

Top Global Market Access Updates in 2026

Across the Americas, Asia-Pacific, and EMEA

By Connie Biggs, Global Market Access Manager



Connie Biggs

Top Global Market Access Updates in 2026

Originally from Argentina, Connie has 17 years of experience in telecommunications. She leverages her bilingual skills and expertise in customer excellence, quality, and process improvement to enhance her client's Global Market Access journey. With a decade of experience specifically in Type Approvals, she is equipped to navigate complex markets, with particular insights into Latin American dynamics.

Agenda

- I. Key Regulatory changes in the Americas
 - I. Simplifying certification
 - II. Major shifts in processes
 - III. Label Changes
- II. Authority and Certification Scheme Restructuring
- III. Certificate Validity
- IV. Standard Updates
- V. Spectrum Shifts (2G/3G Phase outs)

Key Regulatory Changes in the Americas

Limited List of Devices Requiring Homologation

These 3 countries have recently taken a simplified approach to Type Approval by limiting the type of devices that require certification. Most SRDs or devices that use Wi-Fi or BT don't require Type Approval to be commercialized in these countries any longer.

Bolivia

- Issued a revised list of devices in scope in Jan 28th, 2026
- The devices in scope include phones (smartphones, cordless or satellite), TV and broadcasting equipment, ground stations and satellite devices, networking devices (switches, routers)

Nicaragua

- Changed their scope to only require Homologation for devices on their restricted list, which includes cellular mobile devices, Backhaul devices, IOT gateways and routers and aeronautical and Maritime VHF and UHF

Bermuda

- In early 2025 Bermuda took a much simpler approach and stopped requiring certification for devices that only use Wi-Fi and/or BT

The not great news: Bolivia went more specific on compliance of VHF, UHF and satellite bands and Nicaragua now also requires a NOC for customs clearance of devices that have approval. They also added a prohibited product list that cannot be approved or imported.

Major Shifts in Processes: Mexico, Argentina, Chile

3 of the Major players in the Americas decided it was time to forgo the old processes and start anew:

Mexico

- IFETEL was dissolved and the new CRT Authority was initiated
- 2 new technical standards were implemented for RF: IFT-016 and IFT-017

Chile

- The biggest change in the region: SUBTEL switched their compliance approach to online self-declarations and stopped issuing Certificates in February 2026
- New QR code linking to the self-declaration is now mandatory on all devices in the country

Argentina

- Argentina changes haven't happened yet but are around the corner.
- Certificates will be issued by CBs instead of ENACOM
- Family Certifications will be allowed
- Validity for professional use devices will be permanent

Mexico: Regulatory Transition from IFETEL to CRT

New Regulatory Authority: CRT

- IFETEL officially dissolved October 17, 2025; replaced by the Comision de Regulacion de Telecomunicaciones (CRT), operational as of October 21, 2025
- All existing IFETEL-issued certificates remain valid; labeling and homologation procedures continue unchanged during the transition, though some smaller shifts have happened (CRT has gone back to requiring physical applications, reversing IFETEL's digital approach)

New Technical Provisions Now Mandatory

- IFT-016-2024: Governs low-power devices across the 30 MHz to 3 GHz spectrum
- IFT-017-2023: Governs wireless devices using digital modulation in the 5 GHz and 6 GHz bands
- Both provisions introduce updated testing parameters, frequency band allocations, and emissions limits; became mandatory in late 2025

IFT Seal Still not Implemented or revised

- There haven't been any updates to labeling, as confirmed with CRT the previous "IFT: ABCDEF26-123456" format remains until new regulations are published.



Chile: Update Self Declaration Rules with QR Code

Resolution 737: Shift to Self-Declaration

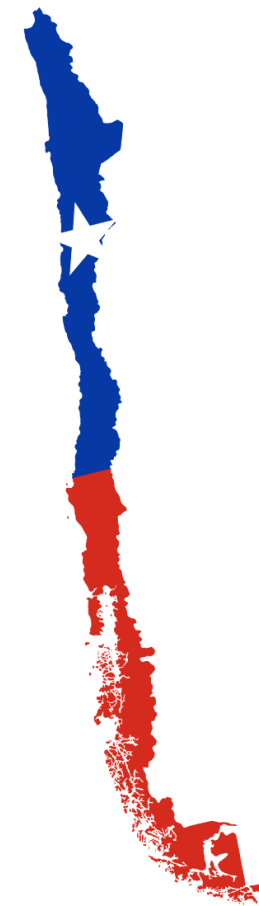
- Effective February 2026, most short-range devices (SRDs) move from SUBTEL certification to a self-declaration model
- Medical-use SRDs still require formal SUBTEL certification

QR Code Now Required

- A QR code linking to a Spanish-language compliance webpage must appear on all product packaging or device documentation
- Applies to all products sold in Chile, including those with existing SUBTEL certificates

Labeling Precision Required

- Model name must be identical to that on test reports
- Any change after testing requires new test reports and update to the Declaration page



Argentina: Updates to Telecom Homologation Framework

Third-Party Certification Bodies Will be Authorized to issue Certificates for ENACOM

- ENACOM Resolution 57/2026 introduces accredited third-party Certification Agencies into the approval process
- Agencies will review test reports, issue Certificates of Conformity, and conduct post-market surveillance.

Product Family Certification Now Accepted

- Multiple models with similar technical characteristics can be grouped under a single homologation

New Certificates Issued with Indefinite Validity

- No expiration date on new registrations - replaces the previous renewal-based model
- Consumer products are subject to post-market surveillance every 2 years; professional use products are not.
- New framework effective September 1, 2026 - existing rules apply until then.

Ramatel Marking on online listings (Active since Feb. 27, 2026)

- RAMATEL registration number must be displayed in all online product listings (e-commerce and online sellers)



Label Changes: Nicaragua, Chile, & Marketing Additional Requirements for BR and Arg.

Nicaragua

- New Label requirement: “Homologado por Telcor” + certificate number must show on all new approved devices
- Must be affixed to the product, no QR codes or e-Labels accepted

Chile

- All devices in use in Chile must have the QR Code (that point to the Self-Declaration page) on the package
- If this is not possible, it can go on the device or the manual

Argentina & Brazil

- Argentina and Brazil now require the RAMATEL and ANATEL IDs to be displayed in any online product listing or publication

Authority and Certification Scheme Restructuring

Authority and Certification Scheme Restructuring

Lebanon

- Authority changed from MoT to TRA in 2026
- All certificates must be re-issued under TRA for the device to be compliant since March 11th

Yemen

- Yemen has now 2 independent regulatory bodies that don't recognize each other's certificates
- Devices to be sold in Yemen will need to have both certifications

Moldova

- Effective February 2026, Moldova recognizes the CE Mark as sufficient proof of compliance and doesn't require local certification any longer

Cameroon

- Cameroon didn't make any changes to existing regulations, but ART started enforcing sample requirements in 2026; something that could be bypassed by request in the past is now a non-negotiable requirement for both new approvals and certificate renewals

Lebanon: Transition to New Regulatory Authority

Authority Change: MOT Replaced by TRA

- TRA officially took over all type approval responsibilities as of January 2026
- MOT ceased issuing certificates as of December 10, 2025

Re-Certification Required for All Previously Certified Devices

- All MOT-issued certificates are no longer valid - re-certification under TRA is required - No grace period
- Any open MOT certification processes have been cancelled by the Authority.

New Framework and Local Agent Requirement

- New application schemes (Scheme 1, 2, 3) to be introduced under Board Decision No. 9/2025 - details pending
- A registered local agent is now required for all new applications



Yemen: Dual Regulatory Regimes Require Area-Specific Certification

Two Separate Regulatory Authorities

- Yemen has two independent regulatory bodies that do not recognize each other's certificates
- Aden-controlled areas and Sana'a administration govern its own separate zones

Certificate Validity Tied to Destination

- Incorrect certificate for the destination area results in refusal of entry
- Applies to all shipments air, land, sea, and internal movement
- A product certified under one regime is not valid in the other's territory

Aden Authority: New Schematic Requirement

- All applications must now include a schematic diagram of the product
- Electronic certificate issued first as a preliminary shipping document
- Final paper certificate is the official reference and must match all submitted information



Certificate Validity Changes

Certificate Validity Changes

The following Authorities have changed the validity of their certificates in 2026:

Venezuela

- Validity changed from Indefinite to 1 year
- Existing certifications not affected

Algeria

- Validity changed from 3 to 5 years
- Applies to new certificates and renewals

Argentina

- Validity will change from 3 years to Indefinite
- But Market surveillance every 2 years will be required for consumer products

Vietnam

- Validity of certifications under Methods 2-5 changed from 3 years to 5 years.

Standard Updates

Standards Updates

Paraguay

- Wi-Fi 6 now enabled and existing certificates can be updated to include it instead of requiring new certification

India

- IS 13252 and IS 616:2017 standards are transitioning to IEC 62368-1
- Currently, only Extended Reality products are mandatory to IEC 62368-2 by May 2026, other products can still be certified to IS 13252 until November 2028
- Valid BIS certifications will need a Standard revision to complete before November 2028

Vietnam

- Updated Type Approval regulations under Circular No. 14/2026/TT-BKHCN, enacted on May 2026
- The 8 certification methods are now formally defined and the difference between Voluntary and Mandatory Declaration is now official

Indonesia

- New Frequency Bands Added: Band 41 for LTE: 2496 MHz to 2690 MHz / Band n41 for 5G NR: 2496 MHz to 2690 MHz

Australia: Mandatory Cyber Rules for Smart Devices

New Mandatory Cybersecurity Regulation

- Cyber Security (Security Standards for Smart Devices) Rules 2025 fully effective March 4, 2026
- Applies to connectable consumer products for personal/domestic use in Australia Excludes laptops, tablets, smartphones, therapeutic goods, and road vehicles

Three Core Security Requirements

- No universal default passwords - must be unique per device or user-defined
- Vulnerability reporting must publish a contact point with defined response timelines
- Security update support period must publish a specific end date; cannot be shortened once set

Statement of Compliance Required

- Must accompany every in-scope product at point of supply
- Must include product details, declaration of conformity, support period, and date of issue
- Manufacturers and suppliers must retain documentation for five years



Brazil: New Regulation Impacting Testing

Act No. 14158 Becomes Mandatory April 6, 2026

- Updates standards across radar, 5G, and wireless audio systems
- Introduces a new frequency section covering 116 GHz to 246 GHz (Section 25)

5 GHz Wi-Fi Band Revisions

- Revised out-of-band and spurious emission limits for 2.4 GHz and 5.8 GHz bands
- Updated test procedures for 6 GHz Wi-Fi devices (Article 18, amending Act 237/2022)
- Access Points now permitted for indoor and outdoor use in the 5.150 to 5.250 MHz band
- New explicit vertical radiation limitation added to protect satellite and aeronautical services
- Power limits now expressed in conducted power rather than total EIRP, impacting lab test setups

57 to 71 GHz Device Updates

- Article 8 (Item 17) revised with updated requirements for devices operating in the 57 to 71 GHz range



China: Updated RoHS Catalogue

Announcement No. 11 of 2026

- Updates on the Catalogue of Restricted Hazardous Substances and exceptions
- Expansion of devices in scope

Added Phthalates

- Four new Phthalates added to the restricted substances, mirroring EU RoHS
 - Di-n-butyl phthalate (DBP)
 - Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)
 - Butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP)
 - Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)

Update of product categories subject to compliance

- Effective from date of publication (May 28th, 2026): AC units, refrigerators, washing machines, electric water heaters, TV sets, monitoring equipment (excluding cameras until 2027), printer, copiers, microcomputers, mobile phones, telephones
- Effective August 1st, 2027: Industrial washers, air purifiers, water dispensers, electric ovens, microwave ovens, rice cookers, vacuum cleaners, gas water heaters, projectors, smart speakers, smart locks, servers, switchers and routers, smartwatches, headphones, portable power, desk lamps, electronic toys, electronic BP monitors, blood glucose meters and hearing aids



Spectrum Shifts

2G and 3G Network Decommissioning: Global Overview

The following countries have announced, mandated, or begun the retirement of 2G and/or 3G networks as part of the global transition to 4G and 5G infrastructure.

- **Qatar:** 3G / By December 31, 2025 / Mandated by CRA; import of 2G/3G-only devices already banned
- **Israel:** 2G and 3G / Effective January 1, 2026 / Ministry of Communications mandate; 4G LTE minimum required for all new devices
- **Philippines:** 3G / By December 31, 2026 / NTC mandate; type approval for 2G/3G-only devices already halted; 2G to follow on separate schedule
- **Andorra:** 3G / Gradual shutdown begins October 2026 / Andorra Telecom-led; 2G sunset date not yet set
- **Eswatini:** 2G and 3G / 2G: December 2025 to December 2026; 3G: December 2027 to December 2028 / ESCCOM proposed decision; import ban on 2G/3G-only devices effective December 2024
- **South Africa:** 2G and 3G / Shutdown commenced June 2025; full completion by December 2027 / Government mandate; new device activations on 2G/3G ceased December 2024
- **Vietnam:** 2G and 3G / 3G by September 2028; 2G to follow / Operator-led; Viettel completed 3G shutdown in 2023; government-directed phaseout
- **Brazil:** 2G and 3G / Proposed; timeline pending final regulation / ANATEL Public Consultation No. 36/2024; new certifications for 3G-only devices already restricted

Note: The GSA (July 2025) reports 278 completed, planned, or in-progress 2G/3G switch-offs across 83 countries and territories as of June 2025. Europe leads with 46% of all shutdowns, followed by Asia at 27%.

Questions?

Remember These Key Takeaways:

- **Regulatory Authorities Are Restructuring**
 - Agencies in multiple markets have been dissolved or replaced - previously issued certificates may no longer be valid
 - New local agent requirements are emerging across regions
- **Certification Processes Are Shifting**
 - Some markets are simplifying (self-declaration, limited device lists); others are adding new layers of complexity
 - Staying current with each market's process is essential to avoid delays
- **Validity of certifications is always shifting**
 - Many countries are changing the validity of their certifications, making it important to keep good track of expirations on every case.
- **The 2G/3G Phase-Out Is Accelerating**
 - 83+ countries are retiring legacy networks; import bans and approval restrictions are already active in key markets
 - Manufacturers certifying 2G/3G-only devices must act now

Thank You

For More Information, Scan the QR Code
with your Phone's Camera or
Email Us at support@globalvalidity.com.

