



# BLACK SEA BROADCASTING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FORUM

Tbilisi, Georgia  
December 12, 2011

## Broadcasting Sector Overview of the Regulatory Framework

Georgian National  
Communications  
Commission

Speaker: Ivane Makharadze

# Georgian National Communications Commission

## General Framework

Georgian National Communications Commission – permanent, collegial, independent regulatory authority for electronic communications and broadcasting that does not subordinate to any state authority.

The new Georgian regulatory framework on Electronic Communications and Broadcasting is in compliance with EU Directives and lays basis for new regulatory trends where the focus is on:

- creating a regime reflecting the current state of competition;**
- establishing a playing field for all operators and**
- taking into account developing markets and technological evolution and neutrality.**
- all electronic communications networks are covered, including networks used for broadcast services**



# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Georgian Law on Broadcasting

Georgian law on broadcasting was elaborated in 2004 with the assistance of experts from Council of European

This law:

- Stimulates freedom of expression
- Ensures competitive environment between broadcasters;
- Provides equality and independence of license holders



# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Georgian Law on Broadcasting

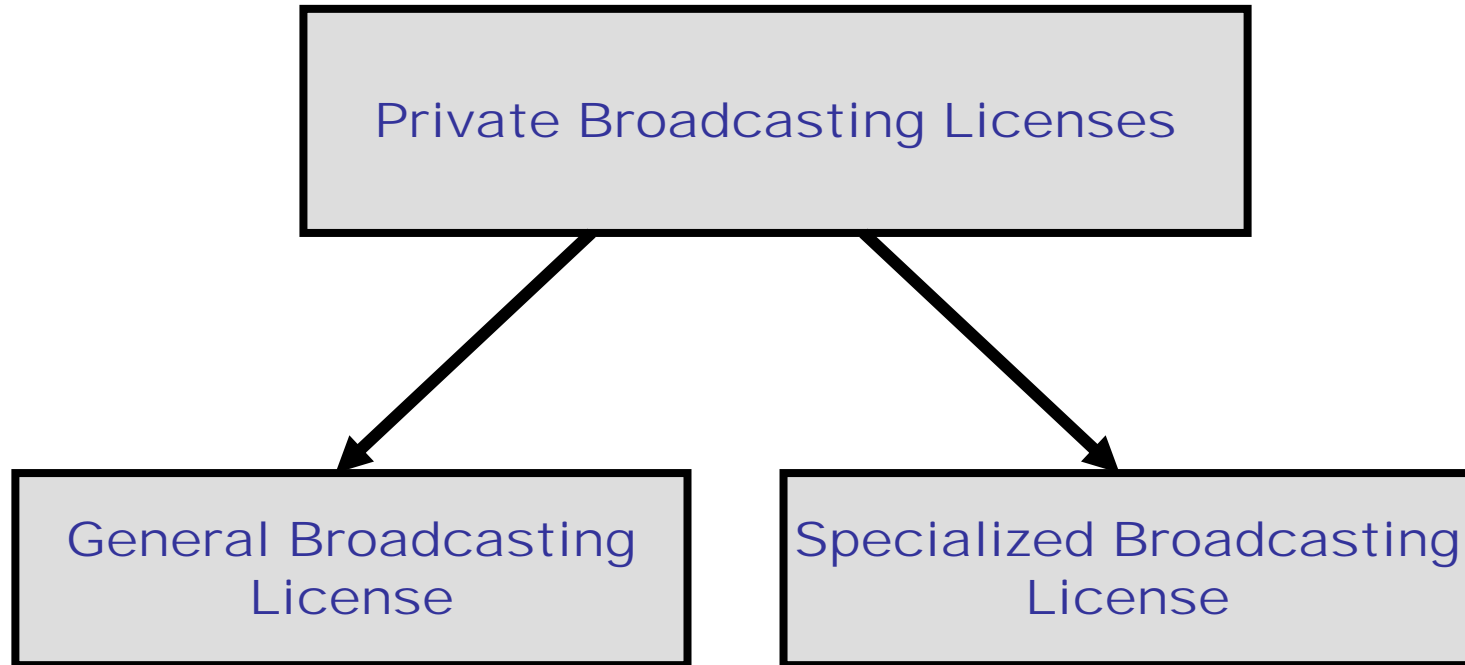
- Promotes efficient use of frequencies
- Streamlines licensing regime
- Ensures transparency
- Establishes Public Broadcaster for the purposes of broadcasting of various programs free from political and commercial influence



# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Licensing regime

### Types of Broadcasting Licenses

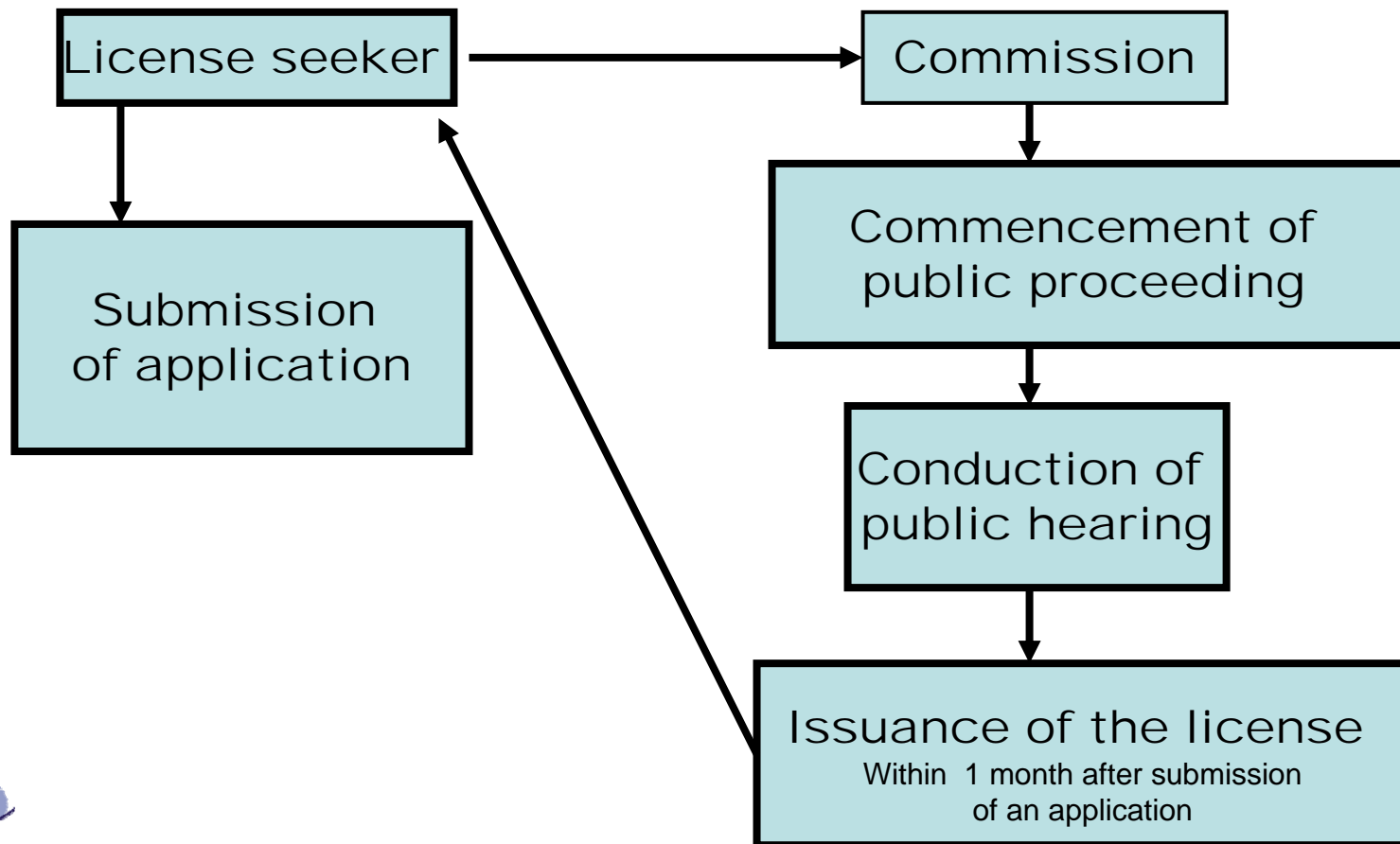


# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Licensing regime

(existing practice in awarding broadcasting licenses)

### Issuance of broadcasting license by means of public proceeding

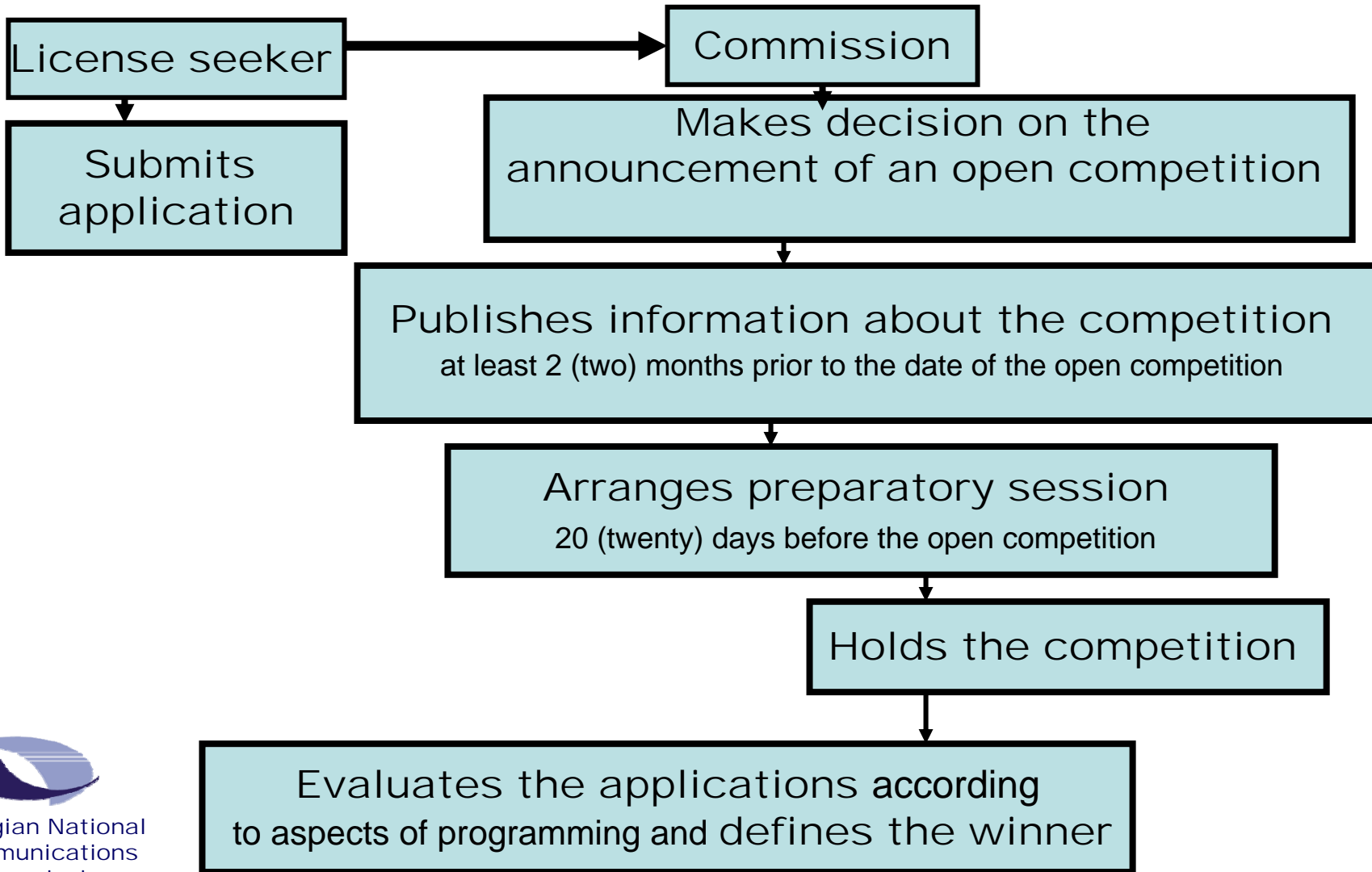


# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Licensing regime

(existing practice in awarding broadcasting licenses)

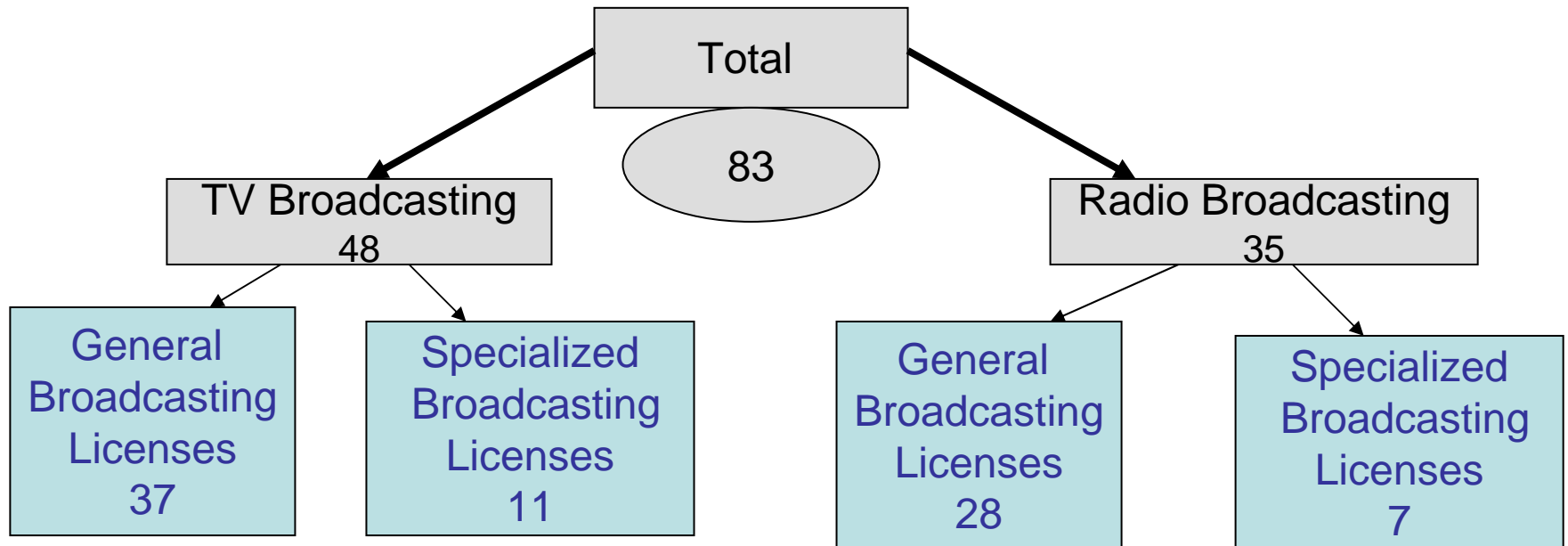
### Issuance of broadcasting license by means of competition



# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Licensing Statistics

### Number of license holders



www.gncc.ge





# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Independence Guarantees for Broadcasters

### Code of Conduct for Broadcasters

**This Code sets out the Principles, rules and recommendations for broadcasters to follow:**

- ✓ Diversity, Equality and Tolerance
- ✓ Editorial Independence
- ✓ Personal Privacy
- ✓ Impartiality
- ✓ Protection of Minors

Broadcasters are free to choose their own systems of accountability consistent with high professional standards and effective complaint handling according to Art. 14 of the Georgian Law on Broadcasting



## Revocation of a License

■ The basis for revocation of a license may be:

- request of the license holder;
- liquidation of the license holder;
- suspension of licensed activity for more than 3 months or 120 days intermittently within one calendar year;
- expiration of the license suspension period in case the license holder fails to eradicate violations;
- failing to commence licensed activity within the period determined by the decision of the Commission;

- Only the Commission is entitled to take a decision on revocation of a license.
- In the case of a license validity period expiring, it is considered that the license is revoked.
- A license holder shall be notified about a decision within 7 working days

# Georgian National Communications Commission

## Future trends

Migration to the Digital Broadcasting by 2015 will:

- **free up a lot of broadcasting** *frequency spectrum*;
- **encourage** investment and innovation **in the broadcasting industry**;
- **Increase** competition **in the broadcasting market**;





Thank you!

Georgian National  
Communications  
Commission