

Press release

# FIXED MARKET REGULATION

## Unbundling tariffs: Arcep renders legally binding the pricing commitment from Orange on fully unbundled access to the copper local loop, subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing, for the years 2026 to 2028

Paris, 15 May 2025

Arcep is adopting a decision that renders legally binding the three-year pricing commitment from Orange for 2026, 2027 and 2028, on unbundled (LLU) access to the copper local loop, subject to an obligation of nonexcessive pricing.

### Orange is required to comply with the price cap on the recurring monthly rate for access to full unbundling, subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing, which has been set at €10.70 per pair and per month up to 2028 included.

The accelerated pace of the copper network switchoff and the ongoing deployment of competing infrastructures led Arcep<sup>1</sup> – as part of the 7<sup>th</sup> round of market analysis (2024-2028) – to distinguish three types of Orange copper local loop access: access subject to an obligation of cost-based pricing, access subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing<sup>2</sup> and access for which price supervision has been lifted.

On the matter of access subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing, Arcep held a public consultation from 4 February to 7 March 2025 on the proposal from Orange<sup>3</sup> for the years 2026 to 2028. The responses to this public consultation led the Authority to make substantial changes to the draft decision. The Authority submitted its draft decision to the European Commission on 1 April 2025. The Commission had no comments to make on this draft decision.

This price cap is identical to the one in effect in 2025.

This capped price is on top of the monthly flat-rate tax on network businesses (IFER), which Arcep adjusts every year to factor in the annual IFER update.

The commitment from Orange, which this Decision has rendered legally binding, also concerns partial unbundling and other full LLU prices, including service access fees, cancellation fees and the VAS+ rate.

#### Associated document

Decision No. 2025-0928 amending Decision No. 2023-2802 on analysis of Market 1 and rendering legally binding the pricing commitment from Orange on fully unbundled access to the copper local loop, which is subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing, for the years 2026 to 2028

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Decision No. 2023-2802 on the definition of the relevant market for wholesale local access provided at a fixed location, on the designation of the operator with significant power in this market and on the obligations imposed on this operator as a result

Access subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing, defined by Article 45 of Decision No. 2023-2802, are those for which "as an exception to Article 44, Orange is subject to an obligation to charge non-excessive prices for access lines located in municipalities where at least 95% of the premises have been connectable to FttH infrastructure for at least nine months, according to the Authority's observatory of broadband and superfast broadband subscription and deployment".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Public consultation following the proposed commitment from Orange for 2026-2028 on copper local loop access prices subject to an obligation of non-excessive pricing

#### Arcep at a glance

The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Postal Affairs and Print Media Distribution (Arcep), a neutral and expert arbitrator with the status of independent administrative authority (IAA), is the architect and guardian of internet, fixed and mobile electronic communications, postal and press distribution networks in France.

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