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## AUTHORISATION FOR ROAMING ACCORD BETWEEN ONI WAY AND TMN

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has decided to authorise the national roaming agreement between *Oni Way* and the operator *Telecomunicações Móveis Nacionais* (TMN). However, *Oni Way's* request for DCS1800 frequencies has been rejected indefinitely, on the grounds that the market situation does not justify granting a fourth GSM/GPRS technology licence, following on the draft decision adopted in August. In its 6 March decision, ANACOM determined that the roaming accord

should include the use, even though experimentally, of third generation terminal equipment and network elements, in accordance with the conditions set for the launch of the IMT2000/UMTS tender in August 2000.

*Oni Way's* request dates to June 2001, when the delay in implementing third generation mobile services became evident; their launch had initially been scheduled for the beginning of that year.

SEE <http://www.anacom.pt/template9.jsp?categoryId=4599>

## INSPECTION OF MOBILE TELEPHONE ANTENNAE

Measurements of the levels of radiation emitted by mobile network ground stations, commonly known as mobile telephone antennae, have revealed values that are at least 50 times below those recommended by the European Union, according to a statement released by the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM).

ANACOM received in January and February of this year 79 requests for information in the context of non-ionising radiation, 29 of which resulted in inspections undertaken by same. However, as stated above, the measurements led to the conclusion that existing radiation was far below the limits set by community bodies, particularly the European Union Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC of 12 July, which was adopted by ANACOM in April 2001.

By the end of last year, ANACOM had received 108 clarification requests

pertaining to this matter. Of that total, 92 cases were closed. Measurements made at the time likewise indicated radiation levels within the recommended parameters. Two exceptions were registered, solely concerning access to the stations themselves, and have meanwhile been resolved. It must be recalled that ANACOM, representing the Ministry of Infrastructure, is part of the Inter-ministerial Working Group co-ordinated by the Ministry of Health, which also includes the ministries of Economy and of Science and Technology. Its mission is to study and prevent eventual effects on human health of electromagnetic radiation in frequencies ranging from 0 to 300 GHz.

The working group was set up by Order no. 8/2000 of 7 January, on ANACOM's initiative. However, the respective members have still not been appointed, with the result that its activity has yet to begin.

SEE <http://www.anacom.pt/template20.jsp?categoryId=4599&contentId=42080>

SEE <http://www.anacom.pt/template20.jsp?categoryId=4599&contentId=36307>

## ENHANCED CONDITIONS FOR VOICE MAIL

All operators and public telecommunications service providers should ensure a period of no less than five seconds after the start of the voice mail service message, at no cost for the caller, so that same can decide whether or not to opt for that function.

Such is the intent of the draft decision approved on 6 March by the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM), which follows on the deliberation of 2 June 1999, which was then applicable solely to land mobile service operators and to *PT Comunicações*, given the then market situation.

The aim of this provision is to protect consumers' right not to pay for a service that is not solicited previously and explicitly, as stipulated in the consumer defence law (article 9, paragraph 4 of Law no. 24/96 of 31 July).

Interested parties have the usual period of 10 days to comment on this draft decision, under terms of articles 100 and 101 of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

SEE <http://www.anacom.pt/template12.jsp?categoryId=33462>

## CURRENT EVENTS

### LLU Advisory Working Group

Recent developments in local loop unbundling (LLU) were in focus at the last meeting of the LLU Advisory Working Group held on 14 March. Also discussed were visits by the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) to exchanges that *PT Comunicações* claims are unsuited for physical co-installation, information access service provided in the context of the Reference Offer for Local Loop Unbundling and harmonisation of the local loop unbundling process with that of number portability.

### Leased lines supply suspended

*PT Comunicações* (PTC) has been authorised to suspend leased line service to *HLC - Telecomunicações e Multimédia, S.A.*, due to the latter operator's serious and repeated failure to comply with its contractual obligations as per the Regulation for the Operation of Public Telecommunications Networks. ANACOM's 6 March resolution also stipulates that HLC should inform its customers of the likelihood that its services will either be suspended or terminated. At <http://www.anacom.pt/template12.jsp?categoryId=33432>.

### Technical specifications of radio interfaces

The technical specifications of radio interfaces were adopted on 7 February, under the terms of article 30 of Decree-Law no. 192/2000 of 18 August. The measure approves the regime for free movement, market collocation and service collocation in national territory of radio equipment and telecommunications terminal equipment, as well as the regime for the respective assessment of dialling and conformity. The set of parameters now adopted is within the national uses envisaged in the National Frequency Allocation Framework and covers equipment for mobile, mobile for satellite, fixed, fixed for satellite and radio broadcasting services, and low-power and short-range devices.

### Universal service convention - FTS prices

In wake of the 7 February decision, *PT Comunicações* informed ANACOM that it disagreed with minimisation of the urgent need to sign a new convention, considering rather that the process bodes a "significant delay, which should not be prolonged."

According to that decision, following study of the draft clause on the Universal Service Convention presented by PTC, an understanding was approved whereby the present circumstances and foreseeable evolution of the regulatory framework, involving new solutions for the definition of conditions to provide universal service, minimise the need for a new convention. This does not however prevent PTC from reformulating its prices as per the framework of existing norms, as happened in 2001.

It must be recalled that PTC's first proposal is dated October 1999 and was followed by negotiation of a set of price rules resulting from the applicability of various convention clauses, in light of Decree-Law no. 458/99 of 5 November and concerning Universal Service. The price rules agreed in December 1999 remain in force until the convention is

signed, under terms of article 11 of the aforesaid measure.

See <http://www.anacom.pt/template12.jsp?categoryId=32116>.

### 4th quarter 2001 statistical data

ANACOM has compiled and made available on its internet website the usual quarterly statistical information on the use and evolution of fixed telephone service, mobile service, data transmission and internet access service, and cable and audiotext distribution services for the fourth quarter of 2001. The data indicates that the market share of the new mobile telephony service providers was on the order of 10 percent at the end of last year; the main factor behind the positive market growth was the 27 percent of international traffic channelled by the new operators. At the end of 2001 there were 7.98 million customers for land mobile service, representing an increase of 1.3 million over the previous year. The penetration rate for mobile networks continues to be above the community average: 77.3 subscribers per 100 inhabitants, versus 73.5 in the European Union.

See <http://www.anacom.pt/template20.jsp?categoryId=4599&contentId=41629>

<http://www.anacom.pt/template20.jsp?categoryId=4599&contentId=41579>

<http://www.anacom.pt/template12.jsp?categoryId=7525>

<http://www.anacom.pt/template20.jsp?categoryId=4599&contentId=41570>

<http://www.anacom.pt/template20.jsp?categoryId=4599&contentId=41343>

<http://www.anacom.pt/template12.jsp?categoryId=7524>.

### Price of calls terminating in green and blue lines

Following on the 14 February ANACOM decision, available at <http://www.anacom.pt/template13.jsp?categoryId=32026>, PTC has been obliged to modify the prices applied to the so-called green (toll-free - 800) and blue (shared cost - 808) numbers.

### Statistical Yearbook 2000

The electronic version of the Statistical Yearbook for the year 2000 was published on 9 March on ANACOM's internet website and is available at <http://www.anacom.pt/template15.jsp?categoryId=6235> (portuguese version).

### ETSI - Standardisation of public interest

A new sub-area on 'public interest' has been set up on ANACOM's website, in the context of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI). Its aim is to support and advance the technical standardisation policy of the European Union and other entities. More information at <http://www.anacom.pt/template12.jsp?categoryId=7266>.

### Information Society with new internet website

The new Information Society website of the Ministry of Science and Technology is available at <http://www.si.mct.pt>.

## NEW REGULATORY FRAMEWORK LAW

The new statutes of the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) inspired elaboration of a proposal for the new framework law for regulatory authorities, stated the measure's co-author, the jurist Vital Moreira, during its presentation on 11 March.

The main innovation of this framework law concerns the importance it places on the independence of regulatory authorities vis-à-vis political power. This is effected by the expansion and non-renewal of the mandates of the respective directors, with terms to last five and not three years.

Vital Moreira, a law professor and president of the Centre for Studies on Public Law and Regulation (CEDIPRE), also said the draft measure represented the "end of public service on the French model" and is inspired by the idea of the "regulatory state", as opposed to the traditional roles of "state owner" and the "state businessman".

Principles such as the impossibility of dismissing social bodies, bar for serious and proven breach, their subjection to a stricter incompatibilities regime, strengthened regulatory and sanctioning powers, and the non-dependence of decisions on ministerial tutelage, round out the main features of the measure.

The aim is to ensure that guidelines of this proposed framework law should in the future be included in a new generation of independent regulatory authorities, which besides ANACOM are already exemplified by the Commission for the Property Values Market (CMVM), the Electric Sector Regulatory Entity (ERSE) and the Portuguese Insurance Institute (ISP). ◀

## APDC SEMINARS

The 2002 conference cycle of the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC) included one more seminar on the field of accessibility and info-inclusion, this time on the subject of "Technologies and Services for Handicapped Citizens", and was held on 26 March in Lisbon.

Among topics that received the most attention were new technological solutions for specific handicaps, the outlook for digital television and the advent of the third generation of mobile communications. The discussions counted the participation of representatives of higher education establishments (from Portugal and Brazil) and of mobile communications operators, industry and social welfare organisations.

The importance and extent of the topic were well evident, along with awareness of the long road still to be travelled in order for the Information Society to be not just a political aim and so that new information technologies can work favourably on behalf of citizens with special needs.

On 26 February, the APDC held a seminar on "Human Resources as the Basis for Communications Development", which debated the role of directors' training, management and leadership, and the attraction and retention of talent, among other subjects. ◀

SEE [http://www.apdc.pt/ingles/ing\\_flash.html](http://www.apdc.pt/ingles/ing_flash.html)

## DEBATE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Telecommunications regulation was in focus at the seminar on "The Future of Communications: the new regulation model - competition and competitiveness" organised by the *Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão* (ISEG - Institute of Economy and Management) on 6 March.

The new operators, represented by the Telecommunications Operators Association (ApriteL), considered that the current regulatory model should be more innovative and ambitious. *PT Comunicações* in turn called attention to the risks posed by the asymmetric regulation now in force, which in its opinion neither allows innovation nor stimulates investment.

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) studied the cost concepts associated to the various expense models and their preventive function in competition distortions. ◀

## NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Notices of the National Communications Authority** (III Series of the *Diário da República* of 22 March) - Concerning the Minimum Elements in the Reference Interconnection Proposal for 2002 and the Declarations on Significant Market Power in the market for fixed telephone networks and/or fixed telephony service, as well as in the leased lines market.
- **Decree-Law no. 67/2002** (I Series-A of the D.R. of 20 March) - Assigns jurisdiction for constitution of an internet website to advertise jobs available in the area of science and technology, determining the type of information that should be included therein.
- **Notice no. 22/2002** (I Series-A of the D.R. of 14 March) - Makes public the fact that the Government of Portugal submitted to the director of the International Mobile Satellites Organisation (IMSO) on 9 January 2002 its ratification of the agreement to modify the protocol on the organisation's privileges and immunities.
- **Decree-Law no. 51/2002** (I Series-A of the D.R. of 2 March) - Grants legal relevance to the availability and submission by electronic means of the form types issued by public bodies and services that are part of public administration.

The Council of Ministers of 14 March approved the Decree-Law that modifies the Regulation for the Operation of Fixed Telephone Service, approved by Decree-Law no. 474/99 of 8 November, and the Regulation for the Operation of Public Use Telecommunications Services approved by Decree-Law no. 290-B/99 of 30 July, as well as four decree-laws concerning protection of the health of the general population and workers against the dangers resulting from ionising radiation. ◀

SEE <http://www.portugal.gov.pt/PortalDoGoverno/ENG/Default>

## EUROPEAN UNION

### LLU ORIGINATES FIVE INFRACTION CASES

The European Union gave notice on 20 March of its intention to open infringement proceedings against five member-states, among them Portugal. The lack of a complete and detailed Reference Offer for Local Loop Unbundling, namely regarding sub-loop costs, are the grounds for this action, which is also applied to Germany, France, Ireland and the Netherlands. The countries in question must respond to the Commission within two months' time. Details at [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/445|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/445|0|RAPID&lg=EN).

Meanwhile, on 1 March, a study on Local Loop Unbundling (LLU) was released, which confirms slow progress in implementation of the so-called "last mile". The study, by a law firm, may be consulted at [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/348|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/348|0|RAPID&lg=EN); the Commission awaits comments on the document, which may be submitted to [comp-local-loop@cec.eu.int](mailto:comp-local-loop@cec.eu.int) until 30 April. Community authorities have simultaneously threatened that they may sanction companies that abuse their dominant market position.

### KPN SUSPECTED OF ABUSING DOMINANT MARKET POSITION

KPN NV is suspected of abusing its dominant position for the termination of calls in its mobile network, and has been subject to notification by the Commission, which suspects that the incumbent Dutch operator is violating community competition rules by favouring its subsidiaries KPN Mobile and KPN Telecom, as per the accusation by the American MCI WorldCom. At [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/483|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/483|0|RAPID&lg=EN).

### ACTION PLAN FOR A SAFER INTERNET EXTENDED

Besides proposing an additional budget of 13.3 million euros, the Safer Internet Action Plan has been extended for a period of two years, the Commission announced on 25 March. See [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/465|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/465|0|RAPID&lg=EN) and <http://www.saferinternet.org>.

## MEETINGS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The draft guidelines for market analysis and calculation of Significant Market Power (SMP) and the draft Recommendation on relevant product and service markets were debated at the 5 March meeting in Brussels of National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) and National Competition Authorities (NCAs), organised by the European Commission.

Discussion particularly focused on modifications the Commission has introduced in the new version of the guidelines and proposed new modifications aiming to clarify certain matters and aspects underlying the Commission's preliminary study on the aforementioned Recommendation.

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) was also present at a counterpart meeting, which joined the Commission, the NRAs and the NCAs on 20 March in Brussels, during which the evolution, implementation and conditions associated to local broadband access were studied. ◀

### EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ENDORSES OPENING OF POSTAL SECTOR

The European Parliament endorsed at second reading on 13 March the proposal for a directive on the opening to competition of postal services, which will be subject to further appreciation by the Council. Liberalisation should take place gradually, beginning in 2003 and expanding its scope in 2006. At [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/406|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/406|0|RAPID&lg=EN).

### PAN-EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT SERVICES PLATFORM

The Commission launched on 5 March a platform for electronic government services, under terms of the Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) initiative. Thirteen of the 15 member-states are already connected, along with Iceland and Norway. More information at [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/358|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/358|0|RAPID&lg=EN).

### COMMISSION STRATEGY FOR 2003

The preparation of European Union enlargement in 2004 is the main priority of the Commission's strategy for the coming year, according to the decision on Annual Policy Strategy for 2003. Stability, security and consolidation of a sustainable and integrating economy are additional strategic targets. Adopted on 27 February, the strategy also provides the framework for preparation of the draft community budget. At [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/338|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/338|0|RAPID&lg=EN).

### CONVENTION ON THE UNION'S FUTURE

The Commission launched two new websites at the end of February to mark the beginning of work concerning the Convention on the European Union's future. All official documentation and information on the Convention has been gathered at <http://european-convention.eu.int/Default.asp?lang=EN&Content=>, while a forum for the exchange of contributions from national and European organisations has been set up at [http://europa.eu.int/futurum/forum\\_convention/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/futurum/forum_convention/index_en.htm). ◀

## OJEC

- **Commission Notice (2002/C64/07)** - Concerning co-ordination of contract signing processes in the sectors of water, energy, transports and telecommunications and addressed to telecommunications sector contracting authorities in Greece, Luxembourg and Portugal. Published on 13 March.
- **Commission Call (2002/C55/06)** - For submission of proposals under the @lis programme, concerning demonstration projects in the field of the Information Society, launched by EuropeAid. Published on 2 March.
- **Commission Decision (2002/180/EC)** - Concerning a proceeding under article 82 of the EC Treaty, brought on by denunciation from Hays Information Management SA against La Poste. Published on 2 March.

SEE <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/index.html> ◀

## CEPT MEETINGS

### PLENARY ASSEMBLY

The first Assembly of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), overseen by the United Kingdom, took place in Brighton on 5-6 March, with debate focusing on issues related to the World Telecommunications Development Conference (WTDC02) and the Plenipotentiaries Conference (PP02), both to be held in the context of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

A highlight of the discussions on WTDC02 was the assembly's agreement with the choices for president and vice president of that conference, made within the scope of the ITU Working Group.

Regarding PP02, the main issues discussed concerned the existence of three CEPT candidates for one single position - director of the Radio-communication Bureau (BR) - and with the co-ordination strategy to be followed after the conference. The latter issue may again be broached at the next assembly.

It was also deemed necessary to be advised of the political questions involved in revision of the 1961 Stockholm Accord on radio broadcasting service in the European zone. The Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) was thus asked to identify those questions, so that the Assembly can at its next meeting make a decision on the procedure to follow.

As for the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) scheduled for 2003, the role CEPT can play in preparing for same was discussed. It was concluded that the organisation should not play an overly leading role, given that in most cases jurisdiction within the various European countries related to the summit is not incumbent on the ministry that oversees telecommunications. There was nevertheless held to be co-ordination work that can be effected at the CEPT level, and this task was assigned to the WG ITU.

Also debated was co-operation between CEPT and the European Commission. The Troika (made up of the United Kingdom, Portugal and Norway) reported that it would meet soon with the Director-General of Information Society, to discuss such topics as the new regulatory framework, WTDC02, PP02, WSIS and the new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Commission and CEPT.

Finally, Switzerland's candidacy to assume the presidency was accepted, followed by that of Portugal.

### CPG PT2 AND PT3

The first meetings of PT2 (mobile services by satellite, radionavigation by satellite and scientific space services) and PT3 (fixed services, fixed by satellite, radio broadcasting by satellite and stratospheric platforms in the context of fixed service) of the Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) were held in Toulouse on 4-8 March.

The aim of the meetings was to update documents approved recently by the CPG and, as far as necessary, to improve the texts of already existing draft European Common Proposals (ECPs).

To date, some 12 draft ECPs have been drawn up for various items on the agenda, which are still in a preliminary phase. Following approval of the texts that will constitute the report of the conference preparatory meeting (CPM) in the ITU's Radiocommunications Sector meeting cycle, technical contributions are expected to arise and serve as basis for the draft positions

on various points on the agenda of the World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC03)

### CPG

The third meeting of the CPG was held in Oslo from 19 to 22 February. A decision was made to transfer the work being undertaken in the context of the Frequency Management (WG FM), Spectrum Engineering (WG SE) and Radiocommunications Regulation (WG RR) groups to the diverse project teams (PT) of the CPG and ECC TG1. However, there were some exceptions, namely regarding questions concerning the identification of spectrum for emergency services and short wave radio broadcasting.

Also approved at the meeting were the draft ECPs and briefs on the agenda items for the World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC03) to date, as well as a document synthesising CEPT's preliminary positions for each of those points.

Regarding the elaboration of future conference agendas, a template was approved that will henceforth be compulsory for the formulation of those proposals.

Two proposals were debated with the aim of finding a more efficient structure for development of the work for WRC03, although the discussion was not conclusive.

Participants also looked into the question of the ECC's future structure, with the CPG defending maintenance of the current format. Lastly, the list of CEPT co-ordinators for the different agenda points was updated.

### WG FM PT22

The main point on the agenda of the 12-15 March meeting in Groningen was to finalise definition of a common method among the CEPT countries for measuring non-ionising radiation, in order to submit same to the Frequency Management group (WG FM) as a recommendation.

The Portuguese delegation presented the results of a survey of the different existing limits in the CEPT countries, showing that 11 of the 20 countries that have already replied to the questionnaire follow the limits of Council Recommendation no. 1999/51/EC of 12 July or the practically identical ones of the International Commission for Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP).

### ECC/TG1

The first meeting of ECC TG1, the group charged with preparing for reorganisation of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC), was held in Biel, Switzerland, on 26 and 27 February.

Regarding the respective working plan, a decision was made to propose to the ECC the postponement until March 2003 of adoption of the definitive proposal for a new Committee structure, whose respective decision was scheduled for November 2002.

Also approved were two packages of questionnaires, one to be sent to administrations, observers and advisors, and another addressed to the ECC working groups. The aim of these surveys is to gather opinions and suggestions on diverse issues, such as the group mandates, the Committee's relations with third parties, and the synergies between the administrations and ECC groups.

## INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP

### PLENARY SESSION

The creation of the European Regulators Group (ERG) in the context of the European Union dominated the work of the plenary session of the Independent Regulators Group (IRG), held in Paris on 7 and 8 March.

The session agreed that the ERG should include the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) that currently are part of the IRG, with ministry representatives excluded. The ERG secretary may in turn be appointed, upon IRG proposal, by the European Commission. These working regulations will be subject to review in two years' time.

Also discussed was the ERG's decision-making process, preferably based on consensus. Should a lack of consensus prevail, recourse will be made to vote by two thirds majority, with each member-state holding one vote.

The procedural rules for the working groups were approved, with agreement made that the participation in ERG work by bodies not directly linked to the telecommunications sector will be subject to invitation from the group, should the issues under discussion so justify. The Contact Network will also become an integral part of the IRG. The new structure of the IRG Working Group was likewise discussed.

The meeting also saw presentation of a report from the Working Group on Significant Market Power (SMP), containing the provisional version of the IRG's position on the Commission proposal concerning the guidelines for market analysis and determination of SMP, as well as a report on international roaming from the Working Group on Mobile Access. In regard to the latter, a letter was approved, to be forwarded to the Commission.

### WG SMP

The definition of relevant markets in the context of SMP evaluation and international roaming, and the concept of effective competition and its sustainability in the telecommunications sector, as well as other issues under debate in the context of the 99 Review process, were in focus at the meeting of the WG SMP held on 14 March in Bonn.

Participants also discussed that WG's collaboration with other IRG working groups.

## ITU - WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The main concern of the nearly 1,500 delegates to the World Telecommunications Development Conference (WTDC02) was to reduce the so-called "digital gap" that separates nations with regard to the fast but unequal expansion of information and knowledge technologies. The promotion of international co-operation and technical partnerships to support development of infrastructures and telecommunications institutions in developing countries also marked this major event of the telecommunications Development Sector of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU-D) held in Istanbul from 18 to 27 March.

*Note: The next edition will provide more details on WTDC02*

SEE <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/conferences/wtdc/2002/>

## CEBIT 2002

CeBIT 2002 was held in Hanover, Germany, from 13 to 20 March, under the theme of "Get the Spirit of Tomorrow". The event focused mainly on mobile telephony, particularly (while UMTS, third mobile generation, finalises its launch) new developments in General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) and functions such as Media Messaging Service (MMS), the heir to Short Message Service (SMS). Considered to be the world's biggest fair of information and communication technologies, CeBIT this year gathered about 8,000 companies from some 60 countries. Portugal was represented by nearly a dozen companies.

SEE <http://www.cebit.de>

## COPYRIGHT ON THE INTERNET

Gabon became on 6 March the 30th country to ratify the World Intellectual Property Organisation's (WIPO) Copyright Treaty which protects internet use, thus enabling its entrance into force within three months.

The treaty, which protects the rights of creators in cyberspace, should be completed by the second of the so-called "internet treaties" regarding performances and phonograms, to be ratified on 20 May when signed by Honduras.

The two treaties have been ratified by the United States and Japan. The European Union member-States will proceed with ratification after reaching accord on a corresponding directive.

SEE <http://www.wipo.org/pressroom/en/index.html>

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## NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

**SPAIN - Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)** - The public consultation on implementation of portability in fixed and mobile networks ended on 3 April. The document in question is available at [http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro\\_info/c\\_publica/index.htm](http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro_info/c_publica/index.htm). On 28 February, the CMT decided (at [http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro\\_info/c\\_prensa/pdf/c20020228\\_sanctelefpreselec.pdf](http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro_info/c_prensa/pdf/c20020228_sanctelefpreselec.pdf)) to sanction Telefónica for alleged non-compliance with operator pre-selection rules in the fixed network. On the same date, the Commission adopted a precautionary measure aiming to prevent the incumbent's suspension of the supply of public use telephony, with effects from 1 April, to operators that do not accept contractual obligations imposed by Telefónica. Details at [http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro\\_info/c\\_prensa/pdf/c20020228\\_ctelefonicatup.pdf](http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro_info/c_prensa/pdf/c20020228_ctelefonicatup.pdf). Meanwhile, the fourth study on the presence of Spanish entities on the internet and the use of the .es top-level domain has been completed. See [http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro\\_info/publicaciones/pdf/dominios-es4encuesta\\_internet.pdf](http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro_info/publicaciones/pdf/dominios-es4encuesta_internet.pdf).

**FRANCE - Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications (ART)** - ART published on 11 March two decisions regarding France Telecom's interconnection offer on the leased lines market. The first aims to lower interconnection prices by between 10 and 20 percent, while the second rules on a dispute between MFS Communication and the incumbent. At <http://www.art-telecom.fr/eng/index.htm>.

**FRANCE - Ministère de l'Economie, des Finances et de l'Industrie (MEFI)** - The candidacy processes for the third generation mobile tender must be submitted to ART headquarters by 16 May. Additional information at [http://www.telecom.gouv.fr/telecom/reg\\_ums1.htm#avis](http://www.telecom.gouv.fr/telecom/reg_ums1.htm#avis).

**LUXEMBOURG - Institut Luxembourgeois de Régulation (ILR)** - The deadline for submission of candidacy dossiers for third generation mobile licences ended on 29 March. The tender began on 28 January; the assignment of licences is scheduled for 24 May. The financial costs are fixed at 400,000 euros for GSM/DCS1800 licences and 200,000 euros for UMTS licences. At <http://www.ilr.lu/>.

**SLOVAKIA - Telecommunications Office** - The deadline to submit tenders for the assignment of one GSM licence and two UMTS licences ends on 14 May. At <http://www.teleoff.gov.sk/Vyb.konania/eGSM.html>.

**GUINEA-BISSAU** - The Guinea-Bissau government has declared null the public tender for the assignation of a cellular mobile licence, alleging lack of technical conditions, and has decided to proceed with a new tender. The government is simultaneously preparing a sectorial regulatory package.

**GERMANY - Regulierungsbehörde für Telekommunikations und Post (RegTP)** - Prices for shared access to the local loop were set on 18 March. Details at <http://www.regtp.de/en/index.html>.

**BELGIUM - Institut Belge des Services Postaux et de Télécommunications (BIPT)** - The Institute is studying the methodology for calculation of the net cost of universal telecommunications service, a matter that should be grounds for a public consultation to be launched in the near future. See [http://www.bipt.be/bipt\\_E.htm](http://www.bipt.be/bipt_E.htm).

**IRELAND - Office of the Director of Telecommunications Regulation (ODTR)** - The deadline to apply to "A" and "B" 3G mobile licences ended on March 27. Three operators presented their proposals. ODTR released on 22 March an informative note on fibre optic access to the local network and launched on 14 March a consultation on the Reference Interconnection Offer (RIO) of the historic operator Eircom. The consultation, in effect until 26 April, aims to clarify technical and operational aspects of the RIO. More information at [http://www.odtr.ie/press\\_releases.asp](http://www.odtr.ie/press_releases.asp).

**BRAZIL - Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)** - Three internet access models, including the flat rate, are under public consultation. Contributions to the consultation may in a first phase be sent by letter, fax or e-mail until 17 April. The second phase of the consultation runs until 13 May. Additional information at [http://www.anatel.gov.br/biblioteca/Releases/2002/release\\_21\\_03\\_2002%284%29.pdf](http://www.anatel.gov.br/biblioteca/Releases/2002/release_21_03_2002%284%29.pdf). A public consultation on frequency bands for third generation mobile is likewise open until 8 April. At [http://www.anatel.gov.br/Tools/frame.asp?link=/biblioteca/releases/2002/release\\_19\\_03\\_2002\(2\).pdf](http://www.anatel.gov.br/Tools/frame.asp?link=/biblioteca/releases/2002/release_19_03_2002(2).pdf).

**JAPAN - Ministry of Public Management, Public Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications** - Statistical data on users of internet access and figures on Japanese mobile network customers, which at the end of January had reached 67.5 million, are accessible at [http://www.soumu.go.jp/joho\\_tsusin/eng/index.html](http://www.soumu.go.jp/joho_tsusin/eng/index.html).

## IMSO ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS IN LONDON

The result of the International Mobile Satellites Organisation (IMSO)'s activities and the fulfilment of the public service obligations of Inmarsat Ltd. were the main topics of discussion at the fifth meeting of the Advisory Committee of the organisation, held on 5 March in London.

With September's planned 16th members assembly on the horizon, the Committee confirmed maintenance of quality in the provision of global maritime distress and safety services (GMDSS) by the company, as well as its efforts to develop new equipment to improve the said services. On the other hand, the Committee noted the development of certain applications for warning communications, for cases involving situations of piracy attacks, in wake of the context resulting from the 11 September attacks and in accordance with the suggestions made by IMSO.

The meeting agenda also included an approach to other matters related to IMSO's responsibilities, namely the structure of the very Committee and preparation for the members assembly, with the next meeting scheduled for 16 September.

# SPANISH PRESIDENCY - COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Council of Ministers of Transports unblocked on 26 March financing for Europe's Galileo satellite radionavigation system, thus endorsing one of the most complex dossiers in its hands. Besides approving the sum of 450 million euros, the Council adopted the regulation setting up the joint undertaking that will manage the Galileo project, constituted by the European Union and the European Space Agency (ESA).

Developed in collaboration with the ESA, Galileo is a civilian project that aims to affirm itself as an alternative to its military counterparts in America and Russia (respectively GPS and Glonass). There are numerous possible applications for the 30 orbiting satellites covered by the project, encompassing sectors such as transports, telecommunications, banking, health, agriculture, fisheries and energy.

Commission Vice-President Loyola de Palácio, responsible for the transports and energy portfolios, asserted on the occasion that Galileo will generate 150,000 highly qualified jobs and annual revenues on the order of 10 billion euros.

The project's development phase ends in 2005 and includes a period of launch tests for the first satellites. The implementation of Galileo is planned for 2008.

The Council of Telecommunication Ministers met on 25 March and in turn approved adoption of the regulation for the .eu top-level domain, on the same footing as national domains such as .pt, .es and .uk. The newly created domain is part of the strategy of the eEurope Action Plan, which aims to generalise internet

use in the European space and endow the Union with a unique identity in cyberspace. The Fifteen should subsequently constitute a private non-profit organisation which will be charged with overseeing the .eu domain.

The Council also adopted a Resolution on accessibility to public internet sites and debated the TEN Telecoms trans-European networks programme, details of the eEurope 2005 Action Plan and global internet management, an issue that namely encompasses reorganisation of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

The Barcelona European Council held on 15-16 March had considered the availability of broadband networks throughout the European Union by 2005 to be a priority. Likewise at the top of the Council's agenda is development of the Internet IPv6 protocol, elaboration of the eEurope 2005 Action Plan and realisation of the goal of having one PC for each 15 students throughout the entire EU by the end of 2003. The Council also agreed to increase average community investment in research and development by 3 percent until 2010.

SEE [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/478|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/478|0|RAPID&lg=EN)

SEE [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=MEMO/02/65|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=MEMO/02/65|0|RAPID&lg=EN)

SEE [http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p\\_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/468|0|RAPID&lg=EN](http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/02/468|0|RAPID&lg=EN)

SEE <http://ue.eu.int/newsroom/makeFrame.asp?MAX=&BID=76&DID=69871&LANG=1&File=/pressData/en/ec/69871.pdf&Picture=0>

## LICENCES IN 2001/ 2002

| FIXED TELEPHONE SERVICE                                    |            |              | PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS                                  |            |
|--|------------|--------------|---|------------|
| Licensed Providers   | Date       | Access Codes | Licensed Operators  | Date       |
| TeleMilénio - Telecomunicações, Sociedade Unipessoal, Lda. | 2001.01.19 | 1073         | Global Metro Networks Portugal - Sociedade de Telecomunicações, Lda | 2001.01.19 |
| Companhia Portuguesa Rádio Marconi, S.A.                   | 2001.02.02 | 1075         | TeleMilénio - Telecomunicações, Sociedade Unipessoal, Lda.          | 2001.01.19 |
| NetVoice - Comunicações e Sistemas, Lda.                   | 2001.03.01 | 1025         | CABLETEL - Serviços de Telecomunicações, S.A.                       | 2001.03.08 |
| CABLETEL - Serviços de Telecomunicações, S.A.              | 2001.03.08 | 1066         | Belgacom Portugal, S.A.   | 2001.04.06 |
| COLTEL - Serviços de Telecomunicações, Unipessoal, Lda.    | 2001.04.20 | —            | TVTel Grande Porto - Comunicações, S.A.                             | 2001.04.12 |
| REFER TELECOM - Serviços de Telecomunicações, S.A.         | 2001.06.02 | —            | COLTEL - Serviços de Telecomunicações, Unipessoal, Lda.             | 2001.04.20 |
| Diniz & Ávila - Comunicações, S.A.                         | 2001.07.31 | 1015         | REN - Rede Eléctrica Nacional, S.A.                                 | 2001.05.17 |
|  |            |              | TCN (Portugal) - Instalação e Manutenção de Redes, Unipessoal, Lda. | 2001.05.24 |
|  |            |              | REFER TELECOM - Serviços de Telecomunicações, S.A.                  | 2001.06.21 |
|  |            |              | NETRAIL - Telecomunicações, S.A.                                    | 2002.01.24 |
|  |            |              | TV Cabo Douro, S.A.   | 2002.03.06 |
|  |            |              | EMACOM - Telecomunicações da Madeira, Lda.                          | 2002.03.14 |

## IN APRIL 2002

### EU

- CAN (23-24)
- EU-Latin America and Caribbean Ministerial Meeting on IS (26-27)

### CEPT

- 10th Conference (17-19)

### ECC

- FM PT32 (7-9)
- WG ITU (10-11)
- FM PT41 (23-24)
- PT5 (29-30)

### ERO

- Council (8-9)

### CERP

- Regulatory Affairs WG (23)

### ITU

- Council (22/4 to 3/5)

### Radiocommunications Sector

- WP9B - Working Party on Radio-frequency channel arrangements, radio system characteristics, interconnection, maintenance and various applications (3-12)

### IRG

- Meeting with Regulatel (25)

### UPU

- Postal Operations Council (4-19)
- Advisory Group (16)

### NATO

- FMSC PWG (23-26)

### AICEP

- General Assembly and Forum (24-27)

### CPLP

- 6th Ministerial Meeting and of Posts and Telecommunications Administrations (25)

### EVENTS

#### - eGovernment for Development

10 to 11, Palermo

#### - Information Society and Regional Sustainable Development

11 to 12, Tenerife, Canary Islands

#### - MITE 2002 - 7th Information and Communication Technology Fair in Galicia

11 to 14, Santiago de Compostela

#### - Euro-China co-operation forum on the Information Society

14 to 20, Beijing

#### - Mobile Commerce World Asia

16 to 18, Singapore

#### - Launch of the co-operation programme @lis

Alliance for the Information Society

26, Seville

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