# Spectru

Contents

## ☐ ANACOM AGENDA FOR 2008

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has disclosed its strategy agenda for 2008, through the speech by board member José Ferrari Careto at the 17th Communications Congress held on 4-6 December – an initiative organised by the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC). During his presentation on the subject of "Regulation – national vision", José Ferrari Careto outlined the main aspects of sector regulation vis-à-vis current challenges, and indicated the major areas of ANACOM intervention in 2008: secondary spectrum trading; digital dividend; spectrum allocation in the 2.6 GHz band; mobile television (ahead of the switch-off); assessment of effective spectrum use; regulatory approach for next generation networks (NGNs); determination of regulatory accounting for mobile services; universal service financing; revision of market studies; and designation of universal service operator. The regulator's action will also extend to previously-covered areas such as the regulatory accounting of fixed service and the portability regime. **(+info)**

## ☐ NAKED DSL (NDSL) – CLARIFICATION

As a number of doubts have been raised on the issue, ANACOM clarified that as per the recommendation set in the determination dated 25 July, PT *Comunicações* (PTC) included on 31 October the Naked DSL (NDSL) offer (wholesale offer of exclusive line for broadband services) in its "PT ADSL Network" wholesale offer. Naked DSL is an offer PTC makes available to other providers that enables ADSL services to be offered to end users without obliging the contracting or maintenance of fixed telephone service. The offer will become operational on 1 February 2008, after which interested providers may, if they so desire and bearing in mind their business strategy, provide NDSL-based retail offers. This development may significantly boost the penetration of broadband services and competition, especially in less populated areas and among poorer populations, as it may reduce the total costs end users pay for broadband internet access. **(+info)**

## ☐ FTS PROVIDERS – DISCLOSURE OF MARKET SHARES

ANACOM approved last 28 November the disclosure of the subscriber, customer and traffic shares of the fixed telephone service (FTS) providers. The aim of this release is to enhance sector knowledge and also help boost market development and competition. It may also serve as a reference for developing studies on same, besides fostering transparency and ensuring that everyone has access to information enabling better choices and decisions. The broken down information referred to in this ANACOM decision will specifically be included in the statistical reports on FTS released quarterly and posted by this Authority on the internet, as is the case with internet access services, in which the third quarter 2007 report includes the customer share trends per operator in fixed access. **(+info)**

## ■ INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF BROADBAND PRICES

ANACOM recently released a report with main results of the study on the international comparison of fixed and mobile broadband prices in effect in November and July 2007 in 15 European Union member States (EU 15). However, in the case of fixed broadband, the information only refers to 13 countries in the EU 15. The study indicates that the minimum price for (fixed) broadband in Portugal in November 2007 was the third lowest (at the level of Austria, Sweden and Denmark), and was 32.6 percent below the average in the countries examined. For the historic operator it was the fourth lowest among its counterparts in the other countries. Regarding internet access services, Portugal continues to rank among the countries with the lowest prices for most download speeds. For speeds of between 2 and 8 Mbps, Portugal ranks from third to fifth place with prices below the average in the other countries, but with prices above that average for offers at 1 Mbps. The price for the most used offers (4 Mbps) in Portugal is about 46 percent below the average in the countries considered and is the fourth lowest. **(+info)**

ANACOM
AUTORIDADE NACIONAL DE COMUNICAÇÕES

## ■ CURRENT EVENTS

### ANACOM DISCLOSES 2008-2010 MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Management Plan of the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) for the 2008-2010 triennium is now available. It covers the mission, vision and values that identify this Authority, as well as a set of critical factors for success, goals and strategic actions for the period in question. The plan is based on diverse methodologies adapted in previous years, and for the first time includes several overall activity indicators that will be followed on a quarterly basis, to ensure continual improvement of performance, measured in terms of organisational effectiveness and efficiency. The document also includes resource plans (for personnel and investment) and the financial plan, which identify the means used to pursue the objectives and strategic actions indicated for the triennium and for carrying out other ANACOM activities. **(+info)**

The Yearbook for the Communications Sector in Portugal (electronic communications and postal services) has also been released. Beyond an overview of the communication sector's influence on the Portuguese economy in 2006, the publication provides information on the stock market evolution of communications sector companies in Portugal during the period from January 2006 to June 2007, besides individual information on companies operating in the Portuguese communications sector.

### ACP – MOBILE VIRTUAL NETWORK OPERATOR

ANACOM issued on 6 November the declaration allowing ACP – *Comunicações Electrónicas, Unipessoal*, Lda. to provide mobile telephone service as a mobile virtual network operador (MVNO), and to offer services of resale of short data traffic (SMS), internet access and other data transmission services.

### NEW POSTAL OPERATORS

By order dated 23 November, ANACOM granted authorisations to provide postal services that are not reserved and not covered by the scope of universal service to the following companies: Mendes & Pereira Sousa, Lda., Joaquim Luiz Martha, Lda., and Atlantilégua – *Serviços Postais*, Lda. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

As part of its oversight and sanctions activity, ANACOM filed an administrative offence case that resulted in Qamar Shahzad being fined a thousand euros on 23 May 2006. As this amount was only partially paid, the Authority decided last 19 October to take judicial action to ensure execution of the unpaid fine.

**(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

Also with respect to administrative offence cases, in the area of electronic communications services TMN was fined 6,000 euros, COLT Telecom 12,500 euros and Novis Telecom 7,500 euros. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

### INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS – CANCELLATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

By order dated 31 October, ANACOM cancelled the registration of Odiphone – *Serviços e Equipamentos de Comunicação*, on the company's own request. Also provisionally suspended, by order dated last 29 August, are the registrations of the certifying entities RIBATEL – *Equipamentos de Telecomunicações* and Monticanalizações e Instalações Eléctricas for a period of three months counting from the respective notifications on 31 August 2007. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** On 16 November ANACOM also decided to extend for 30 days the provisional suspension of the registration of the certifying entity PONTAL – *Comércio de Material Eléctrico e Derivados*, as it was necessary to seek additional information and conduct the respective technical analyses; the grounds for applica-

tion were maintained. On 27 November a similar measure was decided with regard to the above-mentioned certifying entity Monticanalizações e Instalações Eléctricas. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

### PORTUGUESE URSI COMMITTEE – SEMINAR

The presentations and work submitted to the first seminar of the Portuguese URSI Committee have been posted online. It was held on 28 November in Lisbon, with the following theme topic: "Radiocommunications – new paradigms and health impact". Note that organisation of the Committee's work, related to the nationwide promotion and co-ordination of studies in the area of radio, telecommunications and electronics, has been entrusted to ANACOM. **(+info)**

### PORTED NUMBERS

At the end of November 2007 the number of ported numbers had risen to 814,893, of which 646,358 are fixed telephone service (FTS) numbers, while 167,806 pertain to mobile telephone service (MTS) and 729 to non-geographic services (NGS). **(+info)**

### RIGHTS OF WAY – UPDATES

As per its powers, ANACOM has been posting online updates to the municipal fee for rights of way (MFRW). The provision of this information does not, however, dispense operators from confirming the applicable percentages and conversion tables with the corresponding municipalities. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

### THIRD QUARTER 2007 STATISTICS RELEASED

ANACOM has released statistical information on the third quarter of this year for the following services: postal, fixed telephone, mobile telephone, subscription TV signal distribution and internet access. **(+info)**

### ANACOM PUBLIC SPEECHES

The presentation on "Postal Sector Liberalisation", given by ANACOM board member José Ferrari Careto at the conference of APOCEEP (Portuguese Association of the European Centre for Companies with Public Participation and/or General Economic Interest) held last 27 November in Lisbon, is now available. **(+info)**

### REGULATION AT THE APDC CONGRESS

The Communications Congress organised by the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC) was held last 4-6 December in Estoril. ANACOM participated with a speech given by its president, José Amado da Silva, on the panel "The Challenges of the New Regulation", which also included the presidents of ECTA (Innocenzo Genna) and ETNO (Alfredo Acebal) and was moderated by Álvaro Dâmaso, and by board member José Ferrari Careto on the panel "Regulation – national vision", moderated by the journalist Alexandra Machado. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**
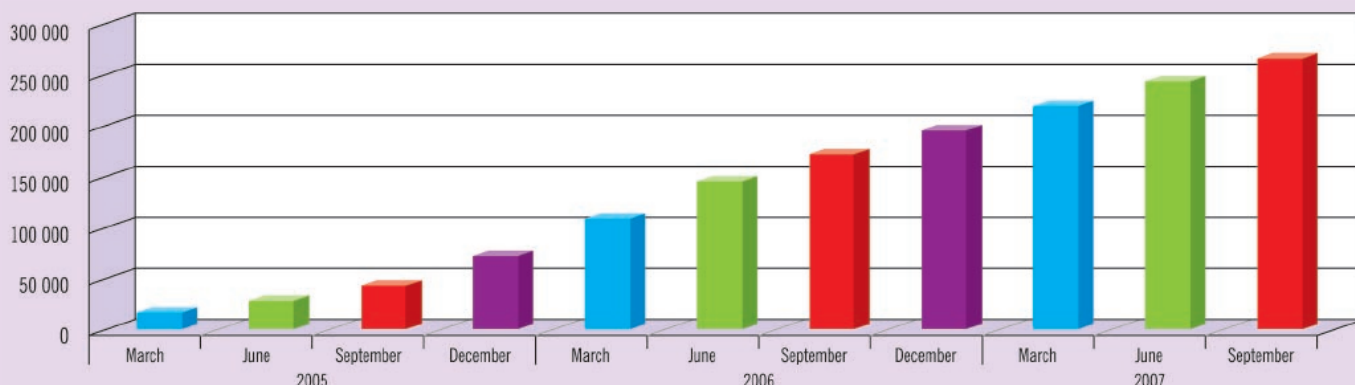
### ACEP – 4TH ELECTRONIC COMMERCE WEEK

Most of the presentations regarding the Debate axis given in the various seminars, workshops and discussions during the fourth Electronic Commerce Week are now available. The initiative was organised by the Portuguese Association for e-Commerce (ACEP), in partnership with the Knowledge Society Agency (UMIC), and held on 6-16 November. **(+info)**

The ACEP used the occasion to launch a new edition of the practical guide on "Buying on the Internet", addressed to consumers. **(+info)**

The ACEP has also released the Quarterly Barometer on Electronic Commerce in Portugal, concerning the second quarter of 2007. **(+info)**

## ■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF UNBUNDLED ACCESSES

| 2005 | | | | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| March | June | September | December | March | June | September | December | March | June | September |
| 15 916 | 27 987 | 43 127 | 72 019 | 108 794 | 145 614 | 172 082 | 195 754 | 219 653 | 244 068 | 266 536 |



## □ NEW QUALTIY POLICY FOR ANACOM LABS

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved the new quality policy for its laboratories in a determination dated 14 November, whereby a management system is implemented in compliance with requirements of the standard NP EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005 – "General Competence Requirements for Testing and Calibration Laboratories". This continues maintenance of the process of accrediting the ANACOM electromagnetic compatibility and radio metrology labs with the Portuguese Accreditation Institute (IPAC). **(+info)**

## □ CHANGES TO THE 2007 RIO AND LLRO – FINAL DECISION

By determination dated 7 November, ANACOM approved the final decision on changes to make to the reference interconnection offer in effect in 2007 (RIO 2007) and in the leased lines reference offer (LLRO). PT *Comunicações* (PTC) was thus obliged to modify various aspects of the RIO 2007, most of them concerning prices, as well as the LLRO with respect to the interconnection conditions inside PTC exchanges. **(+info)**

## □ CTT QUALITY SYSTEM IN 2004

Also on 7 November, AANCOM approved publication of a report on the quality system for universal postal service of the CTT – *Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service) in financial year 2004. This followed an audit of the operator's quality of service indicators (QSIs) and complaints system ordered by this Authority and carried out by an independent body. In the wake of the audit ANACOM addressed to the CTT various determinations and recommendations aiming to perfect the respective QSI monitoring systems and the handling of complaints. **(+info)**

## □ SEMINARS ON INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS

Two seminars were held on 11 December in Lisbon, on issues involving the system for telecommunications infrastructures in buildings (the Portuguese acronym is ITED), specifically the training and certification components, both organised by ANACOM. The morning was given over to trainers and the afternoon to certifying bodies. ANACOM's objective has been to encourage debate among sector professionals, obtain more detailed and precise knowledge of the problems facing entities involved in ITED and promote clarification of daily questions concerning this technical standard. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

## ■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Administrative Rule no. 1492/2007** (Series I – *Diário da República* of 20 November) – Approves the regulation extending the collective work contract and modifications for audio broadcasting activity.
- **Administrative Rule no. 1448/2007** (Series I – D.R. of 12 November) – Establishes for a one-year period a minimum share of 25 percent of Portuguese music in the musical programming of audio broadcasting program service.
- **Decree-Law no. 371/2007** (Series I – D.R. of 6 November) – Modifies Decree-Law no. 156/2005 of 15 September, establishing the mandatory availability of a complaints book in all establishments that supply goods and render services to consumers.

**(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

## ■ DETERMINATIONS ADOPTED BY ANACOM – 3RD QUARTER 2007

| Date | Decision |
|---|---|
| 19.09.2007 | Transfer of rights to use frequencies and numbers of OPTIMUS to NOVIS TELECOM (draft decision) **(+info)** |
| 13.09.2007 | Designation of CEARTE as ITED training entity **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 13.09.2007 | Approval of Regulation modifying Regulation 1/2006 **(+info)** |
| 11.09.2007 | Cancellation of registration of certifying entity Leonel Barbeiro **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 10.09.2007 | Designation of CICLORAMA as ITED training entity **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 05.09.2007 | Designation of '116' range in the NNP for harmonised social services **(+info)** |
| 05.09.2007 | Values for the quality of service indicators used by the CTT in 2006 **(+info)** |
| 29.08.2007 | Return of amount to OPTIMUS **(+info)** |
| 29.08.2007 | Digital terrestrial television broadcasting (consultations) **(+info)** |
| 29.08.2007 | Consultation for audit and consultancy on results of the CTT cost accounting system **(+info)** |
| 29.08.2007 | Consultation for audit on the quality of service indicators and complaints system of the CTT **(+info)** |
| 29.08.2007 | Quality of service indicators and complaints system – 2004 (draft decision) **(+info)** |
| 22.08.2007 | Contract of PT Prime to provide internet access service **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 16.08.2007 | Acquisition of portable spectral analysis systems **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 10.08.2007 | Dispute between TV Cabo and other cable television distribution operators (decision) **(+info)** |
| 10.08.2007 | Public consultation on infrastructures registry **(+info)** |
| 09.08.2007 | Provisional suspension of certifying entity PONTAL **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 02.08.2007 | Wholesale market for broadcasting services to deliver content disseminated to end users **(+info)** |
| 25.07.2007 | Report from the public consultation on the wholesale offer of exclusive line for broadband services ("Naked DSL") **(+info)** |
| 25.07.2007 | NFAP 2007 **(+info)** |
| 25.07.2007 | Directory and information service under universal service **(+info)** |
| 25.07.2007 | Pre-selection cancellations – imposition of obligations on PTC and Tele2 **(+info)** |
| 23.07.2007 | TMN mobile telephone service adhesion contract **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 23.07.2007 | Eportel Telecom contract to provide VoIP service **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 23.07.2007 | Adhesion contract of Worldbroker Telecomunicações for electronic communications services **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 18.07.2007 | Values of the CTT quality of service indicators used in 2006 **(+info)** |
| 16.07.2007 | Cancellation of registration of the certifying entity Gabiforma – *Formação, Serviços e Computadores* **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 12.07.2007 | Designation of the '92' numbering range of the NNP for mobile telephone service **(+info)** |
| 12.07.2007 | Changes to the specification for the RIO interconnection agreement (draft decision) **(+info)** |
| 06.07.2007 | Cancellation of registration of the certifying entity ESPAÇOFONE **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |
| 05.07.2007 | Cancellation of registration of the certifying entity Imotron **(+info, *Portuguese only*)** |

## ■ CO-OPERATION

### – WITH MOROCCO

Lisbon hosted on 5 November the first meeting of the standing ANACOM-ANRT working group established as part of bilateral co-operation between the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) and its Moroccan counterpart, the National Telecommunications Regulation Agency (ANRT). The current co-operation protocol for the telecommunications area was formalised in April 2007 during the 9th Portugal/Morocco Summit. **(+info)**

### – WITH AFRICA AND EAST TIMOR

ANACOM conducted in October and November 2007 three co-operation training programmes that brought to Lisbon 47 employees of the communications regulators in East Timor, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Mozambique. The training actions encompassed micro-informatics, communication and image, and financial and human resources management. ANACOM also hosted on 5-9 November a working visit by the co-ordinator of spectrum management and oversight activities from the National Communications Agency (ANAC) of Cape Verde.

## ☐ ECTA RELEASES 2007 REGULATORY SCORECARD

The European Competition in Telecommunications Association (ECTA) released last 28 November the 2007 Regulatory Scorecard. This study ranks Portugal in eighth place, above Spain, Hungary and Ireland – an improvement over the 2006 report, where Portugal ranked tenth out of 17 countries. Norway, which only entered this year, was ranked ahead of Portugal. The Regulatory Scorecard is a publication comparing the regulatory context and application of the current regulatory framework for electronic communications in 19 European countries: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. **(+info)**

## ☐ EUROPEAN UNION

### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS – REFORM PROPOSALS

The European Commission (EC) presented last 14 November a set of proposals to reform the regulatory framework for electronic communications. The aim is to enhance competition and lower prices in the community market. Noteworthy is the recommendation on relevant markets that should be subject to specific legislation; the Commission upholds that in principle the national regulatory bodies do not need to regulate half of the current 18 markets heretofore subject to ex ante regulation. The EC also proposes the creation of a European regulatory authority for the communications sector and a new framework for radio spectrum, new consumer rights and a more wide-ranging supply to consumers through enhanced competition. **(+info)**

Also with respect to revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications, the Information Society and Media Directorate-General recently published the study on "Benchmarking Impacts of EU Policy – options for economically efficient management of radio spectrum", prepared by the SCF Associates consultancy, and which served as a support for the EC decision--making on the reform proposals. **(+info)**

### DIGITAL DIVIDEND AND RADIO SPECTRUM

The European Commission (EC) adopted last 13 November a Communication on a common position on the use of radio spectrum, bearing in mind the introduction of digital television in the European Union (EU). The EC concluded that the introduction of digital TV, to be carried out by 2012, is a unique opportunity to strengthen the industry in the areas of mobile communications and television broadcasting, and may significantly help achieve the goals set in the Lisbon Agenda, particularly regarding competition and economic growth. **(+info)**

### ICT SECTOR – RESULTS OF THE EC CONSULTATION

The European Commission (EC) recently published responses to the public consultation launched last July that sought to identity the existing global pitfalls and opportunities for European companies to do business in the information and communication technologies (ICT) sector. The EC thus hopes to formulate a more ambitious European strategy for the sector. **(+info)**

Also with respect to ICTs, the list of security standards for information and communication technologies is now available. They are identified in the ICT Security Standards Roadmap, which has been developed since early 2007 by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) together with the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) and the Network and Information Security Steering Group (NISSG). **(+info)**

### SOCIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE IN '116'

The European Commission (EC) adopted last 29 October Decision 2007/698/EC, introducing new reserved numbers beginning with '116', thus modifying Decision 2007/116/EC of 15 February 2007, which reserves the national number range beginning with '116' for harmonised social services. The first number in the range, 116000, was reserved for the 'hotline for missing children' service, while the numbers 116111 and 116123 were respectively assigned to the 'child helpline' and 'emotional support helpline' services. **(+info)**

### 'AUDIOVISUAL WITHOUT FRONTIERS' DIRECTIVE

The European Parliament (EP) formally approved last 29 November the Council's common position on the new directive for audiovisual media services without frontiers. This directive aims to modernise the standards applied to the European audiovisual industry, adjusting sector regulations to technological progress and market dynamics. It updates the previous 'Television without Borders' Directive. **(+info)**

### MOBILE TELEVISION

The EP recently published a study assessing main issues in the European debate on the subject of mobile TV. The document emphasises that there is no industry consensus on the most suitable support technology for mobile television: digital audio broadcasting – internet protocol (DAB-IP), terrestrial digital multimedia broadcasting (T-DMB), digital video broadcast – handheld (DVB-H) or forward link only (FLO). DVB-H is nevertheless currently deemed to be the most favourable standard. **(+info)**

### POSTAL SERVICES – EC COMMUNICATION

In a communication to the European Parliament (EP) dated 9 November, the European Commission (EC) indicated its agreement with the Council's common position on a directive put forward by the latter and by the EP, which alters Directive 97/67/EC concerning full achievement of an internal market for postal services in the European Union (EU). The EC "takes the view that the common position fully reflects the key elements of its initial proposal", which was presented on 19 October 2006, and that it also respects the changes made by the European Parliament in the first reading. Noteworthy among those changes is the final date for application of the amending directive (31 December 2010), the possibility that some member States can postpone total market liberalisation for a maximum of two more years, and the inclusion of a temporary reciprocity clause applicable to the member States that use that transition period. **(+info)**

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL – CONCLUSIONS

Brussels hosted last 29-30 November and 3 December the European Union Council of Ministers of Transport, Telecommunications and Energy, chaired by Portugal. It resulted in decisions on communications matters such as mobile television (mobile TV), info-inclusion and satellite radionavigation systems. The Council also took note of recent European Commission proposals concerning revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications, and agreed with the respective objectives. Doubts were nevertheless raised by a significant number of member States regarding the proposal to create a "European regulator" – the European Electronic Communications Market Authority (EECMA). As for mobile TV, and based on the Commission Communication dated 18 July 2007 on the strategy of strengthening the internal market for mobile TV, the Council stressed that Digital Video Broadcasting-Handheld (DVB-H) was the most suitable standard for developing mobile TV in the EU. An agreement in principle was also adopted concerning the proposed directive revoking the GSM Directive (86/372/EE) and progress was noted on the proposed decision concerning the selection and authorisation of systems that offer mobile services by satellite. Regarding info-inclusion, the Commission presented to the Communication Council the "European i2010 Initiative on Info-inclusion – to be part of the information society". The Council also reiterated the importance of the European satellite radionavigation programmes, EGNOS and Galileo, as key projects for the EU and supported the implementation by 2013 of a European satellite navigation system that provides five services: open service, safety of life service, commercial service, public regulated service, and search and rescue service. **(+info)**

## CEPT (INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATIONS) MEETINGS

**ERO/ETO – AD HOC AUDIT GROUP**

Copenhagen hosted last 23 November the fourth and last meeting of the ad hoc Audit group set up by the joint Councils of the European Radiocommunications Office and the European Telecommunications Office (ERO/ETO). **(+info)**

**CERP – PT UPU**

The Swiss capital Berne served as venue last 1 November for a meeting of the UPU project team (PT) of the working group (WG) on Policy Issues of the European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP). **(+info)**

## INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)

**CONTACT NETWORK**

The fourth meeting of the Contact Network of the IRG and the European Regulators Group (ERG) was held last 15-16 November in Budapest. **(+info)**

**PT INTERNATIONAL ROAMING**

The project team (PT) on International Roaming met last 7 November in Paris. **(+info)**

**PT NGN**

The German city of Bonn hosted last 29-30 November another meeting of the project team for next generation networks (PT NGN). **(+info)**

**WG RA**

The working group on regulatory accounting (WG RA) met last 22-23 November in Stockholm. **(+info)**

**WG IRGIS**

Berlin hosted last 5-6 November a meeting of the IRGIS working group (WG), chaired by ANACOM. More than 40 representatives from the 37 IRG countries attended. **(+info)**

## EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ETSI)

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY –** The 50th ETSI General Assembly was held in the French city of Nice on 27-28 November. **(+info)**

## INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (UIT)

**ITU-T STUDY GROUP 2 –** Geneva hosted from 30 October to 8 November a meeting of Study Group 2 of the ITU Standardisation Sector (ITU-T). **(+info)**

## UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)

**COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

The annual session of the UPU Council of Administration took place from 22 October to 9 November in Berne, chaired by Romania and attended by the Council member countries, observers and guests. **(+info)**

## POSTAL UNION OF THE AMERICAS, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL (UPAEP)

**POSTAL REGULATION FORUM**

Madrid hosted the annual session of the UPAEP Postal Regulation Forum, held on 26-28 November with the participation of various Latin American countries, Spain, Portugal (represented by ANACOM and the CTT) and the UPU. **(+info)**

## LATIN-AMERICAN FORUM OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITIES (REGULATEL)

**PLENARY MEETING – GUATEMALA**

The 10th Regulatel plenary meeting was held on 9 November in Guatemala, where the theme topic was "Regulatory Challenge for Economic Development and Social Inclusion – regulation for a regional development plan for ICTs in Latin America". **(+info)**

## UPU AND AICEP SIGN CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators in the Portuguese-speaking Countries and Territories (AICEP) signed on 7 November in Berne a two-year co-operation agreement worth 120,000 dollars (about 80,000 euros), based on a Regional Development Plan established by both sides. Based on this co-operation project, electronic tools and the necessary training to create lasting procedures to reform the respective postal services will be placed at the disposal of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe. **(+info)**

## ITU HIRING

The deadline to submit applications to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for a vacant position in the category of Head, Market Information and Statistics Division, Policies and Strategies Department, is 3 January 2008. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

## ■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

**GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)**
· The regulator recently approved the 2008 postal rates for mail weighing up to 1,000 grams (one kilo) to be applied by the incumbent operator Deutsche Post (DP), having opted to maintain the current prices. Bulk mail (minimum quantities of 50 items) will be subject to ex post regulation when DP's exclusive licence expires on 1 January 2008. **(+info)**

**BRAZIL – Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)**
· Mobile telephony continues to grow (1.72 percent over September) and at the end of October attained a total of 114.7 million accesses. Of those, 92.2 million correspond to the prepaid modes and 22.5 million to post-paid systems.
**(+info, *Portuguese only*)**
· Loral Skynet of Brazil successfully bid on 22 November for Brazil's third right for satellite operation to transport telecommunication signals, for the amount of 1.938 million reales (about 745,000 euros). **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**
· The regulator published on 5 December the Regulation on the Rights of Subscribers of Subscription TV – Cable TV, by satellite (DTH), Multichannel Multipoint Signal Distribution (MMDS) and Special Subscription TV (TVA). Plans call for the new regulation to take effect on the first Monday of June 2008.
**(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

**DENMARK – IT- og Telestyrelsen (ITT)**
· Sector statistics concerning the first half of 2007 have been published. Noteworthy is the existence of 2.974 million fixed telephone subscribers, less than half the number of mobile telephone users, whose total subscriptions stood at 6.023 million. Regarding broadband, some 1.865 million connections were counted, for a penetration rate on the order of 34.2 percent. **(+info)**

**SPAIN – Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)**
· The regulator has decided to open a fund to pay for universal service (*Fondo Nacional de Servicio Universal*), which will be used to finance the net cost of universal service in 2003, 2004 and 2005. The CMT considers that with this decision the telecommunications market is now sufficiently mature for the operators together to support that financing. **(+info, *Spanish only*)**
· The number of new broadband accesses in September stood at 112,965, raising to 7.64 million the number of connections in Spain. This figure indicates a density of 17.1 broadband lines for each 100 inhabitants. **(+info, *Spanish only*)**
· The regulator has approved the creation of a single invoice for alternative fixed telephone service operators. **(+info, *Spanish only*)**

**FRANCE – Autorité de Régulation des Communications Électroniques et des Postes (ARCEP)**
· The regulator has published provisional results on broadband in France for the third quarter of 2007, according to which there were 14.05 million ADSL connections, 3.68 percent more than in the previous quarter. Compared to the same quarter in 2006, growth was 26 percent (about 3 million new connections). **(+info)**
· Following completion of the study concerning the market for broadcasting services to deliver content disseminated to end users (market 18), the regulator has placed in public consultation until 7 January its draft decision on the obligations to impose on the TDF group, specifically regarding cost accounting and separate accounts. **(+info, *French only*)**
· Also in public consultation, until 11 January, is the draft decision on the cost accounting rules to impose on the incumbent postal operator, La Poste.
**(+info, *French only*)**
· The regulator has also launched a public consultation, until 11 January, on ways to access mailboxes installed in buildings with controlled access. **(+info)**
· Results of the public consultations on competition in conduit access and sharing terminal segments of fibre optic networks have been published. **(+info)**
· The regulator has also released results of the two surveys evaluating the quality of service of mobile networks (voice and data) carried out on mainland France. **(+info)**

**IRELAND – Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)**
· The regulator has announced a set of phased modifications of telephone numbers whose area codes are 023, 043, 052 and 064, which should take effect by May/June 2009. **(+info)**
· Responses to the public consultation on number portability in the fixed and mobile markets have been published, as well as the specifications the regulator will impose, after which it will be mandatory for all operators to orient their prices to costs. **(+info)**
· The report on the quality of service of the incumbent postal operator, An Post, during the third quarter of 2007 has been released. **(+info)**
· The regulator has decided to reopen the 26 GHz band for fixed wireless access local area (FWALA) service licences. **(+info)**
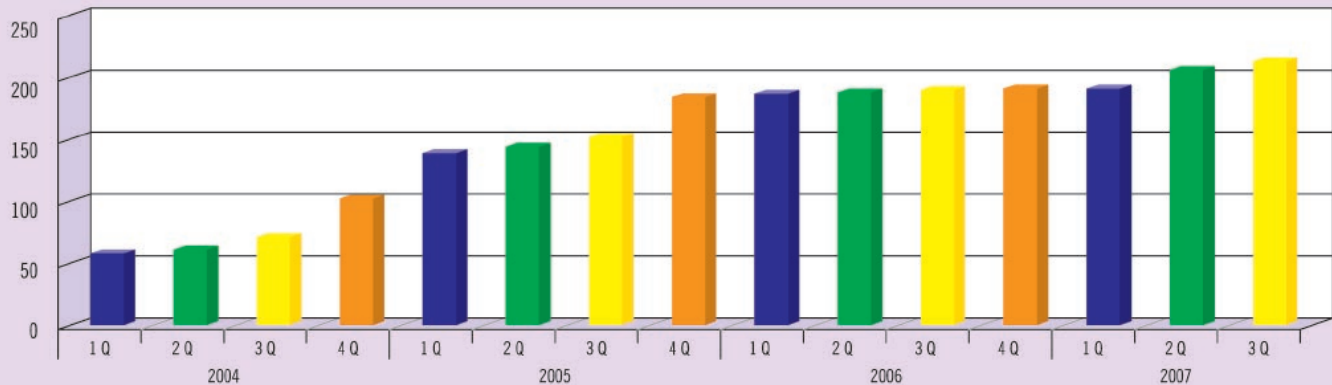
**UNITED KINGDOM – Office of Communications (Ofcom)**
· The regulator has released details of its fourth auction of licences to use radio spectrum, part of a broader programme to free up spectrum for new broadband uses. Applications to take part in the auction, to be conducted online, must be submitted by 16 January. **(+info)**
· The new time operators have to proceed with number portability has been set: two hours. The measure, which aims to increase market competition and be more convenient for consumers, should take effect on 1 September 2009. In the meantime, the period should drop from the current five to two days by 1 April 2008. **(+info)**
· The regulator has made public its future strategy for regulating the public radio (commercial and community) sector, which is fundamentally based on simplifying various processes in the sector (licences, programming, station ownership, etc.) and safeguarding listeners' interests. **(+info)**
· Proposals have been announced to significantly upgrade digital terrestrial television (TDT) service, which include new channels and new services. **(+info)**
· The second report evaluating consumer perception of telecommunications, internet and digital television services in the United Kingdom in 2007 has been published. **(+info)**

**SWITERLAND – Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM)**
· A new licence has been awarded to the public broadcasting operator, SSR, for a ten-year period. **(+info)**
· The Federal Communications Commission (ComCom) plans to impose on Swissom the wholesale provision of bitstream access to its competitors for four years, as it considers that the company holds significant market power. **(+info)**

## ■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES WITH CO-MINGLED OPERATORS – 3ʳᴰ QUARTER 2007

| 2004 | | | | 2005 | | | | 2006 | | | | 2007 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1Q | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 1Q | 2Q | 3Q |
| 58 | 61 | 71 | 102 | 139 | 144 | 152 | 184 | 187 | 188 | 190 | 191 | 191 | 206 | 213 |



### ☐ ANACOM SEMINARS

Lisbon hosted last 14 December yet another gathering in the "ANACOM Seminars" series. This time the occasion was presentation of the work "Evidence on the Effect of Liberalisation and Competition on Innovation in the Postal Sector", by Cátia Felisberto, a research associate at the École Polytechnique Fédérale in Lausanne, Switzerland. **(+info)**

The presentation on "Functional Separation – the UK 'openreach' model", by Alex Bowers, International Director of Ofcom (the regulator of electronic communications in the United Kingdom) is now available. It was given during the 10ᵗʰ ANACOM seminar, held in Lisbon last 9 November. This presentation, including the respective pretexts and conclusions, is the exclusive responsibility of its author, and does not condition or carry any position of ANACOM. **(+info)**

### ☐ 2007 WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE – CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) are now available. This ITU-organised event ended on 16 November after four weeks of work seeking harmonised solutions to encourage the development of wireless communications. Noteworthy among the agenda points are those concerning the future of mobile communications, aeronautic telemetry and remote control systems, services in HF bands and mobile maritime service, and the identification of options to improve the international regulatory framework for spectrum. **(+info)**

### ☐ OECD PUBLISHES ANALYSIS OF BROADBAND EVOLUTION

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recently released results of the latest Broadband Statistics report analysing data on the broadband penetration rate in its member countries during the period from June 2006 to June 2007. One of the report's key conclusions is the 24 percent growth noted in the number of broadband subscribers in OECD countries, which now stands at 221 million. This growth corresponds to an increase in broadband penetration, which rose from 15.1 percent to 18.8 percent of subscriptions for each 100 inhabitants. The OECD indicates that broadband penetration in Portugal stood at 14 accesses per 100 inhabitants, ranking the country in 23ʳᵈ place among the 30 OECD countries. **(+info)**

## ■ IN DECEMBER 2007

### MEETINGS

**CEPT**
ECC (17-21)
- TG3 (10-12)
- TG4 (10-13)
ERO/ETO (4-5)
CERP
- PT UPU (13)

**IRG/ERG**
Plenary meeting (5-7)

**EU**
ERG/MEDA (5-7)
Radio Spectrum Committee (12-13)

**ITU**
Telecommunications Standardisation Sector (UIT-T)
- TSAG (2-7)

### EVENTS

- *EU-IndiaGrid Conference: paving the ground for a grid-enabled e-science community*
Bangalore (India), 13-14

- *Telecommunications Infrastructures in Buildings Seminars "Problems and Proposed Solutions"*
Lisbon, 11

- *Broadband Europe 2007*, Antwerp (Belgium), 3-6

**(+info, *Portuguese only*)**