To:         ACCC

From:    Committee for Melbourne

SUBJECT:         ACCC mobile roaming inquiry

Dear Sir / Madam,

I refer to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission’s inquiry into Mobile Roaming.

Mobile services provide many benefits to both metropolitan and regional customers. They are particularly important for businesses and industry to operate in a more effective and efficient way.

Committee for Melbourne is focused on building a leading global city in the world’s fastest-growing region, the Asia-Pacific. The strengths of infrastructure (including mobile technology) helps attract business and industry to Melbourne in knowing that they can transact commerce in metropolitan, regional and rural Australia.

In that context, I note that Regulation of Mobile Roaming should not have the effect of creating complexity, of increasing costs for providers and potentially prices for consumers, and should not undermine the competitive dynamic in the market.

Due to the growing reliance on mobile data through the “Internet of things”, mobile applications  and creating Smart Cities, ACCC’s inquiry should be aiming to provide the telecommunications industry with realistic and achievable methods to encourage ongoing investment in mobile infrastructure from all carriers.

Mandating roaming may have the effect of acting as disincentive to telecommunication carriers to invest in expansion of mobile networks, capacity, research and development.  This in turn may have the consequence of being detrimental to attracting new business and industry to Melbourne.

Kind regards

**Martine Letts** |CEO

**Committee for Melbourne**

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