuant to Law No. 26,831, Telecom Argentina must resell the repurchased shares within three years and must give shareholders a preemptive right to purchase the shares, except in case of an employee compensation program or plan or in case the shares are distributed among all the shareholders proportionately or regarding the sale of an amount of shares that in any period of 12 months does not exceed 1% of the Company's capital. In such cases previous approval by a shareholders meeting is needed.

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Appraisal Rights

Whenever certain extraordinary resolutions are adopted at Shareholders Meetings such as a merger of Telecom Argentina into another entity, a change of corporate purpose, transformation from one type of corporate form to another, or Telecom Argentina s shares cease to be traded publicly, any shareholder dissenting from the adoption of any resolution may withdraw from Telecom Argentina and receive the book value per share determined on the basis of Telecom Argentina s annual financial statements (as approved by the Annual Ordinary Shareholders Meeting), provided that the shareholder exercises its appraisal rights within five days following the meeting at which the resolution was adopted in the case of a dissenting shareholder. This right may be exercised within 15 days following the meeting if the dissenting shareholder was absent and can prove that he was a shareholder on the day of the meeting. In the case of a merger of Telecom Argentina or a spin-off of Telecom Argentina, no appraisal rights may be exercised if Telecom Argentina is the surviving company.

Appraisal rights are extinguished if the resolution is subsequently overturned at another Shareholders Meeting held within sixty days of the expiration of the time period during which absent shareholders may exercise their appraisal rights.

Payment on the appraisal rights must be made within one year of the date of the Shareholders Meeting at which the resolution was adopted. If the resolution was to cease to publicly offer Telecom Argentina s stock, the payment period is reduced to sixty days from the date of the resolution.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, should Telecom Argentina decide to cease trading its shares publicly, pursuant to Article 97 of the Law No. 26,831, a tender offer by Telecom Argentina must be conducted before the exercise of appraisal rights by any shareholder. According to Article 98 of the Law No. 26,831 redemption value is not the book value but is determined based on market value of shares.

#### Liquidation

Upon liquidation of Telecom Argentina, one or more liquidators may be appointed to wind up its affairs. All outstanding shares of common stock will be entitled to participate equally in any distribution upon liquidation.

In the event of liquidation, the assets of Telecom Argentina shall be applied to satisfy its debts and liabilities. If any surplus remains, it shall be distributed to the holders of shares in proportion to their holdings.

Acquisitions of 5% or More of the Voting Stock of a Public Company

Under Argentine law, any person acquiring 5% or more of the voting stock of a public company must inform the CNV in writing of the acquisition of such voting stock. Additionally, such person must inform the CNV in writing of each additional acquisition of 5% of the voting

stock of that particular company, until such person acquires control of that company.

#### **Powers of the Directors**

The bylaws of Telecom Argentina do not contain any provision regarding the ability to vote on a proposal, arrangement or contract where a director is an interested party. Under Argentine law, a director may sign contracts with the company that is related to the company s activities so long as the conditions are on an arm s-length basis. If such contract does not meet such conditions, the agreement may only be subscribed with the prior approval of the Board of Directors or, in absence of quorum, with the approval of the Supervisory Committee. Such transactions must be dealt with at the following Shareholders Meeting, and if such meeting does not approve them, the Board of Directors or the Supervisory Committee (as the case may be) are jointly responsible for any damages caused to the company. Argentine law also requires that if a director has a personal interest contrary to Telecom Argentina s, this must be noted to the Board of Directors and to the Supervisory Committee. The director must refrain from participating in any deliberations or risk becoming jointly and severally liable for all damages caused to Telecom Argentina as a result of the conflict.

Additionally, Law No. 26,831 dictates that the contracts between a company and a director (that qualifies as a related party ) when they exceed 1% of the shareholders equity of the company, must be submitted to prior approval of the Audit Committee or of two independent evaluation firms to ensure that the transaction is in accordance with market conditions. Such transactions must also be approved by the Board of Directors and reported to the CNV and the exchanges on which the shares of the

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company are listed. If the Audit Committee or the independent evaluation firms have not determined the terms of the transaction to be according to market conditions, then the contract in question must be submitted for consideration at a Shareholders Meeting.

Section 10 of the bylaws of Telecom Argentina establishes that the remuneration of the members of the Board of Directors is to be determined by the shareholders at their annual meeting. The Audit Committee is to issue a prior opinion on the reasonability of the proposed remuneration, which the Board of Directors submits for approval to the shareholders. Therefore, the Directors do not have the ability to vote on compensation for themselves nor for any other director.

The bylaws of Telecom Argentina do not contain any provision regarding the possibility of granting loans to members of the Board of Directors or Company executives.

Members of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina or its subsidiaries or parent company cannot be appointed as members of the Supervisory Committee.

The bylaws of Telecom Argentina do not establish a maximum age to be member of the Board of Directors.

Neither the bylaws of Telecom Argentina nor any Argentine law require the members of the Board of Directors to be shareholders.

#### Limitations on Foreign Investment in Argentina

Under the Argentine Foreign Investment Law, as amended (the FIL), the purchase of stock by an individual or legal entity domiciled abroad or by a local company of foreign capital (as defined in the FIL) constitutes a foreign investment subject to the FIL. Foreign investments generally are unrestricted. However, foreign investments in certain industries, such as broadcasting, are restricted as to percentage. No approval is necessary to purchase the Class B Shares. The FIL does not limit the right of non-resident or foreign owners to hold or vote the Class B Shares, and there are no restrictions in Telecom Argentina s bylaws limiting the rights of non-residents or non-Argentines to hold or to vote Telecom Argentina s Class B Shares. Notwithstanding the foregoing, regulations implemented by the CNV require that all shareholders that are companies who register to participate at a Shareholders Meeting should provide details of their registration in the Republic of Argentina. To acquire participation in a company in Argentina, non-Argentine companies are required to comply with the share ownership registration requirements as provided for under Section 123 of the Argentine Corporations Law.

#### **Change of Control**

There are no provisions in the bylaws of Telecom Argentina which may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of Telecom Argentina and that would only operate with respect to a merger, acquisition or corporate restructuring involving Telecom Argentina

or any of its subsidiaries, except for the regulatory authorization required for the transfer of Nortel s Class A Shares discussed below. Moreover, the Privatization Regulations and the List of Conditions as modified by SC Resolutions No. 111/03 and No. 29/04 prohibit, without prior SC approval, (i) any transfer of our capital stock that reduces Nortel s ownership of Telecom Argentina to less than 51%, or (ii) any transfer of shares of Nortel that reduces the shareholding of the actual ordinary shareholders to less than 51% of the voting stock of Nortel, except with prior authorization of the SC.

Under Law 26,831 a party that wishes to obtain either a majority or a significant equity ownership interest (with the intention of acquiring control) in a publicly traded corporation must offer a *precio equitativo* (fair price) as defined in the law to all of the corporation s shareholders. Until the enactment of Law 26,831, this regulation applied to all Argentine corporations with listed securities unless the corporation s shareholders specifically voted not to adopt the regime. On January 28, 2013, Law No. 26,831 became effective. This law states in its Article 90, Universal scope. The Statutory Regime of Public Offer of Mandatory Acquisition regulated in this chapter and the residual participation regime encoded of its precise and the residual participation encoded of its precise and the residual participation encoded of its precise.

regulated in the following chapter includes all listed companies, even those that, under the previous regime, have opted to be excluded of its application.

### MATERIAL CONTRACTS

For information regarding the Shareholders Agreement, see Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Major Shareholders Shareholders Agreement. We are not a party to the Shareholders Agreement.

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### FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND EXCHANGE CONTROLS IN ARGENTINA

Due to the deterioration of the economic and financial situation in Argentina throughout 2001, the difficulties in dealing with the servicing of the public foreign debt and the decrease of the total level of deposits in the financial system, the Argentine government issued Decree No. 1,570/01, which, as of December 3, 2001, established a number of monetary and currency exchange control measures that included restrictions on the free disposition of funds with banks and restrictions on transferring funds abroad, with certain exceptions for transfers related to foreign trade and certain other transfers subject to the prior authorization of the BCRA.

On February 8, 2002, the BCRA issued tight restrictions on the transfer of funds abroad in order to make payments of principal and/or interest by requiring prior authorization from the BCRA. Since 2003, these restrictions have been progressively curbed. However, there can be no assurances that the BCRA or other governmental agencies will not increase restrictions for making transfers of funds abroad.

Having completed its debt restructuring as of August 2005, Telecom Argentina is no longer subject to certain significant BCRA restrictions. However, certain other restrictions imposed by the BCRA or other government agencies are still applicable. Among others:

(i) the ability to acquire foreign currency as an investment or to apply it to foreign portfolio investments is subject to prior approval of the BCRA;

(ii) the acquisition of foreign currency to pay principal maturities on foreign debt obligations can be made on the day of such maturities or:

1. within the 10 business days preceding the maturity date, provided that the acquirer complies with the Minimum Holding Term (as defined below);

2. within a certain period of time before the maturity date, as a result of the occurrence of specific conditions established under foreign refinancing agreements executed after February 11, 2002; or

3. before the 10 business day period immediately preceding the maturity date *provided* that the acquirer complies with the Minimum Holding Term and the payment is entirely financed with (i) foreign funds destined to capital contributions; or (ii) new financings granted by international financial institutions and agencies, official foreign credit agencies, and foreign banks, and to the extent that: (a) such prepayment were expressly established as a condition to grant new credits; (b) the average term of the new loan is greater than the average remaining term of the loan that is being cancelled in advance considering in both cases principal and interest payments; and (c) such prepayment does not imply an increase in the present value of the outstanding debt.

The purchase of foreign currency to pay interests abroad may be done in advance, but not exceeding 10 business days from the date of expiration of each quota of interest computed in arrears.

Additionally, pursuant to General Resolution No. 3,417/12, as amended, of the *Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos* (Argentine Tax Authority) ( AFIP ), Argentine residents who access the FX Market to pay interests abroad (among other items), are obliged to previously inform in advance the payment of interests through the AFIP s website and obtain a *Declaración Jurada de Pagos al Exterior* (Advanced Sworn Statement of Payments made Abroad) ( DAPE ).

In June 2005, the Argentine government imposed certain restrictions on inflows and outflows of foreign currency to the local foreign exchange market that remain in effect. New indebtedness entered into the foreign exchange market and debt renewals with non-Argentine residents from the private sector entered in the local foreign exchange market shall be agreed upon and canceled in terms not shorter than 365 calendar days (the Minimum Holding Term ), whatever the form of cancellation thereof (i.e. with or without access to the local foreign exchange market). The following transactions, among others, are exempted from this restriction: (i) foreign trade financings (i.e., exports advance payments, pre-financing of exports and imports financing); (ii) balances of foreign exchange transactions with correspondent exchange entities (which are not credit lines); and (iii) primary debt security issuances with a public offering and listing.

Any inflow of funds to the local foreign exchange market arising from, but not limited to, (i) foreign indebtedness, other than the cases described in the following paragraph; (ii) primary stock issuances

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of companies residing in Argentina not under a public offering and that are not listed in self-governed markets, to the extent they do not create direct investment funds; (iii) portfolio investments of nonresidents intended to hold local currency and assets and liabilities of the financial sector and nonfinancial private sector, to the extent they are not arising from the primary subscription of debt securities under a public offering and listed in self-governed markets and/or the primary subscription of stock of companies residing in Argentina under a public offering and listed in self-governed markets; and (iv) portfolio investments of nonresidents intended for the purchase of any right in secondary markets regarding securities issued by the public sector; shall be subject to the creation of a nominative, nontransferable and non-compensated deposit, for 30% of the amount involved in the relevant transaction (the Mandatory Deposit ), for a term of 365 calendar days, pursuant to the terms and conditions established in the regulations.

Any inflow of funds to the local foreign exchange market arising from, but not limited to, the following transactions are not subject to the 30% mandatory deposit: (a) foreign indebtedness of Argentine residents under foreign trade financings; (b) primary debt security issuances with a public offering and listed; (c) foreign indebtedness with Multilateral and Bilateral Credit Institutions and Official Credit Agencies, directly or through their related agencies; (d) investments of non-Argentine residents in Argentina under (i) primary subscription of securities issued by the public sector (except for securities issued by the BCRA); and (ii) direct investments, including capital contributions to local companies of direct investment (namely, a company set up or not as legal entity in which the foreign direct investor holds at least 10% of common shares or voting rights or its equivalent), and foreign funds transferred into Argentina by non-Argentine residents for the purpose of purchasing local assets that qualify as direct investment (such as real estate located in Argentina); and (e) foreign financial indebtedness provided: (i) the proceeds from the exchange settlement, net of taxes and expenses, are applied to the purchase of foreign currencies to cancel foreign debt principal and/or to the creation of long-term foreign assets; or (ii) they are incurred and canceled in an average life of not less than two years, including payments of principal and interest in the calculation, and to the extent they are applied to investments in nonfinancial assets. In this context, nonfinancial assets or as investments mean, among others, investments of assets capable of being registered in the financial statements of the borrower either as fixed assets or as inventory.

The Ministry of Economy and Public Finance included the following exemptions from the Mandatory Deposit: (i) the inflow of own funds through the foreign exchange market to the extent that such funds are used to purchase local currency for the subsequent payment of tax obligations; and (ii) the inflow of funds from foreign entities financings to be applied to the installation of industrial and technology equipment into local companies, through the acquisition and subsequent delivery in leasing of: (x) equipment that falls within the category of machinery and technology, and (y) certain vehicles within an exhaustive list.

There can be no assurance that the BCRA will not once again require its prior authorization for, or restrict in some other way, the transfer of funds abroad for principal and/or interest payments by Telecom to its foreign creditors or for dividend payments by Telecom to its foreign shareholders.

Argentine companies may keep and spend outside Argentina any capital contributions that they have received abroad. Conversely, if a non-Argentine resident sends its capital contribution to the Argentine company in Argentina or the Argentine company repatriates a contribution received abroad, that transfer will be subject to certain requirements under foreign exchange regulations. Those requirements will vary depending on whether the capital contribution is classified as a portfolio or a direct investment. Direct investments are participations in Argentine companies reaching at least a holding of 10% of their common stock or voting rights (and subsequent contributions of a foreign investor who has already reached that level), and portfolio investments are participations that fall below that minimum. Portfolio investments also include holdings of cash and bank deposits on local currency, as well as debt securities, among others.

Funds of direct investments transferred to Argentina as capital contributions are not subject to the Mandatory Deposit, provided that certain requirements are met and the Argentine company receiving such funds completes and registers with the Public Registry of Commerce the related capital increase by the applicable deadline. The applicable deadline was recently extended and the Argentine company must register with the

Public Registry of Commerce within 540 calendar days of the day of its initial filing. Portfolio investments are subject to the Mandatory Deposit.

The impact of foreign exchange regulations on the repatriation rights of non-Argentine resident investors (i.e., the right to use Argentine Pesos received in Argentina by a nonresident due to a sale,

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liquidation or capital reduction to buy foreign currency and transfer it abroad) also varies depending on whether the investment is a direct or a portfolio investment.

In any case, both types of investment must be maintained in Argentina for at least 365 days before repatriation.

Communication A 5,237 of the BCRA, effective from October 28, 2011, added a new requirement for non-Argentine direct investors to repatriate Argentine Pesos collected in Argentina as a consequence of a sale or liquidation of the direct investment, capital reduction and reimbursement of capital contributions in Argentina (the Communication ). As from the effective date of Communication A 5,237, for such purpose, the funds originally paid for such investment or disbursement for the capital contribution, as applicable, must be transferred to Argentina and sold for pesos in the local foreign exchange market (the Transfer Requirement ). Prior to the Communication, non-Argentine investors were not obliged to demonstrate that the funds paid for its investments or disbursements for its capital contributions had been transferred and sold in the exchange market in order to be allowed to repatriate its investment.

The Communication applies to all the direct investments made on and since October 28, 2011. Therefore, all direct investments made before that date are exempt from the Transfer Requirement.

On October 16, 2014, the Central Bank issued Communication A 5,649 which included as an additional requirement of those discussed above, that the repatriation of direct investments shall take place if the foreign beneficiary is an individual or legal entity incorporated or domiciled in jurisdictions considered to be cooperative for the purposes of tax transparency.

In addition, repatriation of a portfolio investment requires evidence that the original investment involved the transfer of funds to Argentina and is subject to an aggregate maximum limit of US\$500,000 per calendar month.

### TAXATION

#### **Argentine Taxes**

The following summary of certain Argentine tax matters is based upon the tax laws of Argentina, and regulations thereunder, in effect as of the date of this Annual Report on Form 20-F and is subject to any subsequent change in Argentine laws and regulations which may come into effect after such date. This summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a holder of such securities.

Amendments to the Income Tax Law

On September 23, 2013, Law No. 26,893 was published in the Official Bulletin, incorporating amendments to the Argentine Income Tax Laws in connection with, among others, the taxation of gains derived from transfers of stocks and dividend distributions. On February 7, 2014, the PEN issued Decree No. 2,334/13 which regulates Law 26,893. Law No. 26,893 became effective on September 23, 2013, and applies to taxable events on or after that date.

#### Taxation of Dividends

Pursuant to Law No. 26,893 s dividends and other profits paid in cash or in kind except for stock dividends or quota dividends by companies and other entities incorporated in Argentina referred to in Argentine Income Tax Law (the Income Tax Law ) Sections 69 (a)(1),(2),(3),(6) and (7), and Section 69(b), are subject to income tax at a 10% rate, except for dividends received by Argentine companies and other Argentine entities, which are not be subject to income tax. Dividends distributed to nonresidents are subject to a 10% withholding tax, as a unique and definitive payment. Consequently, any dividend distribution made by the Company to its shareholders shall be subject to this 10% withholding tax, except for those beneficiaries that are domestic corporate taxpayers, referred to as sujetos empresa (such as, for instance, distributions made from Telecom Argentina to Nortel and those from Personal to Telecom Argentina and Nortel) and in addition to withholding, if applicable, of so called Equalization Tax (as described below).

Under Argentine income tax law, a corporation that makes a distribution of dividends to its shareholders in excess of the amount of its accumulated taxable net income at the close of the previous taxable year, as determined by application of the Income Tax Law, must withhold a 35% tax from such excess (the Equalization Tax). For purposes of this rule, the amount of income to be considered shall be determined by (1) deducting from taxable income (calculated under the general

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rules of the Income Tax Law) the income tax paid by the company and (2) adding the dividends and profits not subject to tax received as distributions from other corporations. If the distribution is in kind, then the corporation must pay the tax to the tax authorities and will be entitled to seek reimbursement from the shareholders.

Taxation of Capital Gains

Gains derived from the transfer of shares, quotas and other equity interests, titles, bonds and other securities issued by an Argentine Company, are subject to Argentine income tax, regardless of the type of beneficiary who realizes the gain. The effective tax rate applicable to nonresident individuals or foreign companies is 15%.

However, gains from the transfer of such securities are exempt from such income tax when the securities are listed on a stock exchange and the gains are realized by Argentine individuals or undivided estates.

Capital gains obtained by nonresidents from the transfer of shares, quotas and other equity interests, titles, bonds and other securities are subject to this tax on capital gains. The tax is assessed at the nonresident seller s option by either (i) applying the 15% tax rate on 90% of the sales price or (ii) the excess of the sale price over the acquisition cost net of the other expenses incurred in Argentina necessary to obtain, maintain and preserve this gain. There is currently no guidance under Argentine law with respect to how this election is made. When both the seller and the buyer are nonresidents, the person liable to pay the tax shall be the buyer of the shares, quotas, equity interests and other securities transferred.

Holders are encouraged to consult a tax advisor as to the particular Argentine income tax consequences of acquiring holding and disposing of ADSs or Class A, B and C Shares.

Tax on Personal Property

Argentine Law No. 25,585, as amended by Law No. 26,317, imposes a Tax on Personal Property. According to this tax, the following persons are subject to an annual tax on certain assets, which is levied at rates ranging from 0.50% to 1.25% depending on the value of such assets as of December 31 of each year: (i) individuals domiciled in Argentina for assets located in Argentina and abroad and (ii) individuals domiciled outside of Argentina for assets located in Argentina. For purposes of this tax, shares of stock of Argentine corporations, such as Telecom Argentina s ADSs and Class A, B and C Shares are considered assets located in Argentina.

Although the tax on personal property does not explicitly apply to individuals or entities domiciled outside Argentina, pursuant to Argentine Law No. 25,585, shares of stock corporations or other equity interests in companies regulated by Argentine Corporations Law 19,550, as amended, such as the ADSs (held in book entry form or evidenced by ADRs) and Class A, B and C Shares, and whose holders are individuals and/or undivided estates domiciled in Argentina or in a foreign country, are subject to the tax on personal property.

The tax rate to be applied is 0.50% and the taxable base is the value of the shareholders equity as stated in the most recent balance sheet of the company as of December 31 of each year. Such tax shall be assessed on and paid by the corresponding Argentine company issuer of the shares, such as Telecom Argentina. The tax so paid shall be considered as a definite payment.

The above-mentioned rules include an irrefutable presumption that shares of stock corporations and other equity interests of companies regulated by Argentine Corporations Law 19,550, as amended, such as the ADSs (held in book entry form or evidenced by ADRs) and the Class A, B and C Shares, whose holders are companies, any other legal entities, enterprises, permanent establishments and trusts, domiciled, settled or located in a foreign country, belong indirectly to individuals or individual estates domiciled in a foreign country.

Although Telecom Argentina is required to pay this tax on behalf of the holders of the ADSs and Class A, B and C Shares, it has the right to obtain reimbursement of the amounts paid from its shareholders even if this requires holding and/or foreclosing the property on which the tax is due.

Therefore, Telecom Argentina s ADSs (held in book entry form or evidenced by ADRs) and Class A, B and C Shares held by individuals, irrespective of their place of residence, and legal entities domiciled outside of Argentina are subject to the Tax on Personal Property, which, as mentioned above, shall be paid by Telecom Argentina on behalf of such holders of ADSs (held in book entry form or evidenced by ADRs) and Class A, B and C Shares.

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Telecom Argentina has, from time to time, requested that its shareholders reimburse the amounts of tax on personal property paid on their behalf and has received partial reimbursement of such taxes, however no assurances can be made that Telecom Argentina will be successful in seeking reimbursement of all such taxes paid from holders of ADSs and Class A, B, and C shares. Therefore, as of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina has recorded an allowance of P\$17 million for the amounts pending collection. Whenever applicable, tax on personal property paid on behalf of Telecom Argentina s shareholders is deducted from the cash dividend payment.

Value Added Tax

The sale or disposition of ADSs or Class A, B and C Shares is not subject to value added tax.

Other Taxes

There are no national Argentine inheritance or succession taxes applicable to the ownership, transfer or disposition of ADSs or Class A, B and C Shares. There are no Argentine stamp, issue, registration or similar taxes or duties payable by holders of ADSs or Class A, B and C Shares.

Deposit and Withdrawal of Class B Shares in Exchange for ADSs

No Argentine tax is imposed on the deposit or withdrawal of Class A, B and C Shares in exchange for ADSs.

#### Tax Treaties

Argentina has entered into tax treaties with several countries. There is currently no income tax treaty or convention in effect between Argentina and the United States.

#### **United States Federal Income Taxes**

The following discussion is a summary of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to the U.S. Holders described below of the ownership and disposition of ADSs or Class B Shares, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a holder of such securities, including alternative minimum tax and Medicare contribution tax consequences. This summary applies only to U.S. Holders (as defined below) that hold ADSs or Class B Shares as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes and does not address all of the tax consequences applicable to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special rules, such as:

- certain financial institutions;
- dealers or traders in securities who use a mark-to-market method of tax accounting;

• persons holding ADSs or Class B Shares as part of a hedging transaction, straddle, wash sale, conversion transaction or integrated transaction or persons entering into a constructive sale with respect to the ADSs or Class B Shares;

- persons whose functional currency for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar;
- tax-exempt entities, including an individual retirement account or Roth IRA ;
- persons that own or are deemed to own 10% or more of any class of Telecom Argentina stock;
- persons who acquired ADSs or Class B Shares pursuant to the exercise of an employee stock option or otherwise as compensation; or
- persons holding ADSs or Class B shares in connection with a trade or business conducted outside of the United States.

If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds ADSs or Class B Shares, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding ADSs or Class B Shares and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisers as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding and disposing of the ADSs or Class B Shares.

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This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations, all as of the date hereof, changes to any of which may affect the tax consequences described herein, possibly with retroactive effect. As mentioned above, there is currently no income tax treaty or convention in effect between Argentina and the United States. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the U.S., Argentine or other tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of ADSs or Class B Shares in their particular circumstances, including the effect of any state or local tax laws.

In addition, this summary is based in part on representations of the Depositary and assumes that each obligation provided for in, or otherwise contemplated by, the Deposit Agreement or any other related document will be performed in accordance with its terms.

As used herein, the term U.S. Holder means a holder that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is a beneficial owner of ADSs or Class B Shares and is:

• a citizen or individual resident of the United States;

• a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia; or

• an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

In general, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, holders of ADSs will be treated as the owners of the underlying Class B Shares represented by those ADSs. Accordingly, no gain or loss will be recognized if a U.S. Holder exchanges ADSs for the underlying Class B Shares represented by those ADSs.

The U.S. Treasury has expressed concerns that parties to whom American depositary shares are released before delivery of shares to the depositary ( pre-release ), or intermediaries in the chain of ownership between holders and the issuer of the security underlying the American depositary shares, may be taking actions that are inconsistent with the claiming of foreign tax credits by holders of American depositary shares. Such actions would also be inconsistent with claiming the preferential rates of tax, described below, applicable to dividends received by certain non-corporate holders. Accordingly, the creditability of Argentine taxes, and the availability of the preferential rates of tax for dividends received by certain non-corporate holders, each described below, could be affected by actions taken by such parties or intermediaries.

This discussion assumes that Telecom Argentina is not, and will not become, a passive foreign investment company, as described below.

#### Taxation of Distributions

To the extent paid out of current or accumulated earnings and profits of Telecom Argentina (as determined in accordance with U.S. federal income tax principles), distributions made with respect to ADSs or Class B Shares will generally be included in the income of a U.S. Holder as

ordinary dividend income. Because Telecom Argentina does not maintain calculations of its earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles, it is expected that distributions will generally be reported to U.S. Holders as dividends. Subject to applicable limitations and the discussion above regarding concerns expressed by the U.S. Treasury, dividends paid to certain non-corporate U.S. Holders will be taxable at the preferential rates applicable to long-term capital gain if the dividends represent qualified dividend income. Qualified dividend income means dividends received from a qualified foreign corporation, and a foreign corporation is generally treated as a qualified foreign corporation with respect to dividends paid on stock which is readily tradable on a securities market in the United States (such as the New York Stock Exchange, where our ADSs are traded). U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the availability of the preferential dividend tax rates in light of their particular circumstances. The amount of a dividend will include any amounts withheld by Telecom Argentina or its paying agent in respect of Argentine taxes. Dividends will generally be treated as foreign-source dividend income to U.S. Holders and will not be eligible for the

dividends-received deduction generally allowed to U.S. corporations under the Code. Dividends will be included in a U.S. Holder s income on the date of the U.S. Holder s (or in the case of ADSs, the Depositary s) receipt of the dividend. See Taxation Argentine Taxes. The amount of the distribution will equal the U.S. dollar value of the pesos received (including amounts withheld in respect of Argentine Taxes), calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date such distribution is received (which, for holders of ADSs, will be the date such distribution is received by the Depositary), whether or not

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the Depositary or U.S. Holder in fact converts any pesos received into U.S. dollars. If the distribution is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, U.S. Holders should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income. Any gains or losses resulting from the conversion of pesos into U.S. dollars after the date on which the distribution is received will be treated as ordinary income or loss, as the case may be, of the U.S. Holder and will be U.S.-source income or loss.

Subject to applicable limitations and conditions that may vary depending upon the circumstances and subject to the discussion above regarding concerns expressed by the U.S. Treasury, Argentine income taxes withheld from dividends on ADSs or Class B Shares will be creditable against a U.S. Holder s U.S. federal income tax liability. However, amounts paid on account of the Tax on Personal Property will not be eligible for credit against a U.S. Holder s federal income tax liability. See Argentine Taxes. The rules governing foreign tax credits are complex, and U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the creditability of foreign taxes in their particular circumstances and to determine the tax consequences applicable to them as a result of amounts paid on account of the Argentine Tax on Personal Property, including whether such amounts are includible in income or deductible for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Instead of claiming a credit, U.S. Holders may elect to deduct otherwise creditable Argentine income taxes in computing taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign income tax credits applies to all income taxes paid or accrued in the taxable year to foreign countries and possessions of the United States.

Sale, Exchange or Other Disposition of ADSs or Class B Shares

Gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange or other disposition of ADSs or Class B Shares will be subject to U.S. federal income tax as capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder has held the ADSs or Class B Shares for more than one year. The amount of the gain or loss will be equal to the difference between the U.S. Holder s tax basis in the ADSs or Class B Shares disposed of and the amount realized on the disposition, in each case as determined in U.S. dollars. If an Argentine tax is withheld, or otherwise paid, on the sale or disposition of ADSs or Class B Shares, a U.S. Holder s amount realized will include the gross amount of the proceeds of the sale or disposition before deduction of the Argentine tax. See Argentine Taxes Taxation of Capital Gains for a description of when a disposition may be subject to taxation by Argentina. Such gain or loss, if any, will generally be U.S.-source gain or loss for foreign tax credit purposes. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors as to whether the Argentine tax on gains may be creditable against the U.S. Holder s U.S. Holder s use of foreign source income from other sources. Long-term capital gains recognized by non-corporate taxpayers are subject to reduced tax rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Deposits and withdrawals of Class B Shares in exchange for ADSs will not result in taxable gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules

Telecom Argentina believes that it was not a passive foreign investment company (a PFIC) for U.S. federal income tax purposes for the taxable year 2014. However, because PFIC status depends upon the composition of a company s income and assets and the market value of its assets from time to time, there can be no assurance that Telecom Argentina will not be a PFIC for any taxable year.

If Telecom Argentina were a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder held ADSs or a Class B Shares, gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on a sale, exchange or other disposition (including certain pledges) of the ADS or Class B Shares would be allocated ratably over the

U.S. Holder s holding period for the ADSs or Class B Shares sold, exchanged or disposed of. The amounts allocated to the taxable year of the sale, exchange or other disposition and to any year before Telecom Argentina became a PFIC would be taxed as ordinary income. The amount allocated to each other taxable year would be subject to tax at the highest rate in effect for individuals or corporations, as appropriate, for that taxable year, and an interest charge would be imposed on the tax on the amount allocated to such taxable year. Further, any distribution in respect of the ADSs or Class B Shares, to the extent it exceeds 125 percent of the average of the annual distributions on the ADSs or Class B Shares received by the U.S. Holder during the preceding three years or the U.S. Holder s holding period, whichever is shorter, would be subject to taxation in the same manner as gain, described immediately above. Certain elections may be available that would result in alternative treatments (such as mark-to-market treatment) of the ADSs or Class B Shares. U.S. Holders should consult their tax

	PART I - ITEM 10 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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advisers to determine whether any of these elections would be available and, if so, what the consequences of the alternative treatments would be in their particular circumstances.

If Telecom Argentina were a PFIC for any year during which a U.S. Holder held ADSs or Class B Shares, it generally would continue to be treated as a PFIC with respect to that holder for all succeeding years during which the U.S. Holder held ADSs or Class B Shares, even if Telecom Argentina ceased to meet the threshold requirements for PFIC status.

In addition, if Telecom Argentina were a PFIC or, with respect to a particular U.S. Holder, were treated as a PFIC in a taxable year in which Telecom Argentina pays a dividend or for the prior taxable year, the preferential dividend rates discussed above with respect to dividends paid to certain non-corporate holders would not apply.

If a U.S. Holder owns ADSs or Class B Shares during any taxable year in which Telecom Argentina is a PFIC, the U.S. Holder will generally be required to file IRS Form 8621 with the holder s annual U.S. federal income tax return, subject to certain exceptions.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Payments of dividends and sales proceeds that are made within the United States or through certain U.S.-related financial intermediaries generally are subject to information reporting, and may be subject to backup withholding, unless (i) the U.S. Holder is an exempt recipient or (ii) in the case of backup withholding, the U.S. Holder provides a correct taxpayer identification number and certifies that it is not subject to backup withholding.

The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a U.S. Holder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. Holder s U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle it to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Certain U.S. Holders who are individuals may be required to report information relating to their ownership of an interest in certain financial assets, including stock of a non-U.S. person, generally on Form 8938, subject to exceptions (including an exception) for stock held through a U.S. financial institution. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisers regarding their reporting obligations with respect to ADSs or Class B Shares.

#### DOCUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Telecom Argentina files annual and special reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document that Telecom Argentina files at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, the SEC maintains an Internet site at

http://www.sec.gov that contains reports and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

You may request a copy of these filings by writing or telephoning the offices of Telecom Argentina, Alicia Moreau de Justo 50, (C1107AAB) Buenos Aires, Argentina. Telecom Argentina s telephone number is 011-54-11-4968-4000.

Telecom Argentina maintains a website at www.telecom.com.ar. The contents of the website are not part of this Annual Report.

PART I - ITEM 10 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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### ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Summarized below are the financial instruments we held as of December 31, 2014 that are sensitive to changes in foreign exchange rates and interest rate, if any. As a matter of policy, we may enter into forward exchange contracts, foreign currency swaps or other derivatives to manage the exposure attributed to foreign exchange rate and interest rate fluctuations associated with the principal amount of our liabilities in foreign currencies. We use these instruments to reduce risk by creating offsetting market exposures. The instruments we hold are not held for financial trading purposes. No foreign exchange forward or other derivatives for speculative purposes were outstanding during the reporting periods covered by this Annual Report.

We do not have any other material market risk exposure.

(a) Foreign Exchange Rate Risk

Foreign exchange exposure arises from our funding operations and, to a lesser extent, our capital expenditures and expenses denominated in foreign currencies. Since the Convertibility Law pegged the peso at a value of P\$1.00 per US\$1.00, exchange rate risks before 2002 were mainly related to changes in the value of the U.S. dollar in comparison with currencies other than the Argentine peso. In January 2002, the Argentine government devalued the Argentine peso and currently the peso/U.S. dollar exchange rate is determined by a free market with certain controls. See Item 10 Additional Information Foreign Investment and Exchange Controls in Argentina.

Our results of operations are sensitive to changes in the peso/dollar exchange rates because our primary assets are in Argentina and most of our revenues are denominated in pesos (our functional currency) while some part of our liabilities are denominated in foreign currencies. As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina has no financial debt outstanding. However, Telecom Argentina, Personal and Núcleo have commercial debt nominated in U.S. dollars and Euros. Moreover, Personal has bank overdrafts denominated in Argentine pesos. Núcleo s debt obligations are denominated in Guaraníes, Paraguay s local currency.

Additionally the Company has cash and cash equivalents, and investments denominated in U.S. dollars and Euros (approximately 25% of total cash and equivalents and investments) that are also sensitive to changes in pesos/dollar exchange rates and contribute to reduce the exposure to trade payables in foreign currency. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had NDF agreements, investments adjustable to the variation of the pesos/dollar exchange rate (Dollar Linked), and mutual funds whose main underlying asset are financial assets Dollar Linked, in order to hedge its exposure to U.S. dollar fluctuations related to accounts payable. The investments in NDF agreements, Dollar Linked Bonds, and investments in funds where the main asset are financial assets with Dollar Linked clause totaled 59% of the cash, cash and equivalents and investments.

Actions taken by the Argentine government could cause future exchange rates to vary significantly from current or historical exchange rates. Fluctuations in exchange rates may adversely affect the value, translated or converted into U.S. dollars, of our net assets, earnings and any declared dividends. We cannot give any assurance that any future movements in the exchange rate of the Argentine peso against the U.S. dollar and other foreign currencies will not adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. However, we believe that a significant depreciation in the Argentine peso against major foreign currencies may have a material adverse impact on our capital expenditure program and in our operating expenses denominated in foreign currencies.

(b) Interest Rate Risk

As of December 31, 2014 the Company had no outstanding floating rate borrowings, excluding the bank overdrafts denominated in Argentine pesos with floating rate held by Personal.

Therefore, the Company is not currently exposed to significant cash flow fluctuations in this connection.

(c) Sensitivity to Exchange Rates

We estimate, based on the composition of the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2014, and on the net foreign currency liability position, which amounts P\$3,497 million, equivalent to US\$409 million, that every variation in the exchange rate of P\$0.10 against the U.S. dollar and proportional variations in other foreign currencies against the Argentine peso, plus or minus, would result in an variation of approximately P\$41 million of the net foreign currency liabilities. This analysis is based on the assumption that this variation of the Argentine peso occurred at the same time against all other currencies.

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If we consider only the portion not covered by derivative financial instruments and other assets adjusted by the variation of the U.S. dollar, the net liability position amounts to P\$1,532 million equivalent to US\$179 million, and a variation of the exchange rate of P\$0.10 as described in the previous paragraph, would generate a variation of approximately P\$18 million in the net foreign currency liability position.

This sensitivity analysis provides only a limited, point-in-time view of the market risk sensitivity of certain of our financial instruments. Consequently the actual impact of market foreign exchange rate changes on our financial instruments may differ significantly from the impact shown in the sensitivity analysis.

See Note 26 to our Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of financial risk management.

### ITEM 12. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES

#### **Depositary Fees and Charges**

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York), as depositary for the ADSs (the depositary ) collects its fees for delivery directly from investors depositing shares or surrendering ADSs for the purpose of withdrawal. The depositary also collects taxes and governmental charges from the holders of ADSs. The depositary collects these fees and charges by deducting those fees from the amounts distributed or by selling a portion of distributable property to pay the fees (after attempting by reasonable means to notify the holder prior to such sale).

Persons depositing or withdrawing shares must pay US\$5.00 for each 100 ADSs or portion thereof for issuances of ADSs, including issuances resulting from a distribution, sale or exercise of shares or rights or other property. Investors depositing shares or holders withdrawing deposited securities are charged fees and expenses in connection with stock transfers, taxes and other governmental charges, cable, telex and facsimile transmission and delivery charges imposed at such person s request, transfer or registration fees for the registration of transfer of ADSs on any applicable register in connection with the deposit or withdrawal of ADSs and the depositary s expenses in connection with the conversion of foreign currency.

The depositary reimburses Telecom Argentina for certain expenses we incur in connection with the ADR program, subject to the agreement between us and the depositary from time to time. These reimbursable expenses currently include listing fees, investor relations expenses and fees payable to service providers for the distribution of material to ADR holders. For the year ended December 31, 2014, the depositary reimbursed Telecom Argentina approximately US\$178.3 thousand (gross amount of withholding tax) in connection with the ADR program.

PART I - ITEM 12 DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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#### PART II

### ITEM 13. DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES

None of Telecom Argentina, Personal, Núcleo or Telecom Argentina USA are currently in default on any outstanding indebtedness.

#### ITEM 14. MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS

None.

ITEM 15. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

#### Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

Telecom s Management, with the participation of our chief executive and financial officers, evaluated the effectiveness of the Company s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) as of December 31, 2014 (the Evaluation Date ). Based upon that evaluation, our chief executive and financial officers have concluded that as of the Evaluation Date, the Company s disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

#### Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Telecom s Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting for Telecom as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Our internal control over financial reporting was designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of Telecom s internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in Internal Control Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on this evaluation and as set forth in its report dated March 2, 2015, and included in Item 18, Management concluded that Telecom s internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2014. The effectiveness of Telecom s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 has been audited by PriceWaterhouse & Co. S.R.L., an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included herein. See the complete Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting in Item 18.

### **Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

There were no changes in the Company s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 20-F that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company s internal control over financial reporting.

PART II - ITEM 15 CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES	TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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### ITEM 16A. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT

On April 29, 2014, the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina appointed the members of the Audit Committee for fiscal year 2014 and determined that Esteban Gabriel Macek qualifies as an Audit Committee financial expert. In conducting this evaluation, the Board took into account that Mr. Macek is an accountant from the Universidad de Buenos Aires (1982). He was a partner at Coopers & Lybrand/PriceWaterhouseCoopers until 2002, where he was an auditor and tax consultant. He assisted companies in the private (domestic and international) and public sector in tax matters related to company restructuring and business development. He participated in many professional training activities and attended graduate courses at the Universidad Austral and the West Ontario University Business School (Canada), among others. He was an accounting and law professor at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and at the Universidad Católica Argentina. He is Chairman of Fiduciaria Internacional Argentina S.A. He was a member of the Board of Directors and of the Supervisory Committee of several domestic corporations. He served as an alternate director of Telecom Argentina during 2007 and since 2008 he has been serving as a director of Telecom Argentina.

Based on Mr. Macek s professional background and training, the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina has determined for the year 2014 that he meets the criteria for an Audit Committee financial expert. Mr. Macek is an independent director under CNV and SEC rules and under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards.

The Board of Directors meeting appointing the Audit Committee members for year 2015 has not yet been held. As a result, the members of the Audit Committee appointed at the Board of Directors meeting of April 29, 2014, continue to hold their positions, except for Mr. Enrique Garrido whose resignation was accepted on April 16, 2015 and who was replaced as member of the Audit Committee by Mr. Oscar Carlos Cristianci. See Item 6 Directors, Senior Management and Employees The Board of Directors.

### ITEM 16B. CODE OF ETHICS

The Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina has approved a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics which applies to directors, members of the Supervisory Committee, officers and employees of the Telecom Group. No waivers, express or implicit, have been granted to any senior officer or member of the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina with respect to any provision of the Code.

It is also encouraged that suppliers, contractors, advisers and consultants of the Telecom Group, accept the ethical principles of the Code.

The Boards of Directors of Telecom Argentina and Personal, at the meetings held by each on October 26, 2010, decided to include an additional chapter to the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which includes the general duties and responsibilities of directors, members of the Supervisory Committee and all personnel of either company, which arise from the Telco Commitment and the TI-W Commitment, pursuant to Resolutions No. 148/10 and No. 149/10 issued by the Secretary of Economic Policy of the Economy Ministry, with certain clarifications and details made by CNDC. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on our website at www.telecom.com.ar.

PART II - ITEM 16A AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT / ITEM 16B CODE OF ETHICS TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.

### ITEM 16C. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The following table provides information on the aggregate fees for services rendered by our principal accountants (in millions of pesos) for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Services Rendered	2014	2013
Audit Fees (1)	13.1	10.9
Tax Fees (2)	1.1	0.8
All Other Fees (3)	0.6	1.1
Total	14.8	12.8

(1) Includes fees related to the integrated audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, limited reviews of interim financial statements presented during 2014 and 2013, SEC filing reviews and other attestation services.

(2) Includes fees for permitted tax compliance and tax advisory services.

(3) Includes fees for subscription to business publications and permitted internal control advice.

#### Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

On March 22, 2004, Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors approved policies and procedures relating to the pre-approval of auditors services and other permitted services (collectively, Pre-Approval Procedures) for the engagement of any service provided by external auditors to Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries. Telecom Argentina s Board of Directors performed Pre-Approval Procedures until April 2004 (the date on which the Audit Committee came into effect), after which Pre-Approval Procedures were performed by the Audit Committee. Consequently, since that date, all auditors services were pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

The Pre-Approval Procedures provide for services that require:

specific pre-approval to be approved on a case-by-case basis; and

• general pre-approval any category or general kind of service that come within the guidelines established to safeguard auditor independence and come within the maximum amounts set by the Audit Committee.

The Pre-Approval Procedures also provide for the following categorization of services:

Prohibited services are those services that external auditors are not allowed to provide based on prohibitions contained in the statutory rules of Argentina and the United States (i.e., bookkeeping; financial information system design and implementation; appraisal or valuation services, fairness opinions or contribution-in-kind reports; actuarial services; internal audit outsourcing services; management functions; broker/dealer, investment adviser, or investment banking services; expert services unrelated to the audit).

Permitted Services include (a) audit services; (b) audit-related services; (c) tax services, and (d) other services such as permitted internal control advice. Moreover, the services included in each category were also detailed, and, were appropriate, any limits imposed on the provision thereof to ensure external auditors independence.

The Pre-Approval Procedures also require pre-approval for the following services:

• Annual audit and quarterly reviews of Telecom Argentina s financial statements: the Audit Committee is required to approve the terms for the engagement and remuneration of such services.

• Other Audit Services : the Audit Committee is required to define the services that will be subject to general pre-approval on an annual basis, setting the annual service fee amount, or the annual amount allocated to each individual service category, or to each service, within which fee caps the provision shall receive general pre-approval.

• Audit-related Services and Tax Services : the Audit Committee is required to define the categories or types of services that will receive general pre-approval, provided that they fall within the annual fee cap set for that service, and establish the guidelines for prior engagement of these services.

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• Other Permitted Services: are not subject to general pre-approval, and any other services require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee for each service.

• Delegation: the Audit Committee may solely delegate the specific pre-approval of services with any of its members that qualify as an Independent Director. An Independent Director must immediately report to the Audit Committee after engaging any service by delegation. Under no circumstances may the authority to either approve or pre-approve services be delegated to the Company s Management.

• Disclosure of overall billed fees: external auditors shall include in their audit reports the information about the relationship between the overall fees paid in respect of Audit Services and services other than audit services. In addition, the Audit Committee shall, on a yearly basis, prepare a report to the Board of Directors, which will be included in Form 20-F, providing a detailed account of all fees invoiced by external auditors to Telecom Argentina and to its subsidiaries, grouped into four categories, namely: audit fees, audit related fees, tax consultation fees and all other fees.

• Additional Requirements: the Audit Committee is required to adopt additional measures to fulfill its supervisory obligations related to external auditors duties, in order to ensure the independence from the Company, such as the review of a formal written statement by the external auditors outlining all relations existing between them and Telecom Argentina, in accordance with Rule No. 1 of the Independence Standards Board, and discussions with the external auditors and the methods and procedures that have been designed to ensure their independence.

• Amendments: the Audit Committee has authority to amend the Pre-Approval Procedures, rendering an account of any such amendment to the Board of Directors during the first meeting of the Board of Directors held after making the amendments.

If Telecom s external auditors are to provide any service, the service must either be granted general pre-approval or specific pre-approval under the Pre-Approval Procedures. The Pre-Approval Procedures require the Audit Committee to consider whether the services to be provided are consistent with the legal and professional rules in effect in Argentina and the United States relating to external auditors independence.

#### ITEM 16D. EXEMPTIONS FROM THE LISTING STANDARDS FOR AUDIT COMMITTEES

Not applicable.

### ITEM 16E. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS

Not applicable.

# ITEM 16F. CHANGE IN REGISTRANT S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT

Not applicable.

PART II - ITEM 16C PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES		TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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### ITEM 16G. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Telecom Argentina s corporate governance practices differ from corporate governance practices of U.S. companies. Telecom Argentina maintains a detailed description of the significant differences in corporate governance practices on its website at www.telecom.com.ar, last updated in May 2014.

The following is a summary of the material aspects in which Telecom Argentina s corporate governance policies differ from those followed by U.S. companies under New York Stock Exchange listing standards.

• Composition of the Board of Directors: The NYSE requires each Board of Directors to be composed of a majority of independent directors. Although this is not required under Argentine law, as of the date of this summary, the eleven-member Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina has six directors who qualify as independent according to SEC Rules.

• Board of Directors Annual Self-Evaluation: The NYSE requires Boards of Directors of listed companies to conduct a self-evaluation at least annually, and report thereon, determining whether it and its committees are functioning effectively. Under Argentine law, the Board of Directors performance is evaluated at the Annual Ordinary Shareholders Meeting.

• Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee: NYSE listed companies are required to have a nominating/corporate governance committee. Neither Argentine law nor Telecom Argentina s Bylaws require the creation of a nominating/corporate governance committee. In Argentina, it is unusual (though possible) for the Board of Directors to nominate new directors and the Board of Directors of Telecom Argentina refrains from making such proposals. The right to nominate and appoint directors is vested in the shareholders who nominate and appoint regular and alternate directors at the Shareholders Meetings. On certain occasions, the Argentine Corporations Law delegates the right to designate directors to the Supervisory Committee.

• Compensation Committee: NYSE listed companies are required to have a compensation committee composed entirely of independent directors. Neither Argentine law nor Telecom Argentina's Bylaws require the creation of a compensation committee. Telecom Argentina's executive compensation matters are undertaken by the Board of Directors and the Steering Committee. The compensation of the members of Telecom Argentina's Board of Directors is determined by the shareholders at the Annual Shareholders' Meeting.

• Audit Committee Hiring Policies: The NYSE requires listed companies to have an Audit Committee which sets clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent auditors. There is no such provision regarding the hiring of external auditors employees contained in Argentine law or Telecom Argentina's bylaws.

According to the provisions of Annex IV, Title IV of CNV rules (New Text 2013) Telecom Argentina prepares and submits to the CNV, on an annual basis, a report which indicates and details the CNV s recommended corporate governance practices as set forth in the CNV Public Offer Regime, explains the practices followed by Telecom Argentina, and the reasons for any variation from practices recommended by the CNV.

Telecom Argentina s 2014 Corporate Governance Report was submitted to the CNV as part of the Statutory Annual Report dated March 2, 2015. Telecom Argentina s Corporate Governance Reports submitted to the CNV can be accessed through the CNV s website, www.cnv.gob.ar and Telecom Argentina s website, www.telecom.com.ar.

### ITEM 16H. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURE

Not applicable.

PART II - ITEM 16G CORPORATE GOVERNANCE		TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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#### PART III

### ITEM 17. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Registrant has responded to Item 18 in lieu of responding to this Item.

#### ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reference is made to pages F-1 through F- 89.

The following financial statements are filed as part of this Form 20-F:

	Page
Telecom Argentina S.A.:	
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-1
Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting	F-2
Consolidated Statements of Financial Position	F-4
Consolidated Income Statements	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income	F-6
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity	F-7
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	F-9
<u>Glossary of terms</u>	F-10
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements	F-12

ITEM 19. EXHIBITS

Exhibits:

- 1.1 *Estatutos* (bylaws) of Telecom Argentina, as amended (English translation) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to Telecom Argentina s Annual Report on Form 20-F for year ended December 31, 2010 dated June 29, 2011).
- 4.1 Deposit Agreement, dated November 8, 1994 (incorporated by reference to Telecom s registration statement on Form F-6 (No. 333-07452)).

4.2

Form of Amendment No. 1 to Deposit Agreement, dated August 28, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Telecom s registration statement on Form F-6 (No. 333-07452)).

- 8.1 List of Subsidiaries.
- 12.1 Certification of Elisabetta Ripa of Telecom Argentina S.A. pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 12.2 Certification of Adrián Calaza of Telecom Argentina S.A. pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 13.1 Certification of Elisabetta Ripa and Adrián Calaza pursuant to U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 15.1 Amended and Restated Shareholders Agreement between Telecom Italia S.p.A., Telecom Italia International N.V. and W de Argentina Inversiones S.L. dated August 5, 2010 (Shareholders Agreement) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on October 22, 2010).
- 15.2 First Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement dated October 13, 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on October 22, 2010).

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- 15.3 Second Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement dated March 9, 2011 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D/A filed on March 10, 2011).
- 15.4 Third Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement dated November 13, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 6 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on November 14, 2013).
- 15.5 Mutual Shareholder Release to the Shareholders Agreement dated November 13, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 7 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on November 14, 2013).
- 15.6 Deed of Adherence to the Shareholders Agreement dated November 13, 2013 ((incorporated by reference to Exhibit 8 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on November 14, 2013).

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### SIGNATURE

The registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this Annual Report on its behalf.

		Telecom An By:	rgentina S.A. /s/ Adrián Calaz: Name: Title:	a Adrián Calaza Chief Financial Officer
Date:	April 24, 2015			
PART III				TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.
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#### EXHIBIT INDEX

- 1.1 *Estatutos* (bylaws) of Telecom Argentina, as amended (English translation). (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to Telecom Argentina s Annual Report on Form 20-F for year ended December 31, 2010 dated June 29, 2011).
- 4.1 Deposit Agreement, dated November 8, 1994 (incorporated by reference to Telecom s registration statement on Form F-6 (No. 333-07452)).
- 4.2 Form of Amendment No. 1 to Deposit Agreement, dated August 28, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Telecom s registration statement on Form F-6 (No. 333-07452)).
- 8.1 List of Subsidiaries.
- 12.1 Certification of Elisabetta Ripa of Telecom Argentina S.A. pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 12.2 Certification of Adrián Calaza of Telecom Argentina S.A. pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 13.1 Certification of Elisabetta Ripa and Adrián Calaza pursuant to U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 15.1 Amended and Restated Shareholders Agreement between Telecom Italia S.p.A., Telecom Italia International N.V. and W de Argentina Inversiones S.L. dated August 5, 2010 (Shareholders Agreement) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on October 22, 2010).
- 15.2 First Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement dated October 13, 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on October 22, 2010).
- 15.3 Second Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement dated March 9, 2011 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D/A filed on March 10, 2011).
- 15.4 Third Amendment to the Shareholders Agreement dated November 13, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 6 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on November 14, 2013).
- 15.5 Mutual Shareholder Release to the Shareholders Agreement dated November 13, 2013 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 7 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on November 14, 2013).
- 15.6 Deed of Adherence to the Shareholders Agreement dated November 13, 2013 ((incorporated by reference to Exhibit 8 to Telecom Italia S.p.A. s Schedule 13D filed on November 14, 2013).

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### TELECOM ARGENTINA S.A.

Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012

Alicia Moreau de Justo 50

(1107) Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires

Argentina

\$: Argentine peso

US\$: US dollar

\$8.551 = US\$1 as of December 31, 2014

#### **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Telecom Argentina S.A.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position, the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Telecom Argentina S.A. and its subsidiaries (the Company ) at December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014 in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company s management is responsible for these financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting appearing on page F2. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements and on the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

March 2, 2015

PRICE WATERHOUSE & CO. S.R.L.

By

/s/ Carlos A. Pace (Partner) Carlos A. Pace

### Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Telecom Group s Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting for Telecom Group as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Our internal control over financial reporting was designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IFRS). Internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

• pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of Telecom Group;

• provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS and that receipts and expenditures of Telecom Group are being made only in accordance with authorizations of Management and directors of Telecom Group; and

• provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of Telecom Group s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of Telecom Group s internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in Internal Control Integrated Framework 2013 issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO 2013). Based on our evaluation, Management concluded that the Telecom Group s internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2014. The effectiveness of Telecom Group s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 has been audited by Price Waterhouse & Co S.R.L., an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included herein.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

March 2, 2015

/s/ Oscar Cicchetti Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Adrián Calaza Chief Financial Officer F-2

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### **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

(In millions of Argentine pesos)

		As of Decem	,
A CODUTO	Note	2014	2013
ASSETS			
Current Assets		0.05	5 00 (
Cash and cash equivalents	4	825	5,224
Investments	4	53	123
Trade receivables	5	4,124	2,986
Other receivables	6	670	646
Inventories	7	721	772
Total current assets		6,393	9,751
Non-Current Assets	~	1.40	01
Trade receivables	5	143	21
Deferred income tax asset	14	140	128
Other receivables	6	200	242
Investments	4	301	243
Property, plant and equipment	8	13,809	11,226
Intangible assets	9	5,331	1,519
Total non-current assets		19,924	13,379
TOTAL ASSETS		26,317	23,130
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities	10	< • <b></b>	( 10)
Trade payables	10	6,072	6,130
Deferred revenues	11	507	423
Financial debt	12	179	15
Salaries and social security payables	13	1,022	741
Income tax payables	14	247	801
Other taxes payables	15	824	667
Other liabilities	16	47	49
Provisions	17	199	224
Total current liabilities		9,097	9,050
Non-Current Liabilities			
Trade payables	10		1
Deferred revenues	11	465	453
Financial debt	12	254	220
Salaries and social security payables	13	150	118
Deferred income tax liabilities	14	417	126
Income tax payables	14	9	10
Other liabilities	16	76	68
Provisions	17	1,080	1,033
Total non-current liabilities		2,451	2,029
TOTAL LIABILITIES		11,548	11,079
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to Telecom Argentina (Controlling Company)		14,418	11,783
Equity attributable to non-controlling interest		351	268
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b> (See Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity)	19	14,769	12,051
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		26,317	23,130

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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### CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENTS

(In millions of Argentine pesos, except per share data in Argentine pesos)

		For the years ended December 31,		
	Note	2014	2013	2012
Revenues	21	33,341	27,287	22,117
Other income	21	47	63	79
Total revenues and other income		33,388	27,350	22,196
Employee benefit expenses and severance payments	13	(5,591)	(4,152)	(3,269)
Interconnection costs and other telecommunication				
charges	22	(2,074)	(1,829)	(1,707)
Fees for services, maintenance, materials and supplies	22	(3,333)	(2,641)	(2,109)
Taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority	22	(3,297)	(2,689)	(2,018)
Commissions	22	(2,494)	(2,203)	(1,949)
Cost of equipments and handsets	7	(4,143)	(3,111)	(2,043)
Advertising	22	(792)	(656)	(660)
Cost of VAS	22	(936)	(708)	(326)
Provisions	17	(84)	(270)	(153)
Bad debt expenses	5	(424)	(283)	(275)
Recovery of restructuring costs/ (restructuring costs)	22		8	(90)
Other operating expenses	22	(1,518)	(1,252)	(1,027)
Depreciation and amortization	22	(3,243)	(2,873)	(2,612)
Gain on disposal of PP&E and impairment of PP&E	22	(16)	(173)	8
Operating income	23	5,443	4,518	3,966
Finance income	24	1,501	1,416	570
Finance expenses	24	(1,248)	(888)	(341)
Income before income tax expense		5,696	5,046	4,195
Income tax expense	14	(1,967)	(1,792)	(1,463)
Net income for the year		3,729	3,254	2,732
Attributable to:				
Telecom Argentina (Controlling Company)		3,673	3,202	2,685
Non-controlling interest		56	52	47
		3,729	3,254	2,732
Earnings per share attributable to Telecom		,		
Argentina				
Basic and diluted	25	3.79	3.27	2.73

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

### **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

(In millions of Argentine pesos)

	For the years ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	2012	
Net income for the year	3,729	3,254	2,732	
Other components of the Statements of Comprehensive Income				
Will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss				
Currency translation adjustments (non-taxable)	227	140	91	
Will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss				
Actuarial results (Notes 3.1 and 16)	24	(10)		
Tax effect	(8)	3		
Other components of the comprehensive income, net of tax	243	133	91	
Total comprehensive income for the year	3,972	3,387	2,823	
Attributable to:				
Telecom Argentina (Controlling Company)	3,837	3,285	2,745	
Non-controlling interest	135	102	78	
	3,972	3,387	2,823	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

(In millions of Argentine pesos)

	Equity attributable to Telecom Argentina (Controlling Company) Owners contribution											
	Outs	Own standing	iers contr	Ibution								
		hares	Capital nominal value		Treasury shares acquisition cost (2)	Legal	Special reserve for IFRS implementation	future dividends	reserve for capital investments	reserve for future		<b>Retained</b> earnings
Balances as of		•					-	F				, in the second s
January 1, 2012	984	2,688				450					47	3,852
Dividends from Núcleo (3)												
Legal Reserve (4)						122	ļ					(122)
Voluntary reserve for future												
investments (4)										2,553		(2,553)
Dividends (4) Comprehensive												(807)
income:												I
Net income for the year												2,685
Other												
comprehensive income											60	i -
Total												
Comprehensive Income											60	2,685
Balances as of December 31,												
2012	984	2,688				572				2,553	3 107	3,055
Dividends from Núcleo (5)												
Legal Reserve (6)						134						(134)
Special reserve for IFRS												
implementation (6)						19	351	1				(370)
Voluntary reserve for future												
dividends								1.000				(1,000)
payments (6) Voluntary								1,000				(1,000)
reserve for												
capital									1.000	-		
investments (6) Voluntary									1,200			(1,200)
reserve for future												
investments (6)										351		(351)
Treasury Shares	(1.5)				- /4/1							
Acquisition (2) Dividends (7)	(15)	) (42)	) 15	5 42	2 (461)	)		(1,000)	n)			
Comprehensive								(1,000)	)			
income:												

Net income for											/
the year											3,202
Other											,
comprehensive											
income										83	/
Total											1
Comprehensive											
Income										83	3,202
Balances as of											
December 31,											
2013	969	2,646	15	42	(461)	725	351	1,200	2,904	190	3,202

(1) As of December 31, 2013 and 2012, total shares (984,380,978), of \$1 argentine peso of nominal value each, were issued and fully paid. As of December 31, 2013; 15,221,373 were treasury shares.

(2) Corresponds to 15,221,373 shares of \$1 argentine peso of nominal value each, equivalent to 1.55% of total capital. The treasury shares acquisition costs amounted to 461. See Note 19 Equity to the consolidated financial statements.

(3) As approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo held on March 16, 2012.

- (4) As approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting held on April 27, 2012.
- (5) As approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo held on March 22, 2013.
- (6) As approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting held on May 21, 2013 (second tranche).
- (7) As approved by the Board of Directors meeting held on December 13, 2013 (second tranche).

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

	Equity attributable to Telecom Argentina (Controlling Company)											
		Owr	ners Contr	ribution	•				-			
	Outs	standing										
	sł	hares	Trease	ury shares	Treasury			Voluntary	•			/
	Capital		Capital		shares		Special	reserve for		Voluntary		
	nominal		nominal		acquisition		reserve for	future	capital	reserve for		
	value	Inflation	value	adjustment		Legal	IFRS		investments			Retained
	(1)	adjustment	(1) (2)	(2)	(2)	reserve	implementation	payments	(2)	investments	results	earnings '
Balances as of												
<b>January 1, 2014</b>	969	2,646	5 1 <b>5</b>	5 42	2 (461)	) 725	351		1,200	2,904	190	3,202 1
Dividends from												
Núcleo (3)												
Dividends (4)												(1,202)
Legal Reserve						0						
(4)						9						(9)
Voluntary												
reserve for												
capital									1.001			(1.001)
investments (4)									1,991			(1,991)
<u>Comprehensive</u>												
<u>income</u> : Nat income for												/
Net income for												2 672
the year Other												3,673
Other												
comprehensive											164	
income Total											104	
Comprehensive												
Income											164	3,673
meome											104	3,075
Balances as of												
December 31,												
2014	969	2,646	5 15	5 42	. (461)	) 734	351		3,191	2,904	354	3,673 1
-01.		-,			(••=/				-,	-,		2,012

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(1) As of December 31, 2014, total shares (984,380,978), of \$1 argentine peso of nominal value each, were issued and fully paid. As of December 31, 2014; 15,221,373 were treasury shares.

(2) Corresponds to 15,221,373 shares of \$1 argentine peso of nominal value each, equivalent to 1.55% of total capital. The treasury shares acquisition costs amounted to 461. See Note 19 Equity to the consolidated financial statements.

(3) As approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo held on March 28, 2014.

(4) As approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting held on May 21, 2014 (second tranche).

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

### **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(In millions of Argentine pesos)

	Note	2014	For the years ended December 31, 2013	2012
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	TOLE	2014	2015	2012
Net income for the year		3,729	3,254	2,732
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash		,		,
flows provided by operating activities				
Bad debt expenses and other allowances		512	396	297
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	22	2,389	1,983	1,792
Amortization of intangible assets	9	854	890	820
Consumption of materials	8	227	147	125
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	22	(9)	(14)	(8)
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	22	25	187	
Net book value of property, plant and equipment		45		
(Recovery of restructuring costs)/restructuring costs	22		(8)	54
Provisions	17	192	345	235
Interest and other financial results		(465)	(284)	(104)
Income tax expense	14	1,967	1,792	1,463
Income tax paid	<b>4.</b> b	(2,277)	(1,609)	(1,647)
Net increase in assets	<b>4.</b> b	(1,505)	(1,734)	(925)
Net increase in liabilities	<b>4.</b> b	37	1,636	195
Total cash flows provided by operating activities	<b>4.</b> b	5,721	6,981	5,029
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Property, plant and equipment acquisitions	<b>4.</b> b	(4,895)	(3,352)	(2,465)
3G/4G licenses acquisitions	<b>4.</b> b	(3,091)		
Other intangible asset acquisitions	<b>4.</b> b	(1,118)	(846)	(861)
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		17	21	13
Investments not considered as cash and cash equivalents	<b>4.</b> b	(339)	356	(632)
Total cash flows used in investing activities		(9,426)	(3,821)	(3,945)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Proceeds from financial debt	<b>4.</b> b		208	47
Payment of financial debt	<b>4.</b> b	(12)	(157)	(63)
Payment of interest	<b>4.</b> b	(29)	(16)	(13)
Payment of cash dividends and related withholding tax	<b>4.</b> b	(1,299)	(981)	(830)
Treasury shares acquisition	<b>4.</b> b		(461)	
Total cash flows used in financing activities		(1,340)	(1,407)	(859)
NET FOREIGN EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES ON				
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		505	311	117
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH				
EQUIVALENTS		(4,540)	2,064	342
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE				
BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	<b>4.</b> b	5,224	3,160	2,818
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END				
OF THE YEAR	<b>4.</b> b	684	5,224	3,160

See Note 4.b for additional information on the consolidated statements of cash flows.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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#### **Glossary of terms**

The following explanations are not intended as technical definitions, but to assist the general reader to understand certain terms as used in these consolidated financial statements.

AMBA (Área Metropolitana de Buenos Aires): the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires.

ADS: Telecom Argentina s American Depositary Share, listed on the New York Stock Exchange, each representing 5 Class B Shares.

*ADSL* (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line): A modem technology that converts existing twisted-pair telephone lines into access paths for multimedia and high-speed data communications.

ARSAT (Empresa Argentina de Soluciones Satelitales S.A.): a state-owned company.

BCBA (Bolsa de Comercio de Buenos Aires): The Buenos Aires Stock Exchange.

CNC (Comisión Nacional de Comunicaciones): The Argentine National Communications Commission.

CNDC (Comisión Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia): Argentine Antitrust Commission.

CNV (Comisión Nacional de Valores): The Argentine National Securities Commission.

Company or Telecom Argentina: Telecom Argentina S.A.

CONATEL (Comisión Nacional de Telecomunicaciones del Paraguay): The Regulatory Authority of Paraguay.

CPCECABA (Consejo Profesional de Ciencias Económicas de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires): The Professional Council of Economic Sciences of the City of Buenos Aires.

CPP: Calling Party Pays.

*Cuentas claras* : Under the Cuentas claras plans, a subscriber pays a set monthly bill and, once the contract minutes per month have been used, the subscriber can obtain additional credit by recharging the phone card through the prepaid system.

D&A: Depreciation and amortization.

DLD: Domestic long-distance.

ENARD (Ente Nacional de Alto Rendimiento Deportivo): National High Sport Performance Organization.

ENTel (Empresa Nacional de Telecomunicaciones): Argentine State Telecommunication Company, which was privatized in November, 1990.

FACPCE (Federación Argentina de Consejos Profesionales en Ciencias Económicas): Argentine Federation of Professional Councils of Economic Sciences.

FFSU (Fondo Fiduciario del Servicio Universal): Universal Service Fiduciary Fund

IAS: International Accounting Standards.

IASB: International Accounting Standards Board.

IDC (Impuesto a los débitos y créditos bancarios): Tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts.

IFRS: International Financial Reporting Standards, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

LSC (Ley de Sociedades Comerciales): Argentine Corporations Law.

Micro Sistemas: Micro Sistemas S.A.

NDF: Non-Deliverable Forward.

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Nortel: Nortel Inversora S.A., the parent company of the Company.

Núcleo: Núcleo S.A.

NYSE: New York Stock Exchange.

OCI: Other Comprehensive Income.

Personal: Telecom Personal S.A.

PP&E: Property, plant and equipment.

*Price Cap:* rate regulation mechanism applied to determine rate discounts based on a formula made up by the U.S. Consumer Price Index and an efficiency factor. The mentioned factor was established initially in the List of Conditions and afterwards in different regulations by the SC.

Publicom: Publicom S.A.

Regulatory Bodies: Collectively, the SC and the CNC.

*Roaming:* a function that enables mobile subscribers to use the service on networks of operators other than the one with which they signed their initial contract. The roaming service is active when a mobile device is used in a foreign country (included in the GSM network).

RT: Technical resolutions issued by the FACPCE.

RT 26: Technical resolution No, 26 issued by the FACPCE, amended by RT29.

SAC: Subscriber Acquisition Costs.

SBT (Servicio básico telefónico): Basic telephone service.

SC (Secretaría de Comunicaciones): The Argentine Secretary of Communications.

SEC: Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States of America.

SMS: Short message systems.

Sofora: Sofora Telecomunicaciones S.A. Nortel s controlling company.

Springville: Springville S.A. Personal sold its equity interest in Springville on February 19, 2014.

*SU:* The availability of Basic telephone service, or access to the public telephone network via different alternatives, at an affordable price to all persons within a country or specified area.

Telecom Group/Group: Telecom Argentina and its consolidated subsidiaries.

*Telecom Italia Group:* Telecom Italia S.p.A and its consolidated subsidiaries, except where referring to the Telecom Italia Group as Telecom Argentina s operator in which case it means Telecom Italia S.p.A and Telecom Italia International, N.V.

Telecom USA: Telecom Argentina USA Inc.

*Telco S.p.A.*: A joint company made up of Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A., Intesa San Paolo S.p.A., Mediobanca S.p.A., Sintonia S.A. and Telefónica, S.A. (of Spain).

Telefónica: Telefónica de Argentina S.A.

TLRD (Terminación Llamada Red Destino): Termination charges from third parties wireless networks.

UNIREN (Unidad de Renegociación y Análisis de Contratos de Servicios Públicos): Renegotiation and Analysis of Contracts of Public Services Division.

*VAS (Value-Added Services):* Services that provide additional functionality to the basic transmission services offered by a telecommunications network such as SMS, Video streaming, Personal Video, Personal Cloud, M2M (Communication Machine to Machine), Social networks, Personal Messenger, Contents and Entertainment (content and text subscriptions, games, music ringtones, wallpaper, screensavers, etc), MMS (Mobile Multimedia Services) and Voice Mail, among others.

VPP (Valor Patrimonial Proporcional): Equity method.

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### Note 1 Description of business and basis of preparation of the consolidated financial statements

## a) <u>The Company and its operations</u>

Telecom Argentina was created through the privatization of ENTel, the state-owned company that provided telecommunication services in Argentina.

Telecom Argentina s license, as originally granted, was exclusive to provide telephone services in the northern region of Argentina since November 8, 1990 through October 10, 1999. As from such date, the Company also began providing telephone services in the southern region of Argentina and competing in the previously exclusive northern region.

The Company provides fixed-line public telecommunication services, international long-distance service, data transmission and Internet services in Argentina and through its subsidiaries, mobile telecommunications services in Argentina and Paraguay and international wholesale services in the United States of America. Information on the Telecom Group s licenses and the regulatory framework is described in Note 2.

As of December 31, 2014, entities included in the consolidation process and the respective equity interest owned by Telecom Argentina is presented as follows:

	Percentage of capital stock owned and	Indirect control		Segment that consolidates
Subsidiaries	voting rights (i)	through	Date of acquisition	(Note 28)
Telecom USA	100.00%		09.12.00	Fixed Services
Micro Sistemas (ii)	99.99%		12.31.97	Fixed Services
Personal	99.99%		07.06.94	Personal Mobile Services
Núcleo (iii)	67.50%	Personal	02.03.98	Núcleo Mobile Services
Personal Envíos (iii) (iv)	67.50%	Núcleo	07.24.14	Núcleo Mobile Services

<sup>(</sup>i) Percentage of equity interest owned has been rounded.

- (ii) Dormant entity as of and for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.
- (iii) Non-controlling interest of 32.50% is owned by the Paraguayan company ABC Telecomunicaciones S.A.
- (iv) Dormant entity as of and for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014.

### b) <u>Segment reporting</u>

An operating segment is defined as a component of an entity that engages in business activities from which it may earn revenues and incur expenses, and whose financial information is available, held separately, and evaluated regularly by the Telecom Group s Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Operating segments are reported in a consistent manner with the internal reporting provided to the CEO, who is responsible for allocating resources and assessing performance of the operating segments at the net income (loss) level and under the accounting principles effective (IFRS as issued by the IASB) at each time for reporting to the Regulatory Bodies. The accounting policies applied for segment information are the same for all operating segments.

Information regarding segment reporting is included in Note 28.

### c) <u>Basis of preparation</u>

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB and in accordance with RT 26 (as amended by RT 29) of FACPCE as adopted by the CPCECABA, and as required by the CNV in Argentina for most of public companies.

As from January 1, 2014 certain amendments to IAS 32 have come into effect, clarifying the meaning of *currently has a legally enforceable right to set off* and how offsetting requirements when offsetting gross amounts do not operate simultaneously should be applied. The Telecom Group mainly offset financial assets and liabilities that relate to Interconnection transactions, TLRD, CPP and Roaming with national and foreign operators and agents (see Note 20). The application of these new provisions has not had a significant impact on these consolidated financial statements.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires Management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Telecom Group s accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the consolidated financial statements are disclosed in Note 3.u).

The consolidated financial statements (except for cash flow information) are prepared on an accrual basis of accounting. Under this basis, the effects of transactions and other events are recognized when they occur. Therefore income and expenses are recognized at fair value on an accrual basis regardless of when they are received or paid. When significant, the difference between the fair value and the nominal amount of income and expenses is recognized as finance income or expense using the effective interest method over the relevant period.

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The accompanying consolidated financial statements have also been prepared on a going concern basis (further details are provided in Note 3.a) and the figures are expressed in millions of pesos, otherwise indicated.

Publication of these consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 was approved by resolution of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 2, 2015.

### d) <u>Financial statement formats</u>

The financial statement formats adopted are consistent with IAS 1. In particular:

• <u>the consolidated statements of financial position</u> have been prepared by classifying assets and liabilities according to current and non-current criterion. Current assets and liabilities are those that are expected to be realized/settled within twelve months after the year-end;

• <u>the consolidated income statements</u> have been prepared by classifying operating expenses by nature of expense as this form of presentation is considered more appropriate and represents the way that the business of the Group is monitored by the Management, and, additionally, are in line with the usual presentation of expenses in the telecommunication industry;

• <u>the consolidated statements of comprehensive income</u> include the profit or loss for the year as shown in the consolidated income statement and all components of other comprehensive income;

• <u>the consolidated statements of changes in equity</u> have been prepared showing separately (i) profit (loss) for the year, (ii) other comprehensive income (loss) for the year, and (iii) transactions with shareholders (owners and non-controlling interest);

• <u>the consolidated statements of cash flows</u> have been prepared by presenting cash flows from operating activities according to the indirect method, as permitted by IAS 7.

These consolidated financial statements contain all material disclosures required under IFRS. Some additional disclosures required by the LSC and/or by the CNV have been also included, among them, complementary information required in the last paragraph of Article 1 Chapter III Title IV of the CNV General Resolution No. 622/13. Such information is disclosed in Notes 7, 8, 9, 17, 20, 22 and 26 to these consolidated financial statements, as admitted by IFRS.

Also, some reclassifications to the 2013 comparative figures of the consolidated statements of cash flows have been included in the lines total cash flows provided by operating activities, total cash flows used in investing activities and net foreign exchange differences on cash and cash equivalents with the purpose of improving the information comparability.

### e) <u>Application of IAS 29 (Financial reporting in hyperinflationary economies)</u>

IAS 29 establishes the conditions under which an entity shall restate its financial statements if it is located in an economic environment considered hyperinflationary .

In compliance with the provisions of IAS 29, the management of the Company periodically verifies the evolution of official statistics as well as the general factors of the economic environment in the countries in which the Telecom Group operates. It should be mentioned that if the qualitative and / or quantitative characteristics to consider an economy as a hyperinflationary economy set out in paragraph 3 of IAS 29 occur, the restatement of financial statements must be made retroactively from the date of the revaluation used as deemed cost (in the case of Group companies located in Argentina, since February 2003) or from the acquisition date for assets acquired after that date.

Inflation in Argentina has experienced an increase in 2014, according to official statistics published by the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INDEC). The accumulated Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the three-year period ended December 31, 2014 amounted to 52.4%, while the Internal Wholesale Price Index (IPIM) accumulated for the same period amounted to 66.5%. The tables below show the evolution of these indexes in the last three years according to official statistics (INDEC):

	2012	2013	2014		
Consumer Price Index					
Consumer Price Index (annual)	10.8%	10.9%	23.8%		
Consumer Price Index (3 year accumulated)	34.6%	34.7%	52.4%		
Internal Wholesale Price Index					
Internal Wholesale Price Index (annual)	13.1%	14.8%	28.3%		
Internal Wholesale Price Index (3 year accumulated)	46.3%	46.2%	66.5%		

As from January 2014, the INDEC began publishing a new CPI at a national level in order to improve the quality of macroeconomic statistics, which integrates a set of price indexes to allow monitoring different changes in prices in the economy. The new CPI is published for periods after January 2014 but is not available for earlier periods and no joint factor between the new and the old index has been published.

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As inflation in Argentina has risen, management has further assessed the characteristics set out in paragraph 3 of IAS 29, including (i) the quantitative characteristics provided in section (e) *the cumulative inflation rate over three years is approaching, or exceeds, 100%*, as well as (ii) the qualitative characteristics contained in paragraphs a) to d) of that paragraph. On the basis of the analysis made by management and other evidence available at the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, management concluded that Argentina does not qualify as a hyperinflationary country in terms of IAS 29.

The conclusion that Argentina s economy should not be considered hyperinflationary under IFRS is consistent with the conclusions of the International Practices Task Force in 2013 and 2014, which the Company had accessed. An extract of the meeting held in November 2014, stated the following: *The SEC staff noted the IMF s concerns on the accuracy of CPI-GBA data for 2013 and prior periods. Given the apparent lack of any other objectively verifiable inflation data, and the relatively low level of three-year cumulative inflation, the SEC staff had not observed data that supported Argentina being highly inflationary in 2013*. Additionally, the SEC staff noted that it had not observed objectively *verifiable data that would indicate the economy of Argentina is highly-inflationary at October 31, 2014. However, the staff noted that an annual projection of the reported inflation during the first seven months of 2014 as per the New CPI would be higher than projections using the CPI*. *The staff would expect registrants to monitor the New CPI inflation data during the remainder of 2014 and consider the level of inflation, in combination with other pertinent factors and data points, in determining whether Argentina should be considered a highly-inflationary economy.* 

While there may be differences in the definition of a hyperinflationary environment between IFRS and US GAAP, the Company believes that the assessment of the macroeconomic situation of a country should be substantially similar under both accounting frameworks.

While the CNV required public companies the full implementation of IFRS-as issued by the IASB- from periods beginning on January 1st, 2012, Decree No. 664/03 continues to be in force at the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements. Through this Decree, the PEN instructed the control authorities including the CNV- not to accept filings of restated financial statements. This legal restriction is foreseen in the current Regulations of the CNV (Title IV - Chapter III Article 3 - paragraph 1).

Management of the Company believes that the periodic assessment of the macroeconomic environment in Argentina and the possible restatement of financial statements in accordance to IAS 29, represent an element of care and concern for investors, analysts and regulators of capital markets where Argentine companies list their equity and debt securities, because of the significant impact that such restatement might have on their financial position and results of operations, including the Telecom Group.

Management of the Company will continue monitoring the evolution of inflation in Argentina in order to comply with the provisions of IAS 29, with special consideration of: i) local regulatory pronouncements - which forbid the acceptance of filings containing restated financial statements as stated by the Decree No. 664/03 and complementary standards - and ii) international regulatory pronouncements.

Note 2 - Regulatory framework

#### (a) Regulatory bodies and general legal framework

Telecom Argentina and Personal operate in a regulated industry. Regulation not only covers rates and service terms, but also the terms on which various licensing and technical requirements are imposed.

Until the issuance of the Law No. 27,078 (Ley Argentina Digital or LAD, see o) below), the provision of telecommunication services was regulated by the SC and supervised by the CNC. The CNC was in charge of general oversight and supervision of telecommunications services. The SC had the power to develop, suggest and implement policies which were applicable to telecommunications services; to ensure that these policies were applied; to review the applicable legal regulatory framework; to act as the enforcing authority with respect to the laws governing the relevant activities; to approve major technical plans and to resolve administrative appeals filed against CNC resolutions.

The LAD was published in the Official Bulletin on December 19, 2014, and has been in force ever since its publication.

The new Law incorporates major amendments to the regulatory framework ruling the provision of telecommunication services in Argentina and establishing the creation of the Federal Authority of Information and Communication Technologies ( AFTIC ), as a decentralized and autonomous agency in the scope of the National Executive Power which shall act as the Regulatory Authority of the LAD.

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The said Authority shall be the continuation, for all purposes, of the SC and the CNC being its functions the regulation, control, supervision and verification concerning the *Tecnologías de la Información y las Comunicaciones* (ICT) in general, of the telecommunications in particular, of the postal service and all those matters integrated to its field in accordance to the text of the LAD and the applicable regulations and the policies set by the National Government. In addition, Article 87 of the Law establishes the transfer, under the scope of competence of the Regulatory Authority, of the SC, of the CNC, of Argentina Soluciones Satelitales S.A. (ARSAT), of the Correo Oficial de la República Argentina S.A. (CORASA) and of the national plan Argentina Conectada.

As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the AFTIC has not been constituted.

The principal features of the regulatory framework in Argentina have been created by:

- The Privatization Regulations, including the List of Conditions;
- The Transfer Agreement;
- The Licenses granted to Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries;
- The Rate Agreements; and

• Various governmental Decrees, including Decree No. 764/00, establishing the regulatory framework for licenses, interconnection, universal service and radio spectrum management.

Law No. 27,078 states that Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments shall remain in full force in all that is not opposed to the LAD for the time required by the Regulatory Authority to draw up the regulations concerning the Licensing Framework for ICT Services, the Interconnection Regulation, the Universal Service Regulation and the Administration, Management and Control of the Spectrum Regulation. Also, the LAD states that Law No. 19,798 ( Ley Nacional de Telecomunicaciones passed in 1972) and its amendments shall only prevail in respect of those regulations not opposing its provisions.

Núcleo, Personal s Paraguayan controlled company, is supervised by the *Comisión Nacional de Telecomunicaciones de Paraguay*, the National Communications Commission of Paraguay (CONATEL) and its subsidiary Personal Envíos S.A. is supervised by the *Banco Central de la República del Paraguay*. Additionally, Telecom USA, Telecom Argentina s subsidiary in the United States, is supervised by the Federal Communications Commission (the FCC).

#### (b) Licenses granted as of December 31, 2014

As of December 31, 2014, Telecom Argentina has been granted the following non-expiring licenses to provide the following services in Argentina:

- Local fixed telephony;
- Public telephony;
- Domestic and international long-distance telephony;
- Domestic and international point-to-point link services;
- Domestic and international telex services;
- VAS, data transmission, videoconferencing and transportation of audio and video signals; and
- Internet access.

As of December 31, 2014, the Company s subsidiaries have been granted the following licenses:

• Personal has been granted non-exclusive, non-expiring licenses to provide mobile telecommunication services (STM) in the northern region of Argentina, data transmission and VAS throughout the country, mobile radio communication services (SRMC) in the Federal District and Greater Buenos Aires areas, PCS services throughout the country and it is registered to provide national and international long-distance telephone services. Additionally, from November 2014, Personal has been granted a 15-year licenses for the use of the frequencies resulting from the Public Auction; and

• Núcleo has been granted a renewable five-year period license to provide mobile telecommunication services in Paraguay as well as PCS services, data transmission and videoconferences services and Internet access in certain areas of that country.

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### Spectrum

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### Decree No. 671/14

Decree No. 671, published in the Official Bulletin on May 14, 2014, superseded Sections 2nd and 3rd of Decree No. 2,426 issued on December 13, 2012, which provided that the remaining spectrum in 850 MHz and in 1,900 MHz be assigned to the state-owned operator ARSAT. Such remaining spectrum had been subject to a public auction called by SC Resolution No. 57/11, which later became ineffective for reasons of opportunity, merit and convenience.

The above mentioned Decree also readjusts the previous assignments of the new spectrum bands, instructing the SC to implement the applicable measures to assign 108 MHz of the bands contained between 698-806 MHz, as well as 120 MHz between the 1,710-1,770 and 2,110-2,170 MHz bands exclusively to the Land Mobile Service .

In addition, the above mentioned Decree instructs the SC to call a public auction for this new spectrum, plus the remaining spectrum in the 850 and 1,900 MHz bands mentioned above (band 1,900: 30 MHz in the North Area and AMBA; 35 MHz in the South Area, and band 850: 7.5 MHz in AMBA).

### SC Resolution No. 17/14

SC Resolution No. 17, published in the Official Bulletin on May 16, 2014, assigns 120 MHz of the 1,710-1,770 MHz and 2,110-2,170 MHz bands to the Land Mobile Service, leaving previous assignments without effect.

In addition, SC Resolution No. 17 ratifies the suspension to make new assignments of frequencies in the band segments next to those, from 1,770-850 MHz and from 2,170-2,200 MHz, as it had been in effect since 2001.

The above mentioned Resolution also states that systems which are currently operated by other operators in the newly assigned bands must migrate within a two year period. For such purpose those operators must contact the applicable Regulatory Authority, within 60 days from the publication of such Resolution, to coordinate their systems migration.

SC Resolution No. 18/14

SC Resolution No. 18, published in the Official Bulletin on May 19, 2014, assigns 108 MHz of the 698 to 806 MHz band to the Land Mobile Service, leaving previous assignments (broadcasting and fixed systems) without effect.

In addition, this Resolution, as well as SC Resolution No. 17/14 referred to above, provides that systems which are currently operated by other operators in the above mentioned band must migrate within a two year period, for which purpose they must contact the applicable Regulatory Authority, within 60 days of the publication of this Resolution, to coordinate their systems migration.

### SC Resolution No. 37/14

SC Resolution No. 37, published in the Official Bulletin on July 7, 2014, approved the General Regulations for the Advanced Mobile Communications Service (SCMA), which defines such service as: *telecommunications wireless service which, by the use of digital access technology, supports low and high user s mobility, high rates of data transfer, interoperability with other fixed and mobile networks, with capacity for international roaming and oriented to the switch of packages that allow the use of a broad range of applications, including those based on multimedia content .* 

The SCMA shall be provided by using the 698 to 806 MHz band (108 MHz) and the 1,710 to 1,770 MHz and 2,110 to 2,170 MHz bands (120 MHz). A 60 MHz maximum spectrum cap for each provider is set forth and all the national territory is considered as a sole Area of Use of this service.

The network technology and architecture shall be freely chosen by each provider. However, certain minimum parameters are set forth, such as supporting bandwidth channels of 10, 15 and 20 MHz, and reaching theoretical high peak speeds of 100 and 50 Mbps, for the descending and ascending connections respectively, for a 20 MHz channel and support high spectral efficiencies (5 and 2.5 bps/MHz, respectively, for each direction of transmission). It also sets forth minimum speeds of 14Mbps for the descending connections and 6Mbps for the ascending connections.

The SCMA shall be subject to the rules set forth in these resolutions, the List of Conditions issued for the frequency bands auctions to be used for the provision of this service and the regulations to be approved to such effect.

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### SC Resolution No. 38/14

SC Resolution No. 38, published on the Official Bulletin on July 7, 2014, stated: (i) to call a public auction process for the awarding of the remaining frequencies of the Personal Communications Service (PCS), of the Mobile Cellular Radiocommunications Service (SRMC), as well as those of the new spectrum for the Advanced Mobile Communications Service (SCMA) recently created (the Auction process ) and (ii) to approve the Bidding Terms and Conditions for simultaneously bidding the aggregate of the remaining spectrum in the 850 and 1,900 MHz bands, and the 698 to 806 MHz bands, plus 90 MHz of the 1,710/1,770 2,110/2,170 MHz bands for the SCMA service (remaining out of the auction and available for further use, 30 MHz corresponding to the 1,755-1,770 sub-band and 2,155-2,170 sub-band), respecting the corresponding spectrum caps (50 MHz for SRCM + PCS and 60 MHz for SCMA).

The above mentioned Terms and Conditions set forth the general principles and conditions of the auction, the applicable rules, the auction timetable, the Terms and Conditions purchase price (\$200,000 pesos), the economic capacity (Equity of \$1,500) and conditions of the offerors (they shall be telecommunications licensees), the economic-financial and technical documentation to be submitted for the prequalification, the coverage compliance obligations of the successful bidders, the base values of the frequency bands to be auctioned, and the procedures and formalities of the public auction.

The Terms and Conditions organized the aggregate of the spectrum to be auctioned in 10 Lots:

• The first one, to be auctioned exclusively among entering operators who shall qualify for the public auction, shall be comprised of 20 MHz in the 1,900 MHz band for each of the three Regions, plus 20 MHz in the 700 MHz band and other 20 MHz in the 1,700/2,100 MHz band.

• Another six lots comprised by spectrum segments in the 850 and 1,900 MHz bands, which would allow Personal and to the mobile operator Claro, to complete their respective spectrum caps taking into account that Movistar has already reached its cap- in each of the Regions of operation of the SRMC and PCS services: Personal could acquire up to 5 MHz in the North Area, up to 7.5 MHz in the AMBA and up to 10 MHz in the South Area, while Claro could acquire up to 5 MHz in the North Area, up to 10 MHz in AMBA and up to 5 MHz in the South Area.

• And three final lots, comprised, each one, by combinations of segments of 20 or 30 MHz of new spectrum in the 700 and 1,700/2,100 MHz. bands (creating two lots of 50 MHz and the last one of 40 MHz, respectively).

The MHz base price for the bandwidth to be auctioned was fixed in U.S. dollars, as detailed below:

BAND	MHZ BASE PRICE (in US\$ millions)
SCMA (700 MHz)	9.87
SCMA (1.7/2.1 GHz)	9.44
SRMC	6.00

PCS Area I	1.00
PCS Area II	4.40
PCS Area III	0.60

The selection procedure for the best economic offer shall consist of an auction of each of the Lots ( The Public Auction ).

The authorizations for the use of the frequencies subject to the public auction are granted for a fifteen (15) year period starting on the date on which the administrative act of choosing a bidder is notified. Once such period ends, the SC may extend it if expressly required by the successful bidder (which extension shall be subject to the price and conditions to be determined by the SC).

The Terms and Conditions provided for certain coverage obligations to be reached within a five year period (locations of up to 500 inhabitants in the whole country and almost all the corridors of relevant federal and provincial roads, setting forth various intermediate stages for complying with such unfolding). It also imposes certain obligations of domestic roaming (which are not taken into account for the calculation of the coverage obligations) and of sharing of passive infrastructure with the Incoming Operators (in up to 50% of the sites that the latter s must unfold). In addition, as consideration for the acquisition of even only one of the six lots corresponding to the SCRM or PCS services, the current mobile operators must guarantee that all their sites provide mobile Internet of at least 1Mbps (descending), at the end of the fifth year.

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On July 24, 2014, Personal acquired the Public Auction s Terms and Conditions, and on August 28, 2014 and September 4, 2014, made some filings before the SC making inquiries and requesting clarifications on some of the provisions set forth in the Terms and Conditions. The Terms and Conditions were also acquired by Telefónica Móviles, AMX Argentina S.A. (Claro), Nextel S.A., Cablevisión S.A. and Arlink S.A., who also made several inquiries.

SC Resolution No. 62/14 issued on September 10, 2014 and published in the Official Bulletin on September 11, 2014, approved Amending Circular No.1 of the Terms and Conditions (and its Exhibit), pursuant to which the SC responded to inquiries made by the acquirers of the Terms and Conditions and amended some of the provisions included in it.

In addition, SC Resolution No. 64/14 issued on September 16, 2014 created a Prequalification Commission, consisting of CNC and SC representatives, which was in charge of issuing the prequalification reports regarding the offerors and any challenges that may arise.

On September 18, 2014, Personal submitted the prequalification and background envelope in order to participate in the Public Auction, and the Prequalification Commission requested and received from the CNDC a report which concludes that the possible assignment of frequencies to the four companies that participated in the Public Auction (Personal, Telefónica Móviles, Arlink and Claro) would not constitute a situation that may adversely affect free competition in the current circumstances of the mobile telecommunications market, and that it does not have questions or exceptions to be made thereon .

On the basis of the above referred CNDC report and the Commission of Prequalification report, the SC issued Resolution No. 65/14, pursuant to which Personal, Telefónica Móviles, Arlink and Claro were prequalified to participate in the Public Auction.

On October 31, 2014 the Public Auction took place and Personal presented several economic offers, which resulted winners for the following Lots:

- 1) For the SRM service, in Lot No. 2 (Band: 830.25-834 / 875.25-879);
- 2) For the PCS service, in Lot No. 5 (Band: 1,890-1,892.5 / 1,970-1,972.5) and in Lot No. 6 (Band: 1,862.5-1,867.5 / 1,942.5-1,947.5); and
- 3) For the SCMA service, in Lot No. 8 (Band: 1,730-1,745 / 2,130-2,145 and Band: 713-723 / 768-778).

For the acquisition of these Frequency Bands, Personal has committed an amount equivalent to US\$ 658 million (currency of offer) in the Public Auction and its economic offer for the Lot No. 8 resulted the highest one offered in the Public Auction. In accordance to Article 48 of the Terms and Conditions, within the 20 days following the Public Auction, the SC would issue the act of awarding of the Frequency Bands to the winning companies.

Through SC Resolution No. 79/2014 the SCMA service was awarded to Personal, while SC Resolutions No. 80/2014, 81/2014, 82/2014 and 83/2014, that were published in the Official Bulletin of Argentina on November 27, 2014, provided that the following frequency bands were awarded to Personal:

SC Resolution	Lot No.		Frequency Band	Exploitation area/ (Service)	Amount paid (in millions of US\$)	Capitalized cost of acquisition (in millions of \$)
80/14	5	PCS	1890-1892.5 Mhz and 1970-1972.5 Mhz	Northern (3G)	5.0	43
81/14	2	SRMC	830.25-834 Mhz and 875.25-879 Mhz	AMBA (3G)	45.0	387
82/14	6	PCS	1862.5-1867.5 Mhz and 1942.5-1947.5 Mhz	Southern (3G)	6.0	51
83/14	8	SCMA	1730-1745 Mhz and 2130-2145 Mhz	Country (4G) partial awarding	354.7	3,049
					410.7	(*) 3.530

(\*) Includes \$18 corresponding to the tax on debits to bank accounts that were capitalized in the cost of the licenses.

On December 17, 2014, Personal paid the awarded Frequency Bands. In the case of Lot No. 8, the payment was made on account of the single and total price offered for this Lot which amounted to US\$ 602 million. Personal has requested to complete the assignment of the Frequency Bands for the SCMA services in Lot No. 8, which was partially awarded through SC Resolution No. 83/2014, and has reserved the applicable rights.

The acquisition of the rights of use of these Frequency Bands was recorded as Intangible Assets amounting to \$3,530 and will be amortized as described in Note 3.i) 3G/4G licenses.

The full awarding of Lot No. 8 becomes essential for the compliance of the commitments foreseen in the Auction Terms and Conditions. Once the awarding takes place (which will enable to access to the SCMA frequency band 713-723/768-778), Personal shall pay the equivalent to US\$ 247.3 million (outstanding balance of the auction amount), and set a compliance guarantee for an amount equal to 15% of such amount.

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The Auction Terms and Conditions established strict coverage and network deployment obligations, which will require significant investments on the part of Personal (additional information is provided in Note 18.e).

#### (c) Revocation of the licenses

Telecom Argentina s license is revocable in the case of non-compliance with certain obligations, including but not limited to:

- an interruption of all or a substantial portion of the service;
- a modification of its corporate purpose or change of domicile to a jurisdiction outside Argentina;
- a sale or transfer of the license to third parties without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies;

• a sale, encumbrance or transfer of assets which has the effect of reducing services provided, without the prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies;

• a reduction of Nortel s interest in Telecom Argentina to less than 51%, or the reduction of Nortel s common shareholders interest in Nortel to less than 51% of its voting right capital, in either case without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies (as of December 31, 2014, all Nortel s ordinary shares belong to Sofora. Additional information in Note 27);

• any transfer of shares resulting in a direct or indirect loss of control in Telecom Argentina without prior approval of the Regulatory Bodies;

• the Company s bankruptcy.

If the license of the Company was revoked, Nortel must transfer its stake in the Company to the Regulatory Authority in trust for subsequent sale through public auction.

After the sale of the shares to a new management group, the Regulatory Authority may renew the license to the Company under terms to be determined.

STM, SRMC and PCS Personal s licenses are revocable in the case of non-compliance with certain obligations, including but not limited to:

- repeated interruptions of the services;
- any transfer of the license and/or the related rights and obligations, without the prior approval of the Regulatory Authority;

- any encumbrance of the license;
- any voluntary insolvency proceedings or bankruptcy of Personal;
- a liquidation or dissolution of Personal, without the prior approval of the Regulatory Authority.

According to the Auction Terms and Conditions for the awarding of frequency bands for SCMA (and some bands for SRMC and PCS), approved by SC Resolution No. 38/14, the authorization to use radio electric spectrum (as defined in the Auction) will be revocable under the following circumstances:

• repeated or persistent failure of obligations related to quality indicators of services provided under the terms of the Regulation for the Quality of Telecommunications Services approved by SC Resolution No. 5/2013 ;

• repeated or persistent failure of infrastructure sharing obligations and the conditions set for automatic roaming agreements established in the Terms and Conditions;

• repeated or persistent failure of the coverage obligations set in Annex III of the Terms and Conditions;

• assignment, transfer, encumbrance, lease or sale to third parties of the authorization for the use of the awarded bands, without prior authorization from the Regulatory Authority.

Núcleo s licenses are revocable mainly in the case of:

- repeated interruptions of the services;
- any voluntary insolvency proceedings or bankruptcy of Núcleo;
- non-compliance with certain service obligations.

### (d) Decree No. 764/00

Law No. 27,078 states that Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments shall remain in full force in all that is not opposed to the LAD for the time required by the Regulatory Authority to draw up the regulations concerning the Licensing Framework for ICT Services, the Interconnection Regulation, the Universal Service Regulation and the Administration, Management and Control of the Spectrum Regulation.

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When issued, Decree No. 764/00 substantially modified three regulations:

### <u>General Regulation of Licenses</u>

This regulation establishes a single nationwide license for the provision of all telecommunication services to the public, including fixed-line, mobile, national and international, irrespective of whether these services are provided through telecommunications infrastructure owned by the service provider. Under the regulation, a licensee s corporate purpose does not need to be exclusively the provision of telecommunications services. In addition, the regulation does not establish any minimum investment or coverage requirements. Broadcasting service companies may also apply for a license to provide telecommunications services. The regulation further authorizes the resale of telecommunications services subject to the receipt of a license, and there are no restrictions on participation by foreign companies.

#### Interconnection Regulation

This regulation provides for an important reduction in the reference interconnection prices in effect at the time. The regulation also increases the number of infrastructure elements and services that the dominant operator is required to provide, including interconnection at the local exchange level, billing services and unbundling of local loops. This regulation also introduces interconnection for number translation services (NTS) such as Internet, audio text, collect calling and the implementation of number portability.

#### • <u>Universal Service Regulation ( RGSU</u> )

Decree No. 764/00 required entities that receive revenues from telecommunications services to contribute 1% of these revenues (net of taxes) to the Universal Service Fiduciary Fund (the SU fund). The regulation adopted a pay or play mechanism for compliance with the mandatory contribution to the SU fund. The regulation established a formula for calculating the subsidy for the SU liability which takes into account the cost of providing this service and any foregone revenues. Additionally, the regulation created a committee responsible for the administration of the SU fund and the development of specific SU programs.

The SC issued Resolution No. 80/07 which stipulated that until the SU Fund was effectively implemented, telecommunication service providers, such as Telecom Argentina and Personal, were required to deposit any contributions accrued since the issuance of such Resolution into a special individual account held in their name at the Banco de la Nación Argentina. CNC Resolution No. 2,713/07, issued in August 2007, established how these contributions are to be calculated.

#### SU Regulation stated by Decree No. 558/08

Decree No. 558/08, published on April 4, 2008, caused certain changes to the SU regime.

The Decree established that the SC will assess the value of service providers direct program contributions in compliance with obligations promulgated by Decree No. 764/00. It will also determine the level of funding required in the SU Fund for programs pending implementation. In the same manner, in order to guarantee the continuity of certain projects, the SC was given the choice to consider as SU contributions certain other undertakings made by telecommunication services providers and compensate providers for these undertakings.

The new regulation established two SU categories: a) areas with uncovered or unsatisfied needs; and b) customer groups with unsatisfied needs. It also determined that the SC would have exclusive responsibility for the issuance of general and specific resolutions regarding the new regulation, as well as for its interpretation and application.

It also established that the SC will review SU programs which were established under the previous regulation, guaranteeing the continuity of those already being administered and implementing those that had been under review. The financing of SU ongoing programs which were recognized as such will be determined by the SC, whereas telecommunications providers appointed to participate in future SU Programs will be selected by competitive bidding.

The Decree requires Telecom Argentina and Telefónica to extend the coverage of their fixed line networks, within their respective original region of activity, within 60 months from the effective date of publication of the Decree.

The Decree requires telecommunications service providers to contribute 1% of their revenues (from telecommunication services, net of taxes) to the SU Fund and keeps the pay or play mechanism for compliance with the mandatory monthly contribution to the SU Fund or, to claim the corresponding receivable, as the case may be.

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Providers of telecommunications services shall rely on the assistance of a Technical Committee made up of seven members (two members shall be appointed by the SC, one member shall be appointed by the CNC, three members shall be appointed by the telecommunication services providers two of which shall be appointed by Telecom Argentina and Telefónica and one by the rest of the providers and another member will be appointed by independent local operators). This Technical Committee is informed by the SC of the programs to be financed and is responsible for managing and controlling the SU Fund, carrying out technical-economic evaluations of existing projects and supervising the process of competitive bidding and adjudication of new SU programs, with the prior approval by the SC.

The Technical Committee has been created and it is fully operative. Additionally, telecommunications service providers had already sent the proposed Fiduciary agreement to the SC. The SC approved it in January 2009 through Resolution No. 7/09.

On December 9, 2008, the SC issued Resolution No. 405/08 which was objected by the Company and Personal. These objections were resolved by the SC through its Resolution No.154/10.

On April 4, 2009, by means of SC Resolution No. 88/09, the SC created a program denominated Telephony and Internet for towns without provision of Basic Telephone Services that will be subsidized with funds from the SU Fund. The program seeks to provide local telephony, domestic long distance, international long distance and Internet in towns that did not provide basic telephone services. The proposed projects approved by the SC would be sent to the Technical Committee of the SU Fund so that availability of funds can be evaluated and they can be included in a bidding process provided for in Decree No. 558/08.

On December 1, 2010, the SC issued Resolutions No. 147/10 and 148/10, approving Internet for educational institutions and Internet for public libraries programs, respectively. These programs aim to reclaim the Broadband service to state-run educational institutions and public libraries, respectively, and would be implemented through the use of the FFSU resources. As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the first auction of the Internet for educational institutions program has been conducted and the bidding of the Internet for public libraries program is being developed. Telecom Argentina was awarded and is finishing the last project facilities which will reach 1,540 schools involved and a billing to the FFSU of approximately \$5 per year for a period of 5 years. On the other hand, the auction Internet for public libraries program was cancelled by the Regulatory Authority for its redefinition. Also, during 2012, the auction Telephony and Internet for towns without provision of Basic Telephone Service took place according to Resolution No. 88/09, which involved the service provision in 430 locations. Personal presented its offer to the auction. As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the auction is pending of definition.

On November 11, 2010, the SC issued Resolution No. 154/10 adopting the methodology for the deposit of the SU contributions to the trustee s escrow account. The Resolution includes several provisions related to the determination of the contributions that correspond to the periods before and after Decree No. 558/08 was issued. It also provides that until the SC determines the existence of programs, the amounts that may correspond to their implementation may be discounted by the telecommunication providers when determining their contribution to the SU Fund. If completed the verification from the SC there were unrecognized amounts, they must be contributed into the FFSU or for the development of new works of the SU, with the approval of the SC.

On December 30, 2010, the trustee notified Telecom Argentina and Personal the trustee s escrow account number in which they shall deposit the SU contributions under the provisions of SC Resolution No. 154/10.

### In Telecom Argentina

By the end of 2002, the SC formed a working group responsible for analyzing the method to be applied for measuring the net costs of SU performance particularly, the application of the Hybrid Cost Proxy Model (the HCPM Model), based on the incremental cost of a theoretical network. The working group was also tasked with defining non-monetary benefits and determining the methodology for its calculation, in order to assess the costs that would be offset due to performance of SU obligations. The working group decided that, given the complexity of this methodology, efforts should be made to continue the initial programs independently from application of the HCPM Model, and that there was a need to carry out a comprehensive review of the present general regulations relating to SU to ensure that these regulations were operative in the near term considering the existing social needs.

Several years after the market s liberalization and the effectiveness of the first SU regulations, service providers affected by these regulations have not received set-offs for providing services as required by the SU regime.

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As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements and in compliance with SC Resolution No. 80/07 and No. 154/10 and CNC Resolution No. 2,713 /07, Telecom Argentina has filed its monthly calculations since July 2007 for the review of the Regulatory Authority and estimated a receivable of \$1,742 (unaudited). This receivable has not yet been recorded as of December 31, 2014 since it is subject to the approval of the SU programs, the review of the SC and the availability of funds in the SU Trust.

On April 8, 2011, the SC issued Resolution No. 43/11 notifying Telecom Argentina that investments associated with High-Cost Areas amounting approximately to \$1,496 since July 2007 to date and which are included in the abovementioned receivable - did not qualify as an Initial Indicative Program. Telecom Argentina filed a claim on this resolution. As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the resolution of this appeal is still pending.

Telecom Argentina was notified of SC Resolutions No. 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 69 and 70/12, pursuant to which the Special Service of Information 110, the Discounts for Retired People, Pensioners and Low Consumption Households, the services of Social Public Telephony and Loss-Making Public Telephony, the Services and Discounts relating to the Information Society Program argentin@internet.todos, the Services for Deaf-Mute People, the Free Access to Special Emergency Services and Special Community Services, the Value Added Service 0611 and 0612 and the Long Distance Semipublic Service, respectively, did not qualify as an Initial Indicative Program, pursuant to the terms of Article 26 of Annex III of Decree No. 764/00, and that, they did not constitute different services involving a SU provision, and therefore they cannot be financed with SU funds, pursuant to the terms of Article 2 of Decree No. 558/08.

The Company s Management, with the advice of its legal counsels, has filed appeals against SC Resolutions Nos. 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 69 and 70 presenting the legal arguments based on which such resolutions should be revoked. The deductions that were objected by the SC Resolutions amount to approximately \$633 and are included in the credit balance mentioned in the third paragraph.

On September 13, 2012, the CNC required Telecom Argentina to deposit approximately \$208. The Company has filed a recourse refusing the CNC s request on the grounds that various appeals against SC Resolutions are still pending. However, at the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements it cannot be assured that these issues will be favorably resolved at the administrative stage.

On March 19, 2014 the CNC notified Telecom Argentina of a claim in connection with an alleged breach of Resolution No. 2,516/13 (and its amendment Resolution No. 3,998/13) stating that Telecom Argentina had omitted to submit the SU calculations corresponding to the period January 2001 - June 2007 and ordering Telecom Argentina to submit such calculations and, if applicable, to make the corresponding penalty payments.

As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, Telecom Argentina has filed its complaint against this imputation disclosing the defense arguments supporting its right and for which corresponds to the CNC rescind the accusation extended to Telecom Argentina in relation to the mentioned regulation.

#### <u>In Personal</u>

Since January 2001, Personal has recorded a liability related to its obligation to make contributions to the SU fund. In addition, since July 2007 and in compliance with SC Resolution No. 80/07 and No. 154/10 and CNC Resolution No. 2,713/07, Personal deposited the correspondent contributions of approximately \$112 into an account held under their name at the Banco de la Nación Argentina in January 2011.

During the first quarter of 2011, the above mentioned funds were transferred to the trustee s escrow account, in compliance with the provisions of SC Resolution No. 154/10 previously described. Since January 2011, FFSU contributions are now being made into such escrow account.

On January 26, 2011 the SC issued Resolution No. 9/11 determining the Infrastructure and Facilities Program . The resolution provided that telecommunications services providers would affect to investment projects under this program, exclusively the amounts corresponding to their pending obligations of investment contributions born under Annex III of Decree No. 764/00, prior to Decree No. 558/08.

In March 2011, Personal submitted to the SC a \$70 investment project, pursuant to SC Resolution No. 9/11, for the development of a network infrastructure in locations in the Northern Region of Argentina with no mobile coverage. Personal submitted its calculations from 2001/2007 related to the mentioned project to be financed through its own SU contribution of such periods as required by the SC.

On April 9, 2014 Personal filed, pursuant to the SC s request, a new adaptation of the Project filed in connection with Resolution No. 9/11. This new filing consists only of additional detailed information about the Project s scope. As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the Project is pending of approval.

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On July 5, 2012, the SC issued Resolution No. 50/12 pursuant to which it notified that the services referred to by the Mobile Communications Services Providers, which were filed as High Cost Areas or services provided in non-profitable areas, services provided to clients with physical limitations (deaf-mute and blind people), rural schools, and the request relating to the installation of radio-bases and/or investment in the infrastructure development in various localities, do not constitute items that may be discounted from the amount of contributions to the SU pursuant to Article 3, last part, of Resolution No. 80/07, or Article 2 of Decree No. 558/08. It also provides that certain amounts already deducted may be used for investment projects within the framework of the Program of SC Resolution No. 9/11, or deposited in the SU Fund, as applicable.

Personal has filed an administrative resource against SC Resolution No. 50/12, requesting its nullity. As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the resolution of this matter is still pending.

On October 1, 2012, responding to an SC s requirement, Personal deposited under protest approximately \$23 in the SU Fund, corresponding to the assessment of the SU services provided by Personal since the issuance of Decree No. 558/08, reserving its right to take all actions it may deem appropriate to claim its reimbursement, as informed to the SC and the CNC on October 15, 2012. Since August 2012, Personal is paying under claim of those concepts in their monthly calculations.

The Management of Personal could not assure that this issue would be favorably resolved at the administrative stage.

Amendments of the LAD to the SU Regulation

The LAD introduced substantial modifications to the SU regulations pursuant to Decree No. 558/08. Among its provisions the LAD establishes the creation of a new FFSU and the fact that the investment contributions corresponding to the SU programs be managed through said fund, whose assets shall belong to the National Government.

The licensees of ICT Services shall be obliged to make investment contributions to the FFSU equivalent to one per cent (1%) of the total accrued revenues for the provision of the ICT Services included in the scope of application of the law, net of imposed taxes and charges. The investment contribution shall not be transferred to the users whatsoever. In turn, the Regulatory Authority may dispose, once the SU objectives are reached, the total or partial, permanent or temporary exemption, of the obligation to perform said investment contributions.

The Law also establishes that by virtue of that set forth by Sections 11.1 and 11.2 of the Management Trust Agreement of the FFSU of Decree No. 558/08, the resources therein foreseen in section 8 of Annex III of Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments shall be integrated to the FFSU created by the LAD in the conditions determined by the Regulatory Authority.

The SU funds shall be applied by means of specific programs. Its content and the corresponding awarding mechanisms shall be defined by the Regulatory Authority who may entrust the execution of these plans directly to the entities included in article 8, paragraph b), of Law No. 24,156, or, complying with the selection mechanisms that may correspond, respecting publication and competition principles, to other entities.

At the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the new SU Fund has not been constituted.

### (e) Administrative complaint in connection with the service cuts affecting Telecom Argentina and Personal s customers

In the normal course of business, telecommunications service providers face the possibility of having incidents in their networks or other assets with different impacts on services provided. The Regulatory Framework that regulates the service provision of Telecom Argentina and Personal provides for the possibility of interruptions in the provision of the service and also contemplates exemptions of responsibility in case of unforeseen circumstances or force majeure. In particular, the List of conditions of the Mobile Telephony Service (approved by Decree No. 1,461/93) and the General Regulation of Individual Communications Service (approved by SC Resolution No. 60/96) provide for a penalty regime taking into account the period of the service interruption and releasing of any sanction for total service provision interruption for no more than 24 hours and for partial service provision interruptions for periods of less than 7 days. The Telecom Group s companies seek the necessary actions to prevent such incidents, and, in case of any occurrence, ensure their resolution as soon as possible.

However, the CNC has initiated different administrative procedures against Telecom Argentina and Personal related to different network incidents, including some originated by cases of unforeseen circumstances or force majeure, imposing penalties of different amounts for the companies of the Telecom Group.

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The more relevant administrative sanctions are as follow:

Date of the incident	Company	Approximate duration of the incident	Sanctions
06/12/2012	Telecom Argentina	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> hours	Fine of approximately \$0.6.
06/12/2012	Personal	2 <sup>1</sup> /2 hours	Fine of approximately \$0.6 and \$10 argentine pesos of reimbursement to each customer affected, with a penalty of \$4,690 argentine pesos for each day of delay in complying with the reimbursement.
03/08/2013	Personal	2 hours	Fine of \$6 and \$30 argentine pesos of reimbursement to each customer affected, with a penalty of \$140,700 argentine pesos for each day of delay in complying with the reimbursement.
04/02/2013	Personal	Service provision affected by the flooding of La Plata city.	Fine of approximately \$2 and \$60 argentine pesos of reimbursement to each customer affected, with a penalty of \$140,700 argentine pesos for each day of delay in complying with the reimbursement.
05/10/2013	Personal	10 hours	Fine of approximately \$0.6 and a penalty of \$1,407 argentine pesos per day of delay in complying with reporting required by the CNC with respect to the incident.

Telecom Argentina and Personal have filed their defenses against such penalty procedures in the administrative stage, exposing their arguments, based on which such procedures should be released. As of the date of issuance of these financial statements, these penalty procedures are not final. However, it cannot be assured that a favorable result will be obtained at the administrative stage.

#### (f) SC Resolution No. 1/13

On April 8, 2013, SC Resolution No. 1/13 was published in the Official Bulletin, establishing that all mobile operators should guarantee the service provision, even in emergency situation or catastrophe, in which case the normal service provision must be restored in a maximum period of one hour. Mobile operators must, in all cases, prioritize the access to emergency services in the affected areas.

In addition, SC Resolution No. 1/13 established that mobile operators present within 45 days a Contingency Plan for emergency situations, for purposes of guaranteeing the continuity of services in such circumstances.

As of the date of issuance of these financial statements, Personal has appealed SC Resolution No. 1/13 exposing the arguments by which the mentioned resolution should be released. However, Personal has met its commitment to present a Contingency Plan for emergency situations.

On January 26, 2015, the CNC notified Personal some observations to the Contingency Plan, also requiring informing the measures chosen to implement the Plan and the status thereof. At the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, Personal is analyzing the observations made by the CNC and the amendments to be made to the Contingency Plan timely submitted.

#### (g) SC Resolution No. 5/13

On July 2, 2013, SC Resolution No. 5/13 was published in the Official Bulletin. This Resolution approved a Telecommunication service quality regulation , establishing, among others, new quality parameters required for telecommunication services provided through mobile and fixed public networks, for all the operators in Argentina and the obligation to provide periodic information to the CNC.

CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13 was published in the Official Bulletin on November 13, 2013, supplementing SC Resolution No. 5/13 and approving the Audit Procedures and Technical Verification of Service Quality Regulation of Telecommunications Services Manual.

Pursuant to the provisions of CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13, the Company and Personal have completed the submission of the respective Technical Reports (detailed technical specifications of the measurement process) and it has as well made their submissions providing the required information pursuant to the provisions of SC Resolution No. 5/13.

On August 14, 2014 the CNC notified the Company and Personal of the audits and technical verifications the Regulatory Authority shall perform on the supply of the services for which the Company and Personal have license which shall be performed following the processes and methods of measurement exhibited in the respective presentations of the Technical Annual Reports , and that the activity shall be developed holding as leading principles those set forth in SC Resolution No. 5/13 and CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13. Notwithstanding, the CNC is developing verification tasks of the mobile services by means of tests of calls and data with measuring mobile devices in different locations of the country using procedures different from those defined in the Quality Regulation and publishing the results obtained in the link quenosecorte.gob.ar

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Within the scope of said verifications, the CNC has initiated penalty processes against Personal for alleged non-compliances of the CNC Resolution No. 3,797/13. The Management of Personal has solid legal basis timely submitted in the disclaimers for the defense of its rights.

Since the enforceability of this Resolution is subject to the compliance of certain steps for its implementation with the previous approval of the CNC, the Company and Personal have carried out the corresponding statutory reserves in each of their submissions. In addition, the Company has stated in its different submissions that, due to the special circumstances that beset its tariff structure, it is not applicable to demand the compliance of the steep operative and customer service parameters set forth in SC Resolution No. 5/13.

#### (h) Regulation of Users of Mobile Communication Services

On September 9, 2013, the SC issued Resolution No. 12/13, establishing a procedure for public participation to express opinions and proposals on the Draft Regulation for Users of Mobile Communication Services (attached as Annex I of such resolution). The draft regulation contemplates, among other matters, the submission and maintenance of all service contracts electronically and on paper and also modifies the way changes in service plan business and marketing are submitted. As part of that process, Personal has submitted comments to the project stating the effects the provisions proposed in the published project, if approved, would have on the Argentine mobile communications industry. As of the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, the Regulation has not yet been approved.

#### (i) Change in the unit of pricing of mobile services and information on the conditions of commercial mobile plans

Resolution No. 26/13 issued on December 17, 2013 changed the billing unit of pricing for calls originating on mobile services and the mechanism for informing the CNC of the conditions of existing commercial plans. The new resolution establishes that calls originated by users of mobile communications will be charged per second and the pricing of each call will consist of a fixed value corresponding to the Initial Communication Block (including up to the first 30 seconds), plus additional charges per second after the 30th second of communication has elapsed.

Personal has made the necessary implementations to comply with the new provisions. Also, the CNC has initiated audits designed to verify the compliance of Personal with the implementation of the new pricing method, according to which has initiated some sanctioning processes in which Personal have already filed its defense, providing solid legal arguments as a result of which such accusations should not prevail.

#### (j) Disclosure of Mobile Communication Services Information

On June 11, 2014, Joint Resolution No. 29 of the SC and No. 81 of the Secretary of Commerce was published in the Official Bulletin, establishing new rules concerning the information that mobile communication services providers must disclose to consumers, regularly and free of charge. The Resolution became effective at the end of July, 2014.

Personal has made the necessary developments in its systems, in accordance with the timetable submitted to the CNC on July 22, 2014. However, the CNC has begun audits for purposes of verifying compliance with such Resolution, initiating a sanctioning procedure in which Personal has filed its response in defense of its rights.

### (k) Increase in the Regulator s Penalty Activities

Telecom Argentina is subject to various penalty procedures, in most cases promoted by the Regulatory Authority, for delays in the reparation and installation of service to fix-line customers. Although generally a penalty considered on an individual basis does not have a material effect on Telecom Argentina s equity, there is a significant disproportion between the amounts of the penalty imposed by the Regulatory Authority and the revenue that the affected customer generates to Telecom Argentina.

Since fiscal year 2013, the CNC significantly increased its penalty activities, increasing the amount of charges and sanctions, as well as the individual amount of each of the latter. In several cases the sanctions imposed as from FY13 had twice the economic value of those imposed to Telecom Argentina in previous periods for the same alleged infringements and such tendency continued during 2014. As a result, and notwithstanding the defense arguments submitted by Telecom Argentina at the administrative level, sanctions and charges received in FY14 vs. FY13 (measured in terms of alleged infringements) increased 74% and 175%, respectively.

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In determining the provisions for regulatory charges and sanctions, the Telecom Argentina s Management, with the assistance of its legal counsel, determines the likelihood of such sanctions being imposed, the amount thereof based on historical information and judicial precedents, also contemplating various probable scenarios of statute of limitation for charges and sanctions received, the current levels of execution of sanctions and the eventual results of legal actions that Telecom Argentina has undertaken to demonstrate, among other things, the disproportionate sanctions imposed by the Regulatory Authority since 2013.

Telecom Argentina has recorded certain provisions that it deems sufficient to cover the above mentioned sanctions and charges, estimating that they should not prosper in amounts individually higher than 200 thousand UT (\$ 9,380 argentine pesos) per each alleged violation against its clients in the normal course of business, in accordance with the legal and regulatory analysis performed as of December 31, 2014. If Telecom Argentina and its legal advisors arguments do not prosper, the Management of Telecom Argentina estimates that the amount of provisions for regulatory charges and sanctions might be increased in approximately \$216 as of December 31, 2014.

### (l) Tax Stability principle: impact of variations in Social Security contributions

On March 23, 2007, the SC issued Resolution No. 41/07 relating to the impact of variations in Social Security contributions occurring over the past several years.

Subsequent to November 8, 1990, there were several increases in the rates of Social Security Contributions, which were duly paid by Telecom Argentina. At the same time, and under the framework of the argentina@internet.todos Program, the Company paid, mostly during fiscal year 2000, reduced social security contribution rates.

Pursuant to Resolution No. 41/07, Telecom Argentina may offset the impact of costs faced as a result of increases in Social security contribution rates.

The Company made the required presentations to the SC of the net receivable under Resolution No. 41/07, which were subject to audits by the Regulatory Authority.

During the third quarter of 2007, the CNC performed the audits on the information given by the Company. The Company had access to documentation of the CNC s audits, which resulted in no significant differences from the net amounts it had determined. Consequently, the Company recorded a receivable from increases in social security contributions and cancelled payables from reduction in social security contribution rates and other fines due by the Company.

As of December 31, 2014, the Company has a net receivable of \$62 which, in addition with the receivable of \$23 corresponding to the tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts ( IDC ), is included in the non-current caption Other receivables .

Since the resolution allows the Company to offset the receivables with existing and/or future regulatory duties and the intention of the Company is to exercise its offsetting rights, the receivable was recorded net of reserves. As of December 31, 2014, the reserves corresponding to these regulatory duties amounted to \$85.

Since December 2008, the Company has begun the billing to the customers of the increases in the rates of its social security contributions accrued from October 2008, applying the same mechanism used to bill the IDC.

### (m) Tariff structure of the national and international regulated fixed line services

### **Rate Rebalancing**

On December 1, 1999, SC Resolution No. 4,269/99 approved results arising from the application of the methodology outlined by SC Resolution No. 1,801/97, through which experts from the Buenos Aires National University verified the income variation of Telecom Argentina and Telefónica, for a term of two years, resulting from rate rebalancing of February 1997. The mentioned institution determined an increase in the income of the Company as a result of the rate rebalancing of approximately \$9.5 during the two years observed.

In December 2007, the Regulatory Authority notified the Company that it will offset this difference with the Resolution No. 41/07 receivables. As a consequence, during fiscal year 2007, the Company recorded a reserve on this matter on behalf of the CNC final results. In April 2009, the CNC notified the offsetting of the \$9.5 Rate Rebalancing amount with the Resolution No. 41/07 receivables. So, the Company has reduced the receivable with the corresponding reserve.

### Price Cap

The Price Cap was a regulation mechanism applied in order to calculate changes in Telecom Argentina tariffs, based on changes in the U.S. Consumer Price Index (U.S. C.P.I.) and an efficiency factor.



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In August 2009, the Regulatory Bodies finalized the 1999 Price Cap audit resulting in a payable by the Company of \$3.1 plus interest. The Company has offset this balance with the credit resulting from SC Resolution No. 41/07, described in (k) above.

On April 6, 2000, the Argentine Government, Telefónica and Telecom Argentina signed an agreement (Price Cap 2000) that set the price cap efficiency factor at 6.75% (6% set by the SC and 0.75% set by Telecom Argentina and Telefónica) for the period from November 2000 to October 2001.

The 2000 Price cap audit results are still pending. Should the outcome is a payable by the Company it can be offset with the Resolution No. 41/07 receivables.

In April 2001, the Argentine Government, Telefónica and Telecom Argentina signed an agreement (2001 Price Cap) that set the efficiency factor for reduction of tariffs at 5.6% for the period from November 2001 to October 2002.

However, a preliminary injunction against Telecom Argentina disallowed Telecom Argentina to apply tariff increases by reference to the U.S. C.P.I. Telecom Argentina appealed this injunction arguing that if one part of the formula cannot be applied, the Price Cap system should be nullified. Finally, Public Emergency Law No. 25,561 explicitly prohibited tariff adjustments resulting in the pesification and the freeze of the regulated tariffs.

### Tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts charged to customers

On February 6, 2003, the Ministry of Economy, through Resolution No. 72/03, defined the mechanism to allow, going forward, tariff increases on basic telephony services reflecting the impact of the IDC. The amount of tax charged must be shown separately in customers bills. The Company has determined the existence of a remaining unrecovered amount of approximately \$23 that arose before the issuance of Resolution No. 72/03, which will be claimed within the tariff renegotiation process (see (n) below).

In April 2007, the Company provided the CNC with supporting documentation on this amount for its audit. The Company had access to documentation of the Regulatory Authority s audits that corroborates the amounts claimed by the Company and the application of a similar offsetting mechanism pursuant to Resolution No. 41/07. Therefore, the Company has recorded as Non-current Other receivable a total of \$23. This receivable is also included in the reserves for regulatory matters.

#### (n) Renegotiation of agreements with the Argentine Government

Telecom Argentina s tariff scheme and procedures are detailed in the Tariff Agreement entered into by Telecom Argentina and the Argentine Government in November 1991, as amended in February 1992. Pursuant to the Tariff Agreement, all rates were to be calculated in US dollars

and converted into Argentine pesos at the time the customer was billed using the exchange rate prevailing at that time. Under the Convertibility law that was effective until January 2002, the applicable exchange rate was \$1 to US\$1. Rates were to be adjusted twice a year in April and October based on the variation of the U.S. C.P.I. These adjustments were not applied since 2000 according to a resolution of the SC.

However, in January 2002, the Argentine Government enacted Law No. 25,561, *Ley de Emergencia Pública y Reforma del Régimen Cambiario* (the Public Emergency Law ), which provided, among other aspects, for the following:

- The pesification of rates;
- The elimination of dollar or other foreign-currency adjustments and indexing provisions for rates;
- The establishment of an exchange rate for dollar-denominated prices and rates of \$1 =US\$1; and

• The renegotiation of the conditions of the contractual agreements entered into between privatized companies and the Argentine Government.

The Argentine Government is entitled to renegotiate these agreements based on the following criteria:

- The overall impact of rates for public services on the economy and income levels;
- Service quality and investment plans, as contractually agreed;
- The customers interests and access to the services;
- The security of the systems; and
- The profitability of the service providers.

Decree No. 293/02, dated February 12, 2002, entrusted the Ministry of Economy with the renegotiation of the agreements. Initially, the contractual renegotiation proposals were to be submitted to the Argentine Government within 120 days after the effective date of the Decree, although this term was further extended for an additional 180-day period. Telecom Argentina filed all information as required by the Argentine Government, which included information on the impact caused by the economic crisis on the Company s financial position and its revenues, the pre-existing mechanisms for tariff adjustments, operating costs, indebtedness, payment commitments with the Argentine Government and future and on-going investment commitments.

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Furthermore, in July 2003, Decree No. 311/03 created the *Unidad de Renegociación y Análisis de Contratos de Servicios Públicos* (UNIREN), (Division for the Renegotiation and Analysis of Contracts of Public Utilities Services), a special division within the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Federal Planning, Public Investments and Services, pursuant to which the contractual relationships between the Argentine Government and the service providers were to be revised and renegotiated. In October 2003, the Argentine Government enacted Law No. 25,790 pursuant to which the original term to renegotiate the contracts was extended through December 31, 2004. As from that date, the Argentine Government enacted subsequent laws pursuant to which this term was extended through December 31, 2015.

### Letters of Understanding ( LOU ) with the UNIREN

In May 2004, the Company signed a LOU with the Argentine Government pursuant to which the Company committed not to modify the current rate structure through December 31, 2004 and to continue with the tariff renegotiation process, which the Company expected to have concluded before December 31, 2004. The Company also committed to offer phone services to beneficiaries of governmental welfare programs and to extend internet services in the interior of the country at reduced prices.

The Company has fulfilled its commitments under the LOU.

On March 6, 2006, Telecom Argentina signed a new LOU (the Letter ) with the UNIREN, within the framework of the renegotiation of its license, begun in 2004. Upon the fulfillment of the procedures set forth in the rules and regulations presently in effect, the Letter provides the framework for the signing of the *Acta Acuerdo de Renegociación del Contrato de Transferencia de Acciones* or Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation ) approved by Decree No. 2,332/90, as stated in Article 9 of the Public Emergency Law.

The main terms and conditions of the Letter include:

• The CNC and UNIREN have determined that Telecom Argentina satisfactorily complied with most of the requirements contemplated in the Transfer Agreement and by the regulatory framework. Isolated violations were satisfactorily remedied through fines and/or sanctions. Other matters arising in the normal course of business are still pending resolution, which was originally expected by June 30, 2006 (some of these matters are described below). Despite such expectation, the Regulatory Authority continues to analyze such open issues, the outcome of which would be disclosed when the analysis is completed;

- Telecom Argentina s commitments to invest in the technological development and updating of its network;
- Telecom Argentina s commitment to the achievement of its long-term service quality goals;

• The signing parties commitment to comply with and maintain the terms set forth in the Transfer Agreement, and in the regulatory framework in effect;

• The Argentine Government s commitment to create an appropriate and standardized regulatory framework for telecommunications services and to give Telecom Argentina fair and equivalent treatment to that given to other telecommunications providers that shall take part in the process;

• Telecom Argentina s commitment and the commitment of its indirect shareholders Telecom Italia S.p.A. and W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L., to suspend for a period of 210 working days any and all claims, appeals and petitions already filed or in the process of being filed, in administrative, arbitral or judicial offices, in Argentina or in any other country, that are founded in or related to any act or measure taken after the issuance of the Public Emergency Law with respect to the Transfer Agreement and the License. The suspension will take effect after the 30th day from the end of the public hearing convened to deal with the Letter. Once the Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation is ratified, any and all claims, appeals and/or proceedings will be disregarded;

• An adjustment shall be made to increase the termination charge of international incoming calls to a local area to be equivalent to international values, which are at present strongly depreciated;

• Off-peak telephone hours corresponding to reduced rates shall be unified with regards to local calls, long distance domestic and international calls.

On May 18, 2006, the Letter was subject to a public hearing procedure, with the purpose of encouraging the participation of the users and the community in general, taking into consideration that the Letter s terms and conditions will provide the framework for the signing of the Minutes of Agreement of the Renegotiation. These Minutes of Agreement of Renegotiation shall be in effect once all the requirements stipulated in the regulatory framework are complied with, which among other things, requires that a Telecom Argentina Shareholders Meeting be held to approve said Minutes. Both Telecom Argentina and its indirect stockholders Telecom Italia S.p.A. and W de Argentina - Inversiones S.L. have timely fulfilled the Agreement s commitments.

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### Filings of the Company during 2014

On June 18, 2014, the Company made a filing before the SC requesting the adjustment of the SBT lines Connection Fee, in order to obtain an urgent restoration of the balance that must reasonably exist in the operative costs incurred for the provision of the public service in charge of the Company, recomposing the Connection Fee in an equitable manner and pursuant to the legal provisions that govern the licenses granted to the Company, taking into account that the revenues currently obtained by the Company for the installation of the SBT lines is much lower than the direct costs that the Company incurs to connect new customers. In addition, the Company requested that, until such adjustment takes place, such installations become excluded from the sanctioning regime provided by Decree No. 1,185/90, Decree No. 62/90, and SC Resolution No. 5/13.

On July 23, 2014, the Company made a second filing before the SC pursuant to which it requested, among others: (i) adjustment of the monthly basic charges of all the SBT categories set forth in the Tariffs General Structure; (ii) the determination of a social tariff; (iii) the adjustment of the telephonic pulse value; (iv) the adaptation of the international long distance tariff to the current value of the gold franc; and (v) the tariff deregulation of the commercial service category. In addition, and until such adjustments are made, it was also requested that the SBT become excluded from the sanctioning regime provided by Decree No. 1,185/90, Decree No. 62/90, SC Resolution No.10,059/99 and SC Resolution No. 5/13. It is worth mentioning that such adjustments would have relevant effects on Telecom Argentina s ability to finance the technological updating of its networks and infrastructure, which would in the end result in the provision of better services to the Company s customers.

Following these presentations, on December 19, 2014 the LAD (under Title (VI) Prices, rates and levies ), established a general rule (Article 48) setting a new legal framework in this matter. At the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements, Management of the Company is assessing the alternatives provided by the new law.

#### (o) Additional regulatory framework

#### Buy Argentine Act

In December 2001, the Argentine Government passed Public Law No. 25,551 (Compre Trabajo Argentino or the Buy Argentine Act) and in August 2002, passed Decree No. 1,600/02 which approved and brought into effect the Compre Trabajo Argentino. The law requires Telecom Argentina to give preference to national goods and services, as defined in Public Laws No. 25,551 and No. 18,875, in any procurement related to the rendering of public telephony services (sect. 1 & 2).

Preference must be given so long as the price of such goods is equal to or lesser than the price of a foreign good (including customs duties, taxes and other expenses that are linked to the nationality of goods) increased by 7% (when the Argentine offeror is a small or medium size company) or 5% (when the Argentine offeror is any other company) (sect.3).

Compre Trabajo Argentino also mandates that Telecom Argentina publish any bid for services in the Official Bulletin in order to provide any and all prospective offerors with the information necessary for them to participate. This mandatory publication requires considerable lead-time prior to the issuance of the purchase order and has had the result of extending the period needed to complete certain purchases. Non-compliance

with Compre Trabajo Argentino is subject to criminal sanctions.

Public Law No. 18,875 establishes the obligation to exclusively contract services with local companies and professionals, as defined in such law. Any exception must receive the prior approval of the relevant Ministry.

In August 2004, CNC Resolution No. 2,350/04 enacted the Procedure for the fulfillment of the Buy Argentine Act , including the obligation for the Company to present half-year affidavits addressing the fulfillment of these rules. Non-compliance with this obligation is subject to administrative sanctions.

This regulation, thus, reduces the operating flexibility of Telecom Argentina due to the time required to request bids for services and/or to obtain an approval of the relevant authority when necessary, and the higher administrative expenses derived from the obligation to present half-year affidavits.

### <u>Regulation of Virtual Mobile Operators</u>

SC Resolution No. 68/14, published in the Official Bulletin on October 28, 2014, approved the Regulation of Virtual Mobile Operators (in Spanish, OMV) and the Basic Requirements for OMV Agreements. Among its provisions, the Resolution states that the Network Mobile Operators (in spanish OMR) that have spectrum and infrastructure, shall annually file a reference offer for those interested in providing services as OMV, in which they will set forth the technical and economic conditions, which shall be reasonable and non-discriminatory. The Resolution also provides the modalities and procedures for the provision of such services.

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## Ley Argentina Digital

On December 19, 2014 Law No. 27,078 the so-called Ley Argentina Digital was published and enforced. The new law declares of public interest the development of the ICT and its associated resources, establishing and guaranteeing the total neutrality of the networks in order to guarantee each user the right to access, use, send, receive and offer any content, application, service or protocol by Internet without any type of restriction, discrimination, distinction, blockage, interference, hindrance o degradation.

Act No 19.798 of Telecommunications (passed in 1972) and its amendments shall only survive in respect of those provisions not opposed to the provisions of the new LAD (among those, e.g., section 39 of Act No 19.798 referred to the exemption of all levies on land use, subsoil and airspace for telecommunication services). The new LAD also repeals Decree No. 764/00 and its amendments, notwithstanding, however, the mentioned decree shall be in force in all that is not opposed to the LAD for the time required by the Regulatory Authority to draw the regulations of Licenses, Interconnection, Universal Service and Spectrum.

Among the most relevant contents in the LAD which amends the regulatory framework in force as regards telecommunications are:

a) the recognition as an essential and strategic public service of ICT as regards the use and access to the telecommunications networks, for and between licensees of ICT services;

b) the rule on prices and rates establishing that the licensees of ICT services shall set their prices which shall have to be fair and reasonable, cover the exploitation costs and tend to the efficient supply and reasonable operation margin;

c) the exemptions of taxes, establishing that tax exemptions or reductions, prices and encumbrances of ICT in general and telecommunications in particular may be set on a precarious basis when the nature of certain activities so warrant;

- d) the amendments as regards Universal Service;
- e) the asymmetric regulation as universalization tools towards the development of an effective competition.

The new Law sets forth that the licensees of the ICT services may supply audiovisual communication services with the exception of those provided through satellite link, the corresponding license being processed before the proper authority, and exempts the licensees of public services related with their scope of application of the restrictions imposed by articles 24 paragraph i) and 25 paragraph d) of Act No 26,522, as said regulations prevented public services companies from being licensees of audiovisual communication services.

The law establishes the framework for suppliers entering the audiovisual communication services market setting forth that the Federal Authority of Audiovisual Communication Services shall determine the go-to-market conditions of audiovisual communication services for the suppliers and licensees of ICT. The Law also states a gradual implementation plan through the setting up of promotion areas for limited periods of time determined according to public interest, within which the licensees of ICT services with significant market power shall not be able to provide audiovisual communication services.

It also sets forth that the ICT service shall be provided throughout the national territory, considered for that end as a unique area of exploitation and supply, and the modification of the interconnection schedule, imposing higher obligations to the operators and more rights to the Argentine State for the regulation in this sense of the wholesale market.

The LAD, in turn, establishes that the SBT holds its status of public service (section 54), and it defines it as the service for the supply of national and international telephone voice service, through the local networks, notwithstanding the technology used for its transportation, provided that it complies with the objective of allowing its users to communicate with one another (section 6 paragraph c)). In addition, in section 90 of Title XI, it establishes that said definition, comprises the senses of the definition established in the Bidding Terms and Conditions for the International Public Bidding process for the Privatization of the Supply of the Telecommunications Service timely approved by Decree No. 62/90.

To the date of issuance of these consolidated financial statements the provisions to be set forth by the Regulatory Authority are still pending. Management of the Company hopes that said provisions shall clarify certain controversial aspects of the new law, so as to be able to complete the evaluation of the operational and economic-financial impact the LAD shall have on the business of the Telecom Group in the following years.

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#### Note 3 Significant accounting policies

#### a) Going concern

The consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 have been prepared on a going concern basis as there is a reasonable expectation that Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries will continue its operational activities in the foreseeable future (and in any event with a time horizon of more than twelve months).

#### b) Foreign currency translation

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group s entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the functional currency). The consolidated financial statements are presented in Argentine pesos (\$), which is the functional currency of all Telecom Group s companies located in Argentina. The functional currency for the foreign subsidiaries of the Telecom Group is the respective legal currency of each country.

The financial statements of the Company s foreign subsidiaries (Núcleo, Personal Envíos, Telecom USA and Springville up to February 2014-) are translated using the exchange rates in effect at the reporting date (the current method); income and expenses are translated at the average exchange rates for the year. Exchange differences resulting from the application of this method are recognized in Other Comprehensive Income. The cash flows of foreign consolidated subsidiaries expressed in foreign currencies included in the consolidated statement of cash flows are translated at the average exchange rates for each year.

### c) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency using the foreign exchange rate prevailing at the date of the transaction or valuation where items are re-measured. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate prevailing at the reporting date. Exchange differences arising from the settlement of monetary items or from their conversion at rates different from those at which they were initially recorded during the year or at the end of the prior year, are recognized in the consolidated income statement and are included in Financial income/expenses as Foreign currency exchange gains or losses.

#### d) Consolidation

These consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Telecom Argentina and its subsidiaries over which it has effective control (Personal, Núcleo, Micro Sistemas, Telecom USA, Personal Envíos only as of December 31, 2014, and Springville up to February 2014-) as of December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

Control exists when the investor (Telecom Argentina) has power over the investee; exposure, or rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to use its power to affect the amount of the returns. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Company. They should be deconsolidated from the date that control ceases.

In the preparation of the consolidated financial statements, assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the consolidated companies are consolidated on a line-by-line basis and non-controlling interests in the equity and in the profit (loss) for the year are disclosed separately under appropriate captions, respectively, in the consolidated statement of financial position, in the consolidated income statement and in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income.

All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements.

Financial year-end of all the subsidiaries financial statements coincides with that of the Parent and have been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies.

On February 10, 2014 Personal s Board of Directors decided to approve the sale of such equity interest (representative of 100% of Springville capital stock) for a total amount of US\$ 27,223.

According to the terms and conditions of the offer accepted by Personal, on February 19, 2014 the transfer of the shares was concluded and Personal collected the mentioned amount, equivalent to \$0.2, generating a gain of \$0.4 for the reversal of the amount included in Currency translation adjustments .

In accordance with IFRS 5, investment in Springville was classified as *Asset available for sale* as of December 31, 2013. This asset was measured at the lower amount between the booked value and the fair value less costs of sale. The results were presented as discontinued results. Assets, liabilities, operating expenses and cash flows related to Springville are not material in relation to the Telecom Group accounts, and in any case reach the minimum magnitude to be segregated in the statement of financial position, income statement, statement of comprehensive income or statement of cash flow of the Group.

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Below are detailed information on the assets, liabilities, net results and cash flows in discontinuation - net of eliminations- related to Springville that were consolidated as of December 31, 2013 and 2012:

### Assets and liabilities - discontinued operations

The Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2013 includes the following Springville s assets and liabilities consolidated to such date:

	As of December 31, 2013 (in thousands of pesos)
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	3
Other receivables, net	433
Total current assets	436
Impairment of assets available for sale	(250)
TOTAL ASSETS DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS	186
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Trade payables	143
Other liabilities	57
TOTAL LIABILITIES DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS	200

### Net results - discontinued operations

The Income Statement and the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, include the following Springville s results consolidated to such date:

	For the years ended December 31,	
	2013	2012
	(in thousands of <b>j</b>	pesos)
Fees for services	(157)	(162)
Rental and maintenance expenses	(166)	(282)
Taxes	(3)	(19)
Energy, water and others	(29)	(160)
Operating loss	(355)	(623)
Finance income Exchange differences	38	17
Finance expenses Exchange differences	(17)	(6)
Loss before income tax expense	(334)	(612)
Income tax expense	(2)	(7)
Net loss discontinued operations	(336)	(619)
Impairment of assets available for sale	(250)	
Net loss discontinued operations	(586)	(619)
Currency translation adjustments (non-taxable)	89	115

Total comprehensive loss	discontinued operations	(497)	(504)
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#### **Cash Flows - discontinued operations**

The Statement of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012 includes the following Springville s cash flows consolidated to such date:

	For the years ended December 31,	
	2013	2012
	(in thousands of	pesos)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Total cash flows used in operating activities	(90)	(523)
NET FOREIGN EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES AND CURRENCY		
TRANSLATION ON CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	16	89
DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(74)	(434)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	77	511
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	3	77

#### e) Revenues

Revenues are recognized to the extent that it is considered probable that economic benefits will flow to the Company and their amount can be measured reliably. Final outcome may differ from those estimates.

Revenues are stated net of discounts and returns.

The Company discloses its revenues into two groups: services and equipment. Service revenues are the main source of income for the Company and are disclosed by nature: Voice services, Internet services and Data transmission services. This classification of revenues is given by different commercial offers and products, type of contracts and kind of customers. Equipment sales represent a precursor of the mentioned service revenues; therefore, from time to time, the Management of Personal and Núcleo decide to sell mobile handsets at prices lower than their respective costs in order to acquire new contracts with a minimum non-cancelable period of permanence.

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Other income mainly includes penalties collected from suppliers which are realized in the ordinary course of business but are not the main business objective.

The Company s principal sources of revenues are:

#### Fixed telecommunication services and products

Domestic services revenues consist of monthly basic fees, measured service, long-distance calls and monthly fees for additional services, including call forwarding, call waiting, three-way calling, itemized billing and voicemail.

Revenues are recognized when services are rendered. Unbilled revenues from the billing cycle dating to the end of each month are calculated based on traffic and are accrued at the end of the month.

Basic fees are generally billed monthly in advance and are recognized when services are provided. Billed basic fees for which the related service has not yet been provided are deducted from corresponding accounts receivable. Revenues derived from other telecommunications services, principally network access, long distance and airtime usage, are recognized on a monthly basis as services are provided.

Revenues from the sale of prepaid calling cards are recognized on the basis of the minutes used, at the contract price per minute, or when the card expires, whichever happens first. Remaining unused traffic for unexpired calling cards is shown as Deferred revenue on prepaid calling cards under Deferred revenues line item in the statement of financial position.

Interconnection charges represent amounts received by the Company from other local service providers and long-distance carriers for calls that are originated on their networks and transit and/or terminate on the Company s network. Revenue is recognized as services when they are provided.

Traffic revenues from interconnection and roaming are reported gross of the amounts due to other telecommunication operators.

Non-refundable up-front connection fees for fixed telephony, data and Internet services that are non-separable from the service are accounted for as a single transaction and deferred (as well as the related costs not in excess of the amount of revenues) over the term of the contract or, in the case of indefinite period contracts, over the average period of the customer relationship (approximately 9 years in the case of fixed telephony).

Reconnection fees charged to customers when resuming service after suspension are deferred and recognized ratably over the average life for those customers who are assessed a reconnection fee. Associated direct expenses are also deferred over the estimated customer relationship period up to an amount equal to or less than the amount of deferred revenues. Generally, reconnection revenues are higher than its associated direct expenses.

Revenues from sales of goods, such as telephone and other equipment, are recognized when the significant risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the buyer.

Revenues on construction contracts are recognized based on the stage of completion (percentage of completion method). When the outcome of a construction contract can be estimated reliably, contract revenue and contract costs associated with the construction contract are recognized as revenue and expenses respectively by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity at the end of the reporting period. When it is probable that total contract costs will exceed total contract revenue, the expected loss is recognized as an expense immediately. When the outcome of a construction contract cannot be estimated reliably, contract revenue is recognized only to the extent of contract costs incurred that are likely to be recoverable.

Revenue on construction contracts recognized in the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, amounted to \$7 and \$19, respectively, of which \$28, are receivables. The agreement provides finance within 48 months from November 2014, the date when the implementation of the project was effective. No revenue on construction contracts were recorded for year 2012.

Cost on construction contracts recognized in the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 amounted to \$6 and \$16, respectively. No cost on construction contracts were recorded for year 2012.

Revenue from international telecommunications services mainly includes voice and data services and international point-to-point leased circuits. Revenues from international long-distance service reflect payments under bilateral agreements between the Company and foreign telecommunications carriers, covering inbound international long-distance calls. Revenues are recognized as services when they are provided.

Data and Internet revenues mainly consist of fixed monthly fees received from residential and corporate customers for data transmission (including private networks, dedicated lines, broadcasting signal transport and videoconferencing services) and Internet connectivity services (dial-up and broadband). These revenues are recognized as services when they are rendered.

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#### Mobile telecommunication services and products

Telecom Group provides mobile services throughout Argentina via cellular and PCS networks. Cellular fees consist of monthly basic fees, airtime usage charges, roaming, charges for TLRD, CPP charges and additional charges for VAS, including call waiting, call forwarding, three-way calling, voicemail, SMS, GPRS, Mobile Internet and for other miscellaneous cellular services. These revenues are recognized as services when they are rendered.

Basic fees are generally billed monthly in advance and are recognized when services are provided. Billed basic fees for which the related service has not yet been provided are deducted from the corresponding accounts receivable.

Revenues from the sale of prepaid calling cards are recognized on the basis of the minutes used, at the contract price per minute, or when the card expires, whichever happens first. Remaining unused traffic for unexpired calling cards is shown as Deferred revenue on prepaid calling cards under Deferred revenues line item in the statement of financial position.

Revenues from sales of goods, such as handsets, sim cards, tablets, smartphones and other equipment are recognized when the significant risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the buyer.

Personal and Núcleo offer to their subscribers a customer loyalty program. Under such program Personal and Núcleo grant award credits as part of the sales transactions which can be subsequently redeemed for goods or services provided by Personal and Núcleo or third parties. The fair value of the award credits is accounted for as deferred revenue, and recognized as revenue when the award credits are redeemed or expire, whichever occurs first. Those revenues are classified as service or goods revenues depending on the goods or services redeemed by the customers.

Applicable to both fixed telephony and mobile telephony, for offerings including separately identifiable components (as equipment and service), the Company and its subsidiaries recognize revenues related to the sale of the equipment when it is delivered to the final customer whereas service revenues are recorded when rendered. The total revenue generated by this type of transactions is assigned to the separately identifiable units of accounting based on their fair values, provided that the total amount of revenue to be recognized does not exceed the contract revenue. IFRS does not prescribe a specific method for such assignation of revenue. However, telecommunications industry practice generally applies the method known as residual method , which was used in the preparation of the present consolidated financial statements. The residual method requires identifying all the components that comprise a transaction and allocating its fair value on an individual basis to each of them. Under this method, the fair value of a delivered item (which could not be individually determined) is determined as the difference between the total arrangement consideration and the sum of the fair values of those elements for which fair value can be estimated on a stand-alone basis.

#### f) Financial instruments

### f.1) Financial assets

Telecom Group early adopted IFRS 9 in its first consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB (thus, in its consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2010).

Financial assets and liabilities, on initial recognition, are measured at transaction price as of the acquisition date. Financial assets are derecognized in the financial statement when the rights to receive cash flows from them have expired or have been transferred and the Company has transferred substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership.

Upon acquisition, in accordance with IFRS 9, financial assets are subsequently measured at either *amortized cost*, or *fair value*, on the basis of both:

(a) the entity s business model for managing the financial assets; and

(b) the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

A financial asset shall be measured at *amortized cost* if both of the following conditions are met:

(a) the asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, and

(b) the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Additionally, for assets that met the abovementioned conditions, IFRS provides for an option to designate, at inception, those assets as measured at *fair value* if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency (sometimes referred to as an accounting mismatch) that would otherwise arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognizing the gains and losses on them on different bases.

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A financial asset that is not measured at *amortized cost* according to the paragraphs above is measured at *fair value*.

Financial assets include:

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term and highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash, subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and their original maturity or the remaining maturity at the date of purchase does not exceed three months.

Cash and cash equivalents are recorded, according to their nature, at fair value or amortized cost.

Time deposits are valued at their amortized cost.

Investments in mutual funds are carried at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses are included in financial income/expenses in the consolidated statements of income. During 2014 and 2013, Personal acquired mutual funds whose main underlying asset is adjustable to the variation of the US\$/\$ exchange rate (dollar linked).

#### Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables classified as either current or non-current assets are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method, less allowances for doubtful accounts.

#### Investments

Investments with maturity in excess of 90 days are recorded at amortized cost.

Debt securities issued by Argentine companies and Government bonds acquired for purposes of collecting contractual cash flows are recorded at amortized cost. During 2014 and 2013 Personal acquired National and Provincial Government bonds (some of which have already matured and have been collected or used for the acquisition of the 3G/4G licenses). These Government bonds measured at amortized cost are denominated in US Dollars and bear an interest in this foreign currency, consequently for purposes of calculating the internal rate of return (IRR), Management

estimated the US Dollar denominated cash flows to be generated until maturity and compared that amount to the fair value of the instrument in US Dollars at the acquisition date (being the IRR the rate that equates both amounts, which equals to an annual interest rate between 1.76% and 4.28%). The acquisition cost in US Dollars has been adjusted by applying the IRR and the resulting value was converted to Argentine pesos using the exchange rate as of the date of measurement. The exchange differences generated by these bonds are included in Financial expenses as Foreign currency exchange gains or losses.

The 2003 Telecommunications Fund is recorded at fair value.

#### Impairment of financial assets

At every annual or interim closing date, assessments are made as to whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets may be impaired. If any such evidence exists, an impairment loss is recognized in the consolidated income statement for financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost.

Certain circumstances of impairment of financial assets that the Group assesses to determine whether there is objective evidence of an impairment loss could include: delay in the payments received from customers; customers that enter bankruptcy; the disappearance of an active market for that financial asset because of financial difficulties; observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows from a portfolio of financial assets, significant financial difficulty of the obligor, among others.

#### f.2) Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities comprise trade payables (excluding Derivatives), financial debt, salaries and social security payables (see n) below) and certain other liabilities.

Financial liabilities other than derivatives are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently measured at amortized cost. Amortized cost represents the initial amount net of principal repayments made, adjusted by the amortization of any differences between the initial amount and the maturity amount using the effective interest method.

#### f.3) Derivatives

Derivatives are used by Telecom Group to manage its exposure to exchange rate and sometimes interest rate risks and to diversify the parameters of debt so that costs and volatility can be reduced to pre-established operational limits.

All derivative financial instruments are measured at fair value in accordance with IFRS 9.

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Derivative financial instruments qualify for hedge accounting only when:

a) The hedging relation consists only on hedging instruments and hedged items eligible;

b) Since its inception the hedging relation and the purpose and risk management strategy, are formally designated and documented;

c) the hedge is expected to fulfill the efficacy requirements mentioned in Note 20.

When a derivative financial instrument is designated as a cash flow hedge (the hedge of the exposure to variability in cash flows of an asset or liability, a firm commitment or a highly probable forecasted transaction) the effective portion of any gain or loss on the derivative financial instrument is recognized directly in OCI. The cumulative gain or loss is removed from OCI and recognized in the consolidated income statement at the same time as the hedged transaction affects the consolidated income statement. The gain or loss associated with the ineffective portion of a hedge is recognized in the consolidated income statement immediately. If the hedged transaction is no longer probable, the cumulative gains or losses included in OCI are immediately recognized in the consolidated income statement.

If hedged item is a prospective transaction that results in the recognition of a non-financial asset or liability or a firm commitment, the cumulative gain or loss that was initially recognized in OCI shall be reclassified to the carrying amount of such asset or liability.

If hedge accounting is not appropriate, gains or losses arising from the fair value measurement of derivative financial instruments are directly recognized in the consolidated income statement.

For additional information about derivatives operations during 2014 and 2013, see Note 20.

#### g) Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and estimated net realizable value. Cost is determined on a weighted average cost basis. Net realizable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less applicable variable selling expenses. Allowances are made for obsolete and slow-moving inventories.

From time to time, the Management of Personal and Núcleo decide to sell mobile handsets at prices lower than their respective costs. This strategy is aimed at achieving higher service revenues or at retention of high value customers by reducing customer access costs while maintaining the companies overall mobile business profitability since the customer subscribes a monthly service contract for a minimum non-cancelable period. For the estimation of the net realizable value in these cases the Company considers the estimated selling price less applicable variable selling expenses plus the expected margin from the service contract signed during its minimum non-cancelable term.

### h) PP&E

PP&E is stated at acquisition or construction cost. Subsequent expenditures are capitalized only when they represent an improvement, it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

All other subsequent costs are recognized as expense in the period in which they are incurred. When a tangible fixed asset comprises major components having different useful lives, these components are accounted for as separate items if they are significant.

PP&E cost also includes the expected costs of dismantling the asset and restoring the site if a legal or constructive obligation exists. The corresponding liability is recognized in the statement of financial position under Provisions line item at its present value. These capitalized costs are depreciated and charged to the consolidated income statement over the useful life of the related tangible assets in the Depreciation and amortization item line.

The accounting estimates for dismantling costs, including discount rates, and the dates in which such costs are expected to be incurred are annually reviewed. Changes in the above liability are recognized as an increase or decrease of the cost of the relative asset and are depreciated prospectively.

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Depreciation of PP&E owned is calculated on a straight-line basis over the ranges of estimated useful lives of the assets; the ranges of the estimated useful lives of the main PP&E are the following:

Asset	Estimated useful life (in years)
Buildings received from ENTel	35
Buildings acquired subsequent to 11/8/90	50
Tower and pole	15
Transmission equipment	3-20
Wireless network access	5-10
Switching equipment	5-13
Power equipment	7-15
External wiring	10-20
Computer equipment and software	3-5
Telephony equipment and instruments	5-10
Installations	3-10

The depreciation rates are reviewed annually and revised if the current estimated useful life is different from that estimated previously taking into account, among others, technological obsolescence, maintenance and condition of the assets and different intended use from previous estimates. The effect of such changes is recognized prospectively in the consolidated income statement.

## i) Intangible assets

Intangible assets are recognized when the following conditions are met: the asset is separately identifiable, it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity; and the cost of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets with a finite useful life are stated at cost, less accumulated amortization and impairment losses, if any.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life are stated at cost, less accumulated impairment losses, if any.

Intangible assets comprise the following:

• Subscriber acquisition costs ( SAC )

Direct and incremental costs incurred for the acquisition of new subscribers with a minimum contractual period are capitalized when the conditions for the recognition of an intangible asset are met. The cost of acquiring postpaid and cuentas claras subscribers in mobile telephony

and broadband customers in fixed telephony meet the conditions established by IFRS for its recognition as intangible asset, since these contracts establish a minimum contractual period, include an enforceable termination penalty and provide for fixed monthly billing for services. SAC are mainly related to the mobile services; and are mainly comprised of upfront commissions paid to third parties and subsidies granted to customers on the sale of handsets.

In all other cases, subscriber acquisition costs are expensed when incurred.

Capitalized SAC are amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the contract with the customer acquired.

• Service connection or habilitation costs

Direct costs incurred for connecting customers to the network are accounted for as intangible assets and then amortized over the term of the contract with the customer if required conditions are met. For indefinite period contracts, the deferral of these costs is limited to the amount of non contingent revenue from the customer and expensed over the average period life of the customer relationship. Costs exceeding that amount are expensed as incurred. Connection costs are generated mainly for the installation of fixed lines and amortized over an average period of 9 years.

• 3G/4G licenses

As described in Note 2.b, it includes 3G and 4G frequencies awarded by the SC to Personal in November 2014. In accordance with Article 12 of the Auction Terms and Conditions they were granted for a period of 15 years as from the date of awarding notification (November 27, 2014). After this deadline, the Regulatory Authority may extend the term at Personal's request. The extension of the term, the related cost and conditions shall be defined by the Regulatory Authority.

Consequently, the Company s management has concluded that the 3G and 4G licenses have a finite useful life and therefore are amortized under the straight-line method over 180 months.

• PCS license (Argentina)

The Company, based on an analysis of all of the relevant factors, has considered the license having an indefinite useful life since there is no foreseeable limit to the period over which the asset is expected to generate net cash inflows for the entity.

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• PCS and Band B licenses (Paraguay)

Initial acquisition costs of Núcleo s PCS and Band B licenses were amortized under the straight-line method over 120 months. These licenses were successively renewed for a period of 5 years, estimating the finalization of its amortization during year 2017.

• Internet and data transmission license (Paraguay)

Núcleo s license is amortized over 60 months through fiscal year 2016.

• Rights of use

The Company purchases network capacity under agreements which grant the exclusive right to use a specified amount of capacity for a specified period of time. Acquisition costs are capitalized as intangible assets and amortized over the terms of the respective capacity agreements, generally 180 months.

• Exclusivity agreements

Exclusivity agreements were entered into with certain retailers and third parties relating to the promotion of the Company s services and products. Amounts capitalized are being amortized over the life of the agreements, with expiration ranging from financial year 2009 to financial year 2028.

• Customer relationships

Customer relationships identified as part of the purchase price allocation performed upon the acquisition of Cubecorp Argentina S.A. (a company engaged in data center business) in financial year 2008, are being amortized over the estimated duration of the relationship for customers in the data center business (180 months).

j) Leases

### Finance leases

Leases that transfer substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased asset are classified as finance leases. The Company recognizes finance leases as assets and liabilities in its statements of financial position at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. Subsequently, minimum lease payments are apportioned between a finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Contingent rents, if any, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

The depreciation policy for depreciable leased assets is consistent with that for depreciable assets that are owned.

As of December 31, 2013 the Telecom Group hold finance leases which represented current commercial liabilities in the amount of \$28 and non-current commercial liabilities of \$1.

### **Operating** leases

Lease payments under an operating lease are recognized as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term unless another systematic basis is more representative.

In the normal course of business, the Company leases cell sites, switch sites, satellite capacity and circuits under various non-cancellable operating leases that expire on various dates through 2028. Rental expenses are included under Interconnection costs and other telecommunication charges and Other operating expenses items lines in the consolidated income statements.

### k) Impairment of intangible assets and PP&E

At least annually, the Company assesses whether there are any indicators of impairment of assets that are subject to amortization. Both internal and external sources of information are used for this purpose. Internal sources include obsolescence or physical damage, and significant changes in the use of the asset and the economic performance of the asset compared to estimated performance. External sources include the market value of the asset, changes in technology, markets or laws, increases in market interest rates and the cost of capital used to evaluate investments, and an excess of the carrying amount of the net assets of the Group over market capitalization.

The carrying value of an asset is considered impaired by the Company when it is higher than its recoverable amount. In that event, a loss shall be recognized in the statement of income.

The recoverable value of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. In calculating the value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to present value using a discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the evaluated asset.

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Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable value of an individual asset, the Company estimates the recoverable value of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The Company considers each legal entity of the Group as a cash-generating unit.

When the conditions that gave rise to an impairment loss no longer exist, the carrying amount of the asset or cash-generating unit is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, up to the carrying amount that would have been recorded if no impairment loss had been recognized. The reversal of an impairment loss is recognized as income in the consolidated income statement.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life (including intangible assets under development or not ready to use) are not subject to amortization and are tested at least annually for impairment. The only intangible asset with an indefinite useful life held by the Company as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 is the PCS license (Argentina), which is entirely allocated to the Personal Mobile Service operating segment. Its recoverable amount is determined based on the value in use, which is estimated using discounted net cash flows projections.

For the years presented, the Company estimates that does not exist indicators of impairment of assets that are subject to amortization, with the exception of those referred to in the following paragraphs.

During 2014, Telecom Argentina and Personal have assessed the recoverable value of certain work in progress recorded in PP&E. As a result of such assessment, Telecom Argentina recorded an impairment loss for a total amount of \$61 (equivalent to the carrying value of these assets) and a partial reversal (amounting to \$36) of the impairment loss recorded in 2013 related to certain projects entered into Telecom Argentina and the private sector. The amount of this impairment loss will be re-assessed periodically.

These net effects of the impairments are included in operating expenses under the item line Impairment of PP&E .

l) Other liabilities

#### Pension benefits

Argentine laws provide for pension benefits to be paid to retired employees from government pension plans and/or privately managed fund plans to which employees may elect to contribute. Amounts payable to such plans are accounted for on an accrual basis. The Company does not sponsor any stock option plan.

Pension benefits shown under Other liabilities represent benefits under collective bargaining agreements for employees who retire upon reaching normal retirement age, or earlier due to disability in Telecom Argentina. Benefits consist of the payment of a single lump sum equal to the salary of one month for each five years of service. There is no vested benefit obligation until the occurrence of those conditions. The collective bargaining agreements do not provide for other post-retirement benefits such as life insurance, health care, and other welfare benefits.

The net periodic pension costs are recognized in the income statement, segregating the financial component, as employees render the services necessary to earn pension benefits. However, actuarial gains and losses should be presented in the statements of comprehensive income. Actuarial assumptions and demographic data, as applicable, were used to measure the benefit obligation as required by IAS 19 revised. The Company does not make plan contributions or maintain separate assets to fund the benefits at retirement.

The actuarial assumptions used are based on market interest rates, past experience and Management s best estimate of future economic conditions. Changes in these assumptions may impact future benefit costs and obligations. The main assumptions used in determining expense and benefit obligations are the following rates and salary ranges:

	2014	2013	2012
Discount rate (1)	7.0% - 8.5%	8.0% - 10.8%	4.1% 13.1%
Projected increase rate in compensation (2)	13.0% - 28.2%	15.0% - 25.0%	15.0% 25.2%

(1) Represents estimates of real rate of interest rather than nominal rate in \$.

(2) In line with an estimated inflationary environment for the next three financial years.

Additional information on pension benefits is provided in Note 16.

Legal fee

Pursuant to Law No. 26,476 - Tax Regularization Regime ( Régimen de Regularización Impositiva Ley N° 26,476 ), the Company is subject to a legal fee which shall be paid in twelve monthly consecutive installments without interest as from final judgment. It is carried at amortized cost.

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### m) Deferred revenues

Deferred revenues include:

## <u>Deferred revenues on prepaid calling cards</u>

Revenues from unused traffic and data packs for unexpired calling cards are deferred and recognized as revenue when the minutes and the data are used by customers or when the card expires, whichever happens first. See Note 3.e. Revenues Fixed telecommunication services and products.

### Deferred revenues on connection fees

Non-refundable up-front connection fees for fixed telephony, data and Internet services that are non-separable from the service are accounted for as a single transaction and deferred over the term of the contract, or in the case of indefinite period contracts, over the average period of customer relationship. See Note 3.e. Revenues Fixed telecommunication services and products and Mobile telecommunication services and products.

Customer Loyalty Programs

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The fair value of the award credits regarding Personal and Núcleo s customer loyalty program is accounted for as deferred revenue, and recognized as revenue when the award credits are redeemed or expire, whichever occurs first. See Note 3.e. Revenues Mobile telecommunication services.

### • Deferred revenue on sale of capacity and related services

Under certain network capacity purchase agreements, the Company sells excess purchased capacity to other carriers. Revenues are deferred and recognized as services are provided. Those revenues are recorded under Data item line in the Fixed services segment.

## Deferred income for CONATEL s government grants

During 2010 and 2011, the CONATEL awarded to Núcleo public tenders for the expansion of the network infrastructure that provides a platform for access to mobile services and basic services in social interest areas in Paraguay.

Government grants are recognized on a systematic basis over the periods in which the entity recognizes as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate. In accordance with IAS 20 the government grants related to assets can be presented either in the statement of financial position as deferred income or as a reduction of the carrying amount of related asset. The Company elected the first alternative provided by the standard considering that recognition as deferred income adequately reflects the business purpose of the transaction. Therefore, the related assets were recognized at the cost incurred by Núcleo in the construction of the engaged infrastructure and the government grant was accounted for as deferred income and recognized in profit or loss starting at the time the infrastructure becomes operative and throughout its useful life.

#### n) Salaries and social security payables

Include unpaid salaries, vacation and bonuses and its related social security contributions, as well as termination benefits. See f.2) above for a description of the accounting policy regarding the measurement of financial liabilities.

Termination benefits represent severance indemnities that are payable when employment is terminated in accordance with labor regulations and current practices, or whenever an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits. In the case of severance compensations resulting from agreements with employees leaving the Company upon acceptance of voluntary redundancy, the compensation is usually comprised of a special cash bonus paid upon signing the severance agreement, and in certain cases may include a deferred compensation, which is payable in monthly installments calculated as a percentage of the prevailing wage at the date of each payment (*prejubilaciones*). The employee s right to receive the monthly installments mentioned above starts on the date they leave the Company and ends either when they reach the legal mandatory retirement age or upon the decease of the beneficiary, whichever occurs first.

### o) Taxes payables

The Company is subject to different taxes and levies such as municipal taxes, tax on deposits to and withdrawals from bank accounts, turnover taxes, regulatory fees (including SU) and income taxes, among others, that represent an expense for the Group. It is also subject to other taxes over its activities that generally do not represent an expense (internal taxes, VAT, ENARD tax).

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The principal taxes that represent an expense for the Company are the following:

#### • Income taxes

Income taxes are recognized in the consolidated income statement, except to the extent that they relate to items directly recognized in Other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognized in Other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively. The income tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax.

As per Argentinean Tax Law, income taxes payables have been computed on a separate return basis (i.e., the Company is not allowed to prepare a consolidated income tax return). All income tax payments are made by each of the subsidiaries as required by the tax laws of the countries in which they operate. The Company records income taxes in accordance with IAS 12.

Deferred taxes are recognized using the liability method. Temporary differences arise when the tax base of an asset or liability differs from their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements. A deferred income tax asset or liability is recognized on those differences, except for those differences related to investments in subsidiaries that generate a deferred income tax liability, where the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference is controlled by the Group and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets relating to unused tax loss carry forwards are recognized to the extent that it is probable that future taxable income will be available against which they can be utilized. Deferred tax assets arising from investment in subsidiaries are recognized when it is probable that the temporary differences will be reversed in the foreseeable future and when future taxable income would be sufficient to apply those temporary differences.

The statutory income tax rate in Argentina was 35% for all years presented. Cash dividends received from a foreign subsidiary are computed on the statutory income tax rate. As per Argentinean Tax Law, income taxes paid abroad may be recognized as tax credits.

#### Income Tax effects related to equity interests

Law No. 26,893 and Decree N 2,334/13 have incorporated amendments to the Income Tax in connection with, among others, the taxation of results derived from transfers of shares and dividend distributions.

Results derived from transfers of shares

The effective tax rate applicable for individuals is 15% (for local companies the applicable rate is 35%). Negative results arising from such operations will have the character of specific and can only be offset against future earnings from operations of the same nature.

However, results from the transfer of such securities are exempt from such income tax when they are listed on stock exchange markets authorized by the CNV (as in the case of Telecom Argentina s shares) and the gains are realized by individuals or undivided estates residents in Argentina.

When both the seller and the buyer are nonresidents, the person liable to pay the tax shall be the buyer of the shares, quotas, equity interests and other securities transferred.

Dividend distributions

Dividends and other profits paid in cash or in kind except for stock dividends or quota dividends , by companies and other entities incorporated in Argentina are subject to income tax at a 10% rate, except for dividends received by domestic companies and other domestic entities, which continue to be not subject to income tax. Dividends distributed to nonresidents shall be subject to a 10% withholding tax, as a unique and definitive payment. Consequently, any dividend distribution made by the Company to its shareholders shall be subject to this broadened tax, except for those beneficiaries that are domestic corporate taxpayers sujetos empresa (such as, for instance, distributions made from Telecom Argentina to Nortel and those from Personal to Telecom Argentina and Nortel) and regardless of, if applicable, the so called Equalization Tax .

The statutory income tax rate in Paraguay was 10% for all years presented. As per Paraguayan Tax Law, dividends paid are computed with an additional income tax rate of 5% (this is the criterion used by Núcleo for the recording of its deferred tax assets and liabilities, representing an effective tax rate of 15%). However, the effect of the additional income tax rate according to the Argentine tax law in force on the undistributed profits of Núcleo is fully recognized as it is considered probable that those results will flow to Personal in the form of dividends.

The statutory income tax rate in the United States was 39.50% for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

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#### • Turnover tax

Under Argentine tax law, the Company is subject to a tax levied on revenues and other income. Rates differ depending on the jurisdiction where revenues are earned for tax purposes and on the nature of revenues (services and equipment). Average rates resulting from the turnover tax charge over the total revenues were approximately 5.4%, 5.3% and 4.7% for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

• Other taxes and levies

Since the beginning of 2001, telecommunication services companies have been required to make a SU contribution to fund SU requirements (Note 2.d). The SU tax is calculated as a percentage of the total revenues received from the rendering of telecommunication services, net of taxes and levies applied on such revenues, excluding the SU tax and other deductions stated by regulations. The rate is 1% of total billed revenues and adopts the pay or play mechanism for compliance with the mandatory contribution to the SU fund.

### p) Provisions

The Group records provisions for risks and charges when it has a present obligation, legal or constructive, to a third party, as a result of a past event, when it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to satisfy the obligation and when the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

If the effect of the time value of money is material, and the payment date of the obligations can be reasonably estimated, provisions to be accrued are the present value of the expected cash flows, taking into account the risks associated with the obligation. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognized as Finance expenses . Additional information is given in Note 17.

Provisions also include the expected costs of dismantling assets and restoring the corresponding site if a legal or constructive obligation exists, as mentioned in h) above. The accounting estimates for dismantling costs, including discount rates, and the dates in which such costs are expected to be incurred are reviewed annually, at each financial year-end.

### q) Dividends

Dividends payable are reported as a change in equity in the year in which they are approved by the Shareholders Meeting.

#### r) Finance income and expenses

Finance income and expenses include:

- interest accrued on the related financial assets and liabilities using the effective interest rate method;
- changes in fair value of derivatives and other financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss;
- gains and losses on foreign exchange and financial instruments (including derivatives);
- other financial results.

#### s) Treasury Shares Acquisition

In connection with the Treasury Shares Acquisition Process described in Note 19 d) to these consolidated financial statements, the Company has applied the guidance set forth in IAS 32, which provides, consistently with the CNV Regulations, that any instruments of its own equity acquired by the Company must be recorded at the acquisition cost and must be deducted from Equity under the caption Treasury shares acquisition cost . No profit or loss resulting from holding such instruments of own Equity shall be recognized in the income statement. If the treasury shares are sold, the account Treasury shares acquisition cost shall be recorded within Equity under the Treasury shares negotiation premium caption. If such difference is negative, the resulting amount shall be recorded within Equity under the Treasury shares negotiation discount caption.

#### t) Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share are calculated by dividing the net income or loss attributable to owners of the Parent by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year (see Note 25).

### u) Use of estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with IFRS requires Management to make estimates and assumptions based also on subjective judgments, past experience and hypotheses considered reasonable and realistic in relation to the information known at the time of the estimate.

Such estimates have an effect on the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements as well as the amount of revenues and costs during the year. Actual results could differ, even significantly, from those estimates owing to possible changes in the factors considered in the determination of such estimates. Estimates are reviewed periodically.

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The most important accounting estimates which require a high degree of subjective assumptions and judgments are addressed below:

Financial statement item / area	Accounting estimates
	Revenue recognition is influenced by:
Revenues	• the expected duration of the relationship with the customer for deferred revenues regarding upfront connection fees;
	• the estimation of traffic measures.
Useful lives and residual value of PP&E and Intangible assets	PP&E and intangible assets, except for indefinite useful life intangibles, are depreciated or amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The determination of the depreciable amount of the assets and their useful lives involves significant judgment. The Company periodically reviews, at least at each financial year-end, the estimated useful lives of its PP&E and amortizable intangible assets.
	At least at every annual closing date, an assessment is made regarding whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that PP&E and amortizing intangible assets may be impaired.
	The recoverable amount is the higher of the fair value (less costs to sell) and its value in use. The identification of impairment indicators and the estimation of the value in use for assets (or groups of assets or cash generating units) require management to make significant judgments concerning the validation of impairment indicators, expected cash flows and applicable discount rates. Estimated cash flows are based on significant Management s assumptions about the key factors that could affect future business performance such as the future market share, competition level, capital expenditures, salary increases, foreign exchange rates evolution, capital structure, capital cost, etc.
Recoverability of PP&E and intangible assets with finite useful life	For the years presented the Company estimated that there are no indicators of impairment of assets that are subject to amortization, with the exception of those mentioned in the point k) of this note amounting to \$100 as of December 31, 2014. However, changes in our current expectations and operating assumptions, including changes in our business strategy, technology, competition and/or changes in market conditions, and the outcome of the rates negotiations for regulated fixed services with the Argentine government, could significantly impact these judgments and could require future adjustments to the recorded assets.
	Although no indicators of impairment are verified the Company s Management, prudentially, has assessed the recoverability of PP&E and intangible assets for Telecom Argentina assuming different scenarios of probability some of which contemplates rate adjustments for regulated services. Considering these assumptions, the Company s Management believes that its fixed assets are recoverable.
Intangible assets with indefinite useful life PCS license	The Telecom Group determined that Personal s PCS license met the definition of an indefinite-lived intangible asset for the years presented and tests it annually for

	impairment. The recoverability assessment of an indefinite-lived intangible asset such as the PCS license requires our Management to make assumptions about the future cash flows expected to be derived from such asset.
	Such estimated cash flows are based on significant Management s assumptions about the key factors that could affect future business performance such as the future market share, competition level, capital expenditures, salary increases, foreign exchange rates evolution, capital structure, discount rate, etc. The discount rate used to determine the discounted cash flow is an annual US dollar rate of approximately 13.8%.
	Our judgments regarding future cash flows may change due to future market conditions, business strategy, the evolution of technology and other factors. These changes, if any, may require adjustments to the carrying amount of the PCS license.
Income taxes and recoverability assessment of deferred tax assets	Income taxes (current and deferred) are calculated in each company of the Telecom Group according to a reasonable interpretation of the tax laws in effect in each jurisdiction where the companies operate. The recoverability assessment of deferred tax assets sometimes involves complex estimates to determine taxable income and deductible and taxable temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the taxable amounts. In particular, deferred tax assets are recognized to the extent that future taxable income will be available against which they can be utilized. The measurement of the recoverability of deferred tax assets takes into account the estimate of future taxable income based on the Company s projections and on conservative tax planning.
Receivables and payables valued at amortized cost	Receivables and payables valued at amortized cost are initially recorded at their fair value, which is generally determined by using a discounted cash flow valuation method. The fair value under this method is estimated as the present value of all future cash flows discounted using an estimated discount rate, especially for long term receivables and payables. The estimated discount rate used to determine the discounted cash flow of non-current receivables and payables is an annual rate in pesos ranging between 20% and 35% for year 2014 and an annual rate in pesos ranging between 20% and 32% for year 2013. Additionally, an annual U.S. dollars rate ranging between 8% and 13% was used for discounting long term receivables denominated in U.S. dollars during 2014 and an annual U.S. dollars rate of approximately 8% was used during 2013. Discount rates in Guaranies for loans were 9.3% in both years and for accounts receivables was 9.8% in 2014.
Provisions	The Company is subject to proceedings, lawsuits and other claims related to labor, civil, tax, regulatory and other matters. In order to determine the proper level of provisions, Management assesses the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to these matters as well as the range of probable losses that may result from the potential outcomes. Internal and external legal counsels are consulted on these matters. A determination of the amount of provisions required, if any, is made after careful analysis of each individual issue. The determination of the required provisions may change in the future due to new developments in each matter, changes in jurisprudential precedents and tribunal decisions or changes in its method of resolving such matters, such as changes in settlement strategy.
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	The recoverability of receivables is measured by considering the aging of the accounts receivable balances, historical write-offs, customer creditworthiness and changes in the customer payment terms when evaluating the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts. If the financial condition of the customers were to deteriorate, the actual write-offs could be higher than expected.

In the absence of a Standard or an Interpretation that specifically applies to a particular transaction, Management carefully considers the IFRS general framework and valuation techniques generally applied in the telecommunication industry and uses its judgment to evaluate the

accounting methods to adopt with a view to providing financial statements which faithfully represent the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows of the Group, reflect the economic substance of the transactions, be neutral, be prepared on a prudent basis and be completed in all material respects.

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#### New Standards and Interpretations issued by the IASB not in force

As required by IAS 8, the IFRS issued by the IASB not in force as of the date of these consolidated financial statements are reported below and briefly summarized. These standards have not been adopted by the Company.

#### Amendments to IAS 19 (Employee contributions to Defined Benefit Plans)

In November 2013 the IASB issued amendments to IAS 19. These amendments clarify the recognition of those contributions made by third parties or by employees to defined benefit plans.

These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2014, retrospectively. Early application is permitted. The adoption of these amendments will not have significant impacts on the statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Group.

#### Annual Improvements to IFRSs (2010-2012 Cycle)

In December 2013 the IASB published the Annual Improvements to IFRSs (2010-2012 Cycle), which introduced amendments to IFRS 2, IFRS 3, IFRS 8, IFRS 13, IAS 16, IAS 24 and IAS 38. These amendments address clarifications that the IASB considered necessary because there were diversity or confusion in the interpretation of certain requirements. However, the amendments do not substantially modify the related standards. The adoption of these amendments will not have significant impacts on the statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Group.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2014.

#### Annual Improvements to IFRSs (2011-2013 Cycle)

In December 2013 the IASB published the Annual Improvements to IFRSs (2011-2013 Cycle), which introduced amendments to IFRS 3, IFRS 13 and IAS 40. These amendments address clarifications the IASB considered necessary because there were diversity or confusion in the interpretation of certain requirements. However the amendments do not substantially modify the related standards. The adoption of these amendments will not have significant impacts on the statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Group.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2014.

## Amendments to IAS 16 and 38 (Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortization)

In May 2014 the IASB published the modifications to IAS 16 (PP&E) and IAS 38 (Intangible Assets).

Both IAS 16 and IAS 38 establish the principle by which the method of depreciation and amortization should be based on the pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits of the asset.

With these amendments, the IASB establishes that a depreciation method that is based on revenue that is generated by an activity that includes the use of an asset is not appropriate.

These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Early application is permitted. The adoption of these amendments will not have significant impacts on the statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Group.

#### IFRS 15 (Revenue from Contracts with Customers)

In May 2014 the IASB issued IFRS 15. This IFRS applies to all revenue contracts (except for contracts that are within the scope of IAS 17, leases, IFRS 4, Insurance Contracts and NIIF 9, Financial Instruments). IFRS 15 provides a single model for the recognition and measurement of revenues and replaces IAS 11, IAS 18, IFRIC 13, IFRIC 15, IFRIC 18 and SIC 31. It also establishes additional disclosure requirements and a 5-step model for revenue recognition, being the identified steps:

- 1) Identify the contract(s) with a customer;
- 2) Identify the performance obligations in the contract;
- 3) Determine the transaction price;
- 4) Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract; and
- 5) Recognize revenue when (or as) the entity satisfies a performance obligation.

The allocation of the transaction price among different performance obligations required by IFRS 15 is one of the main issues that telecommunications companies have to assess, mainly because of the great variety of plans they offer to their customers by combining services and equipments. Another relevant issue to the telecommunications industry is the capitalization of incremental costs of obtaining a contract if the entity estimates that they will be recovered.

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The Company has undertaken a project to analyze the impacts of the implementation of IFRS 15. As a preliminary conclusion, we expect no material impacts in relation to revenue recognition, because the Company sells services separately from the sale of equipment and, in the last fiscal years, the equipments are substantially sold to the different subscribers categories with a profit margin. However, there are technical interpretations that consider that even under these conditions, the Company should allocate the transaction price to each performance obligation *on a relative stand-alone selling price basis*.

With regards to handset subsidies occasionally granted by the Company to new postpaid subscribers, Management believes that the capitalization of such cost may be discontinued under IFRS 15 in light of the interpretations of the new standard. On the other hand, Management believes that commissions paid for the acquisition of postpaid and Cuentas Claras customers in the Mobile Segment and broadband customers in the Fixed Segment will continue to be capitalized under IFRS 15, because these costs are necessary to obtain new contracts with customers and meet the conditions for capitalization under the new standard. These preliminary conclusions are subject to finalizing the detailed analysis undertaken by the Company, which is expected for FY15.

IFRS 15 is effective from annual periods beginning on January 1, 2017. Earlier application is permitted.

#### Amendments to IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

In July 2014, the IASB amended IFRS 9 Financial Instruments . The amendments incorporate: 1) a new classification of financial assets (valued at fair value through other comprehensive income); and 2) includes requirements related to the recognition of expected credit losses of financial assets at initial measurement if losses are expected, being no longer necessary for a credit event to have occurred before credit losses are recognized.

These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018. The Company is analyzing the possible impacts of the application of these amendments.

#### Amendments to IAS 27 (Equity Method)

In August 2014 the IASB issued amendments to IAS 27.

These amendments allow companies to use the equity method, in addition to cost or fair value, to value its investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates in their Separate Financial Statements.

The amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted. The Company uses the equity method as required by RT 26 for the preparation of its Separate Financial Statements, so the application of this amendment is not

expected to have an impact on the Company s statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

#### Annual Improvements to IFRSs (2012-2014 Cycle)

In September 2014 the IASB published the Annual Improvements to IFRSs (Cycle 2012-2014), which introduced amendments to IFRS 5, IFRS 7, IAS 19 and IAS 34.

Among the main changes identified we can mention the following: i) The purpose of the changes in IFRS 5 is related to changes in methods of disposal of assets; ii) The amendment to IFRS 7 relates to disclosure requirements related to offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities in interim financial statements; iii) IFRS 7 also clarifies the disclosures requirements in case of continuing involvement; and iv) Finally, the amendment to IAS 34 makes clarifications regarding the use of cross-references to other interim financial reports.

The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. The Company is currently analyzing the impact that the implementation of these changes could have on the statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Group.

#### Amendments to IAS 1 (Disclosure Initiative)

In December 2014, the IASB issued amendments to IAS 1.

These amendments provide explanations regarding the information presented in the financial statements. Among other issues, the amendments clarify that an entity shall not reduce the understandability of its financial statements by obscuring material information with immaterial information or by aggregating material items that have different natures or functions. It is also clarified that immaterial matters must not be reported even though these matters are required by other standards, and that companies should disclose relevant information although it is not required by any IFRS. Additionally, the amendments make a clarification relative to the disaggregation of information and subtotals disclosed. Finally, new options of systematic ordering or grouping of notes in the financial statements are set.

The amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is currently analyzing the impact that the implementation of these amendments could have on the statements of financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Group.

#### Note 4 Cash and cash equivalents and Investments. Additional information on the consolidated statements of cash flows

### a) <u>Cash and cash equivalents and Investments</u>

Cash and cash equivalents and investments consist of the following:

		As of December 31,		
		2014	2013	
Cash and cash equivalents				
Cash		14	12	
Banks		370	336	
Time deposits		1	3,949	
Mutual funds		440	927	
	Total cash and cash equivalents	825	5,224	

		As of December 31	l <b>,</b>
Investments		2014	2013
Current investments			
Argentine companies notes		28	86
Provincial government bonds		24	35
Government bonds		1	2
	Total current investments	53	123
Non-current investments			
Government bonds		257	219
Provincial government bonds		43	13
Argentine companies notes			10
2003 Telecommunications Fund		1	1
	Total non-current investments	301	243

## b) Additional information on the consolidated statements of cash flows

The Company applies the indirect method to conciliate the net income for the year with the cash flows generated by its operations.

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash, bank current accounts and short-term highly liquid investments (with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition) and bank overdrafts (in the consolidated statements of financial position, bank overdrafts are included in current financial debt).

As of December 31, 2013

Cash and cash equivalents	825	5,224	3,160
Bank overdrafts (Personal Note 12)	(141)		
Total cash and cash equivalents at year-end	684	5,224	3,160

Additional information on the breakdown of the net cash flow provided by operating activities is given below:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Collections			
Collections from customers	34,367	28,375	22,902
Interests from customers	160	124	90
Interests from time deposits	400	584	310
CPP collections	668	690	623
NDF	84	13	4
Subtotal	35,679	29,786	23,929
Payments			
For the acquisition of goods and services and other	(8,827)	(6,788)	(5,812)
For the acquisition of inventories	(4,167)	(3,166)	(2,326)
Salaries and social security payables and severance payments	(5,136)	(3,972)	(3,187)
NDF	(53)		(1)
CPP payments	(1,616)	(1,315)	(1,130)
Income taxes	(2,277)	(1,609)	(1,647)
Other taxes and taxes and fees with the Regulatory Authority	(7,074)	(5,617)	(4,671)
Foreign currency exchange differences related to the payments to			
suppliers	(808)	(338)	(126)
Inventory suppliers	(343)	(169)	(79)
PP&E suppliers	(311)	(106)	(28)
Other suppliers	(154)	(63)	(19)
Subtotal	(29,958)	(22,805)	(18,900)
Net cash flow provided by operating activities	5,721	6,981	5,029

#### • Changes in assets/liabilities components:

		Years ended December 31,	
	2014	2013	2012
Net (increase) decrease in assets			
Investments not considered as cash or cash equivalents	349	(89)	
Trade receivables	(1,646)	(1,065)	(654)
Other receivables	(158)	(329)	(163)
Inventories	(50)	(251)	(108)
	(1,505)	(1,734)	(925)
Net (decrease) increase in liabilities			
Trade payables	(408)	1,411	169
Deferred revenues	78	178	90
Salaries and social security payables	261	50	8
Other taxes payables	195	67	84
Other liabilities	30	27	(35)
Provisions (Note 17)	(119)	(97)	(121)
	37	1,636	195

Income tax paid consists of the following:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Tax returns and payments in advance	(2,079)	(1,460)	(1,557)
Other payments	(198)	(149)	(90)
Total payments of income tax	(2,277)	(1,609)	(1,647)

#### • Main non-cash operating transactions:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Government Bonds used to the acquisition of 3G/4G Licenses	439		
Income tax withholding for dividends paid	22	44	
Compensation of tax on personal property on behalf of Shareholders	10	8	
VAT offset with income tax payments		8	23
Compensation Fund contribution reclassified between:			
Provisions and other receivables and salaries and social security			
contributions			39
Provisions and other liabilities			27
SAC acquisitions offset with trade receivables	362	239	161

#### • Most significant investing activities:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
CAPEX (Note 8)	(4,304)	(3,964)	(2,415)
Acquisition of Materials (net transfers to CAPEX, Note 8)	(590)	(363)	(159)
Subtotal	(4,894)	(4,327)	(2,574)
Plus:			
Payments of trade payables originated in prior years acquisitions	(1,551)	(829)	(1,223)
Less:			
Acquisition of fixed assets through incurrence of trade payables	1,511	1,766	1,309
Assets retirement obligations	7	21	8
Mobile handsets lent to customers at no cost (i)	32	17	15
	(4,895)	(3,352)	(2,465)

(i) Under certain circumstances, Personal and Núcleo lend handsets to customers at no cost pursuant to term agreements. Handsets remain the property of the companies and customers are generally obligated to return them at the end of the respective agreements.

Intangible assets acquisitions include:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
3G/4G Licenses acquisitions (Note 9)	(3,530)		
Less:			
Acquisition with Government bonds	439		
	(3,091)		

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Other intangible assets acquisitions (Note 9)	(1,123)	(887)	(842)
Plus:			
Payments of trade payables originated in prior years acquisitions	(103)	(81)	(92)
SAC acquisition offset with trade receivables	(362)	(239)	(161)
Less:			
Acquisition of intangible assets through incurrence of trade payables	470	361	234
	(1,118)	(846)	(861)

The following table presents the cash flows from purchases, sales and maturities of securities which were not considered cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Investments over 90 days maturity	10	657	(540)
Argentine companies notes acquisition	(16)	(3)	(90)
Government bonds acquisition	(1,201)	(305)	
Argentine companies notes collection	112		
Government bonds collection	756	1	
Loan to Nortel		6	(2)
	(339)	356	(632)

#### • Financing activities components:

The following table presents the financing activities components of the consolidated statements of cash flows:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Debt proceeds Núcleo		208	47
Total financial debt proceeds		208	47
Payment of bank loans Núcleo	(12)	(157)	(63)
Total payment of debt	(12)	(157)	(63)
Bank overdrafts - Personal	(3)		
Payment of interest on bank loans Núcleo	(26)	(16)	(13)
Total payment of interest	(29)	(16)	(13)
Acquisition of Treasury Shares (Telecom Argentina) Note 19.d)		(461)	

Cash dividends from Telecom Argentina

• <u>Fiscal year 2014</u>

During 1Q14 the Company paid \$44 related to withholdings on dividends paid to its shareholders by the end of 2013 in order to comply with its tax obligations. The amounts paid finally corresponded to: (i) income tax withholdings on dividends paid to its shareholders during December 2013 in the amount of \$17 and (ii) dividends paid to its shareholders in the amount of \$27.

The Company s Ordinary Shareholders Meeting held on April 29, 2014, approved, in its second tranche of deliberations held on May 21, 2014, the payment of cash dividends in two equal installments of \$601 between the outstanding shares. The first installment was made available to shareholders on June 10, 2014 and the second installment was made available to shareholders on September 22, 2014. The amounts paid include: (i) income tax withholdings on dividends paid to shareholders in the amount of \$11 (on each installment) and (ii) tax on personal property on behalf of shareholders withholdings in the amount of \$10 (only in the first installment).

#### • <u>Fiscal year 2013</u>

The Company's Board of Directors Meeting held on December 13, 2013, resolved to disaffect the Reserve for future cash dividends for distribution of cash dividends in the amount of \$1,000 (equivalent to \$1.03 argentine pesos per share) among the shareholders of the outstanding shares. The above mentioned dividends were available on December 27, 2013. Cash dividends were paid before December 31, 2013, prior compensation with credits related to tax on personal property on behalf of shareholders, for an amount of \$8, and income tax withholding on dividends paid estimated in \$44. Thereby, the total amount paid on cash dividends amounted to \$948 as of December 31, 2013.

#### <u>Fiscal year 2012</u>

The Annual General Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of the Company held on April 27, 2012 approved a cash dividend distribution in the amount of \$807 (equivalent to \$0.82 argentine pesos per share), which was paid on May 10, 2012.

#### Núcleo s Dividends Distribution

#### <u>Fiscal year 2014</u>

The Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo held on March 28, 2014, approved the distribution of cash dividends for an amount equivalent to \$160, delegating in Nucleo s Board of Directors the authority to determine the number of installments, the amount and time for the payments of these cash dividends.

On May 5, 2014 Nucleo s Board of Directors determined the following schedule of payments for the cash dividends:

Dividend payment month	Dividends attributable to Personal	Dividends attributable to non-controlling interest	Total dividends paid
May 2014	54	26	80
October 2014	54	26	80
Т	otal (*) 108	52	160

<sup>(\*)</sup> Correspond to 90,000 million of Guaranies approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo, translated to argentine pesos at the exchange rate of the date of its approval.

#### Fiscal year 2013

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The Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo held on March 22, 2013 approved the following cash dividend payment:

Dividend paym month	Dividence Divide	le to to nor	nds attributable n-controlling interest	Total dividends paid
May 2013		34	16	50
October 201	3	34	17	51

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<b>Total</b> (**)	68	33	101

(\*\*) Correspond to 80,000 million of Guaraníes approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo, translated to argentine pesos at the exchange rate of the date of its approval.

#### <u>Fiscal year 2012</u>

•

The Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo held on March 16, 2012 approved the following cash dividends distribution to its shareholders:

Dividend payment month	Dividends attributable to Personal	Dividends attributable to non-controlling interest	Total dividends paid
April 2012	27	13	40
October 2012	20	10	30
<b>Total</b> (***)	47	23	70

(\*\*\*) Correspond to 70,000 million of Guaranies approved by the Ordinary Shareholders Meeting of Núcleo, translated to argentine pesos at the exchange rate of the date of its approval.

#### Note 5 Trade receivables

Trade receivables consist of the following:

		As of December 31,	
		2014	2013
Current trade receivables			
Fixed services		1,220	950
Personal mobile services		3,076	2,170
Núcleo mobile services		120	105
	Subtotal	4,416	3,225
Allowance for doubtful accounts		(292)	(239)
		4,124	2,986
Non-current trade receivables			
Fixed services		22	19
Personal mobile services		88	
Núcleo mobile services		33	2
		143	21
	Total trade receivables, net	4,267	3,007

Movements in the allowance for current doubtful accounts are as follows:

	Years ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
Current allowance for doubtful accounts		
At the beginning of the fiscal year	(239)	(202)
Additions Bad debt expenses	(421)	(283)
Uses	370	249
Currency translation adjustments	(2)	(3)
At the end of the year	(292)	(239)

### Note 6 Other receivables

Other receivables consist of the following:

	As of December 31 2014	, 2013
Current other receivables	2014	2013
Prepaid expenses	331	276
Tax credits	108	38
Prepaid expenses related parties (Note 27.b)	52	76
Expenditure reimbursement	40	91
Restricted funds	21	26
Tax on personal property	12	12
Receivables for return of handsets under warranty	8	9
Guarantee deposits	5	5
Non deliverable forward (Note 20)		42
Receivables for suppliers indemnities	6	6
Other	110	83
Subt	otal 693	664
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(23)	(18)
	670	646
Non-current other receivables		
Prepaid expenses	101	100
Prepaid expenses related parties (Note 27.b)	36	88
Credit on SC Resolution No. 41/07 and IDC (Note 2.1 and m)	85	85
Restricted funds	28	37
Tax on personal property	18	17
Tax credits	9	3
Guarantee deposits	8	4
Satellite TV service receivables - Núcleo	7	
Other	11	10
Subt	otal 303	344
Allowance for regulatory matters (Note 2 l. and m)	(85)	(85)
Allowance for doubtful accounts (tax on personal property)	(18)	(17)
	200	242
Total other receiva	bles 870	888

Movements in the allowances are as follows:

	Years ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
Current allowance for doubtful accounts		
At the beginning of the year	(18)	(15)
Additions (*)	(6)	(3)
Uses	1	
At the end of the year	(23)	(18)

(\*) Includes (3) in 2014 included in Bad debt expenses.

	Years ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
Non-current allowance for regulatory matters		
At the beginning of the year	(85)	(85)
Additions		
At the end of the year	(85)	(85)

	Years ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
Non-current allowance for doubtful accounts (tax on personal property)		
At the beginning of the year	(17)	(17)
Additions	(1)	
At the end of the year	(18)	(17)
-		

#### Note 7 Inventories

Inventories consist of the following:

	As of December 31,		oer 31,
		2014	2013
Mobile handsets and equipment		781	849
Fixed telephones and equipment		13	8
	Subtotal	794	857
Allowance for obsolescence of inventories		(73)	(85)
		721	772

Movements in the allowance for obsolescence of inventories are as follows:

	Years ended December 31,	
	2014	2013
At the beginning of the year	(85)	(8)
Additions Fees for services, maintenance and materials	(81)	(109)
Uses	94	32
Currency translation adjustments	(1)	
At the end of the year	(73)	(85)

Sale and cost of equipment and handsets by business segment is as follows:

	2014	Years ended December 31, 2013	2012
Fixed Services - excluding network construction contracts	46	61	81
Fixed Services - network construction contracts	7	19	
Cost of equipment and handsets Fixed Services	(72)	(74)	(44)
Total equipment income (loss) Fixed Services	(19)	6	37
Mobile Services Personal	4,920	3,126	1,915
Cost of equipment and handsets Mobile Services Personal (net of			
SAC capitalizations)	(3,959)	(2,956)	(1,964)
Total equipment income (loss) Mobile Services Personal	961	170	(49)
Mobiles Services Núcleo	90	69	32
Cost of equipment and handsets Mobile Services Núcleo (net of			
SAC capitalizations)	(112)	(81)	(35)
Total equipment loss Mobile Services Núcleo	(22)	(12)	(3)
Total equipment and handsets sale	5,063	3,275	2,028
Total cost of equipment and handsets (net of SAC capitalizations)	(4,143)	(3,111)	(2,043)
Total income (loss) for sale of equipment and handsets	920	164	(15)

Cost of equipment and handsets is as follows:

	Years ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	2012	
Inventories at the beginning of the year	(857)	(641)	(555)	
Plus:				
Equipment acquisitions	(4,260)	(3,628)	(2,625)	
SAC deferred costs (Note 3.i)	103	255	463	
Currency translation effect			(2)	
Decreases net of allowance of obsolescence	46	9	6	
Handsets lent to customers at no cost	30	17	15	
Decreases not charged to cost of equipment	1	20	14	
Less:				
Inventories at the end of the year	794	857	641	
Cost of equipment and handsets (i)	(4,143)	(3,111)	(2,043)	

(i) Includes 6 and 16 related to equipment construction contracts costs as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. No costs were recorded for this concept as of December 31, 2012.

### Note 8 Property, plant and equipment

PP&E consist of the following:

		As of December 31,	
		2014	2013
Land, buildings and installations		1,045	963
Computer equipment and software		1,558	1,476
Switching and transmission equipment (i)		3,585	2,558
Mobile network access and external wiring		4,273	3,091
Construction in progress		2,184	2,436
Other tangible assets		416	377
	Subtotal	13,061	10,901
Materials		872	502
Valuation allowance for materials		(24)	(21)
Impairment of PP&E		(100)	(156)
	Total PP&E	13,809	11,226

<sup>(</sup>i) Includes tower and pole, transmission equipment, switching equipment, power equipment, equipment lent to customers at no cost and handsets lent to customers at no cost.

Movements in Materials are as follows:

	Years ended Decem	ber 31,
	2014	2013
At the beginning of the year	502	280
Plus:		
Purchases	1,245	813
Less:		
Transfers to CAPEX	(655)	(450)
Disposal for maintenance/installation	(227)	(147)
Currency translation adjustments	7	6
At the end of the year	872	502

Movements in the valuation allowance for materials are as follows:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	
At the beginning of the year	(21)	(14)	
Additions Fees for services, maintenance and materials	(6)	(7)	
Uses	3		
At the end of the year	(24)	(21)	

Movements in the impairment of PP&E are as follows:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	
At the beginning of the year	(156)		
Additions	(25)	(187)	
Depreciation (i)	1	15	
Uses	80	16	
At the end of the year	(100)	(156)	

(i) Included in depreciation of PP&E.

Details on the nature and movements during the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013 are as follows:

Gross value					Gross value as
as of		Currency			of
December		translation	Transfers and		December
31, 2013	CAPEX	adjustments	reclassifications	Decreases	31, 2014

Land	146		1			147
Building	1,676		9	27	(6)	1,706
Tower and pole	783		58	150		991
Transmission equipment	5,432	32	98	573	(15)	6,120
Mobile network access	3,165	30	141	601		3,937
Switching equipment	6,112	2	186	628	(4)	6,924
Power equipment	1,094	1	38	171	(5)	1,299
External wiring	8,038			1,169	(10)	9,197
Computer equipment and systems	7,295	24	304	742	(115)	8,250
Telephony equipment and						
instruments	768		2	23		793
Equipment lent to customers at						
no cost	124	86		2	(56)	156
Handsets lent to customers at no						
cost	363	32	102			497
Vehicles	254	16	5		(11)	264
Furniture	132	1	7	11		151
Installations	648		12	142		802
Improvements in third parties						
buildings	363	1	23	84		471
Special projects	53			9		62
Construction in progress	2,436	4,072	21	(4,332)	(13)	2,184
Asset retirement obligations	79	7	1			87
Total	38,961	4,304	1,008		(*) (235)	44,038

	Accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2013	Depreciation	Currency translation adjustments	Decreases and transfers	Accumulated depreciation as of December 31, 2014	Net carrying value as of December 31, 2014
Land						147
Building	(1,062)	(31)	(6)	5	(1,094)	612
Tower and pole	(446)	(41)	(25)		(512)	479
Transmission equipment	(4,591)	(245)	(55)	15	(4,876)	1,244
Mobile network access	(2,198)	(352)	(80)		(2,630)	1,307
Switching equipment	(5,175)	(354)	(125)	4	(5,650)	1,274
Power equipment	(737)	(64)	(21)	4	(818)	481
External wiring	(5,914)	(322)		5	(6,231)	2,966
Computer equipment and systems	(5,819)	(694)	(254)	75	(6,692)	1,558
Telephony equipment and						
instruments	(748)	(11)	(2)		(761)	32
Equipment lent to customers at no cost	(54)	(78)		56	(76)	80
Handsets lent to customers at no cost	(347)	(24)	(99)	50	(470)	27
Vehicles	(144)	(24)	(3)	9	(164)	100
Furniture	(99)	(20)	(5)	,	(104)	38
Installations	(445)	(60)	(11)		(516)	286
Improvements in third parties	(++3)	(00)	(11)		(510)	200
buildings	(229)	(65)	(12)		(306)	165
Special projects	(14)	(9)	(12)		(23)	39
Construction in progress	(11)				(23)	2,184
Asset retirement obligations	(38)	(5)	(2)		(45)	42
Total	(28,060)	(2,390)	(700)	(*) 173	(30,977)	13,061

(\*) Includes 50 of net decreases with counterpart in uses of provision corresponding to the impairment of commercial systems of Personal.

	Gross value as of December 31, 2012	CAPEX	Currency translation adjustments	Transfers and reclassifications	Decreases	Gross value as of December 31, 2013
Land	137		1	8		146
Building	1,637	1	6	32		1,676
Tower and pole	665		34	84		783
Transmission equipment	5,181	27	60	177	(13)	5,432
Mobile network access	2,660	6	85	423	(9)	3,165
Switching equipment	5,636	31	112	339	(6)	6,112
Power equipment	957	1	23	113		1,094
External wiring	7,450			599	(11)	8,038
Computer equipment and						
systems	6,224	41	189	847	(6)	7,295
Telephony equipment and						
instruments	763		1	4		768
Equipment lent to customers at						
no cost	151	79		2	(108)	124
Handsets lent to customers at						
no cost	282	17	64			363
Vehicles	223	47	3		(19)	254
Furniture	121	1	4	6		132

Installations	548		8	92		648
Improvements in third parties						
buildings	294	3	13	53		363
Special projects	48			5		53
Construction in progress	1,534	3,689	12	(2,784)	(**) (15)	2,436
Asset retirement obligations	57	21	1			79
Total	34,568	3,964	616		(187)	38,961

	Accumulated depreciation as of		Currency translation	Decreases and	Accumulated depreciation as of December 31,	Net carrying value as of December
	December 31, 2012	Depreciation	adjustments	transfers	2013	31, 2013
Land						146
Building	(1,029)	(29)	(4)		(1,062)	614
Tower and pole	(391)	(40)	(15)		(446)	337
Transmission equipment	(4,378)	(193)	(33)	13	(4,591)	841
Mobile network access	(1,915)	(242)	(46)	5	(2,198)	967
Switching equipment	(4,784)	(320)	(77)	6	(5,175)	937
Power equipment	(673)	(51)	(13)		(737)	357
External wiring	(5,664)	(259)		9	(5,914)	2,124
Computer equipment and systems	(5,028)	(641)	(156)	6	(5,819)	1,476
Telephony equipment and						
instruments	(738)	(9)	(1)		(748)	20
Equipment lent to customers at no						
cost	(91)	(71)		108	(54)	70
Handsets lent to customers at no						
cost	(269)	(16)	(62)		(347)	16
Vehicles	(138)	(21)	(3)	18	(144)	110
Furniture	(90)	(6)	(3)		(99)	33
Installations	(393)	(45)	(7)		(445)	203
Improvements in third parties						
buildings	(177)	(45)	(7)		(229)	134
Special projects	(7)	(7)			(14)	39
Construction in progress						2,436
Asset retirement obligations	(34)	(3)	(1)		(38)	41
Total	(25,799)	(1,998)	(428)	165	(28,060)	10,901

(\*\*) Corresponds to the impairment of commercial systems of Personal recorded in Impairment of PP&E.

#### Note 9 Intangible assets

Intangible assets consist of the following:

	Gross value as of December 31, 2013	CAPEX	Currency translation adjustments	Decreases	Gross value as of December 31, 2014
SAC fixed services	121	126		(70)	177
SAC mobile services	1,140	956	18	(732)	1,382
Service connection or habilitation					
costs	217	30		(40)	207
3G/4G licenses (Note 2.b)		3,530			3,530
PCS license (Argentina)	658				658
PCS and Band B (Paraguay)	489		145		634
Rights of use	357	11	4		372
Exclusivity agreements	41				41
Customer relationship	2				2
Software developed for internal use	508		29		537
Total	3,533	4,653	196	(842)	7,540

	Accumulated amortization as of December 31, 2013	Amortization	Currency translation adjustments	Decreases	Accumulated amortization as of December 31, 2014	Net carrying value as of December 31, 2014
SAC fixed services	(57)	(97)		70	(84)	93
SAC mobile services	(599)	(687)	(8)	732	(562)	820
Service connection or habilitation						
costs	(121)	(27)		40	(108)	99
3G/4G licenses (Note 2.b)		(19)			(19)	3,511
PCS license (Argentina)	(70)				(70)	588
PCS and Band B (Paraguay)	(488)	(1)	(145)		(634)	
Rights of use	(145)	(22)	(1)		(168)	204
Exclusivity agreements	(26)	(1)			(27)	14
Customer relationship						2
Software developed for internal use	(508)		(29)		(537)	
Total	(2,014)	(854)	(183)	842	(2,209)	5,331

	Gross value as of December 31, 2012	CAPEX	Currency translation adjustments	Decreases	Gross value as of December 31, 2013
SAC fixed services	61	88		(28)	121
SAC mobile services	1,217	764	17	(858)	1,140
Service connection or habilitation					
costs	220	30		(33)	