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## □ EVALUATION OF THE QUALITY OF MOBILE NETWORKS AND SERVICES

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has disclosed the most recent report evaluating the service quality of mobile networks and services in Portugal, covering aspects of the quality of mobile voice services (GSM), video-telephony (UMTS) and network coverage (GSM and WCDMA/UMTS). The report indicates that there are major differences between the networks examined. In GSM, the mobile operators (Optimus, TMN and Vodafone) obtain good results in urban areas and along road arteries, where the recorded differences are relatively insignificant. In the case of WCDMA the networks still do not provide good coverage; areas with insufficient and often non-existent coverage were obser-

ved, mainly on the automobile routes studied. In terms of GSM services, voice calls (mobile-fixed and fixed-mobile) present good results in all the indicators, for all operators and regardless of location (urban area or road arteries). As for video-telephony service (UMTS), the study reveals results well below those observed for voice services, specifically in the indicators for 'service accessibility' and 'call termination rate'. This new ANACOM study was conducted in November and December 2006 on the mainland. It contains major innovations compared to the studies carried out since 2001, especially the reworked methodology and the extension of analysis to UMTS services. (+info)

## □ ANACOM AUTHORISES OFFERS COMBINING TRAFFIC AND ACCESS

By determination dated last 22 March, ANACOM authorised the *Grupo Portugal Telecom* (PT) companies to provide offers bundling in one single price a network line and telephone traffic, as long as they comply with a set of obligations. The SLRO (subscriber line resale offer) reference proposal should consequently be amended and changed in compliance (to also include the ANACOM decision on the conditions associated with the integration of ISDN accesses) within ten working days. At stake are a large number of alterations, namely concerning

time periods and prices. In particular, in the offers combining access and traffic the *Grupo PT* companies will have to meet the obligations of price orientation to costs, non-discrimination and transparency. They should also request from the companies benefiting from the SLRO the invoicing and coverage of all services provided by themselves or by other companies, when invoiced and covered by the *Grupo PT* companies, involving activated SLRO accesses. (+info)

## □ ISDN INCLUSION IN THE SLRO REFERENCE PROPOSAL APPROVED

ANACOM has approved the final decision on the conditions associated with the inclusion of integrated services digital network (ISDN) accesses in the reference proposal for the subscriber line resale offer (SLRO). This measure, dated 15 March, stipulates that the *Grupo PT* companies should modify within ten working days the said reference proposal, specifically with respect to the following aspects: the maximum price of SLRO activation in the case of ISDN accesses, which should correspond to the price of activating SLRO and pre-selection in the case of analogue accesses; the monthly maximum fees associated to

SLRO (for example, 21.72 euros without VAT for the monthly fee for basic ISDN access and 172.96 euros without VAT for the monthly fee for primary ISDN accesses); the parameters, service quality levels and penalisation for non-compliance currently set out in the SLRO reference proposal, which are applicable to ISDN accesses, with the eventually necessary changes; and the processes associated to SLRO ISDN, which should with the eventual changes follow those used for analogue accesses. (+info)

## ■ SURVEY ON ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS CONSUMPTION

Just below 60 percent of Portuguese homes had a fixed telephone in December 2006, approximately the same percentage recorded in February 2006, indicates the survey conducted by ANACOM and Marktest between 9 November and 29 December 2006 on the consumption of fixed telephone service (FTS), mobile telephone service (MTS) and subscription television service. Regarding FTS, mobile telephone use and the existence of subscriptions are still the main reasons for not using same (75.3 and 19.5 percent, respectively), reasons also indicated in the previous survey, though recording an increase of 14.1 and 3 percentage points. With respect to mobile telephone service, 87.7 percent of the respondents had a mobile telephone in December 2006, representing a rise of 3.2 percentage points over February. The possibility of always being in contact and mobility are considered the main advantages of MTS compared to FTS, indicated by 49.1 and 39.9 percent of the respondents. Lastly, television service was also analysed; it was verified that 43.3 percent of Portuguese homes had subscription television. (+info)

## ■ CURRENT EVENTS

### CHANGES TO THE RCAO APPROVED

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has approved changes to introduce in the reference conduit access offer (RCAO) of *PT Comunicações* (PTC). The measure, dated 15 March, stipulates that PTC should modify in compliance and publish the RCAO within ten working days. The changes in question specifically concern the monthly price for occupying space and the definition of excess cable length. (+info)

### TMN – GSM LICENCE RENEWAL ISSUED

ANACOM has issued the title renewing the right to use the frequencies of the operator TMN, allocated to same for the offer of land mobile service according to the GSM digital system, in the wake of the determination dated 28 February 2007. This Authority had already decided in a determination dated 21 December 2006 to renew the right to use the frequencies allocated to TMN for a period of 15 years ending on 16 March 2022. A decision was nevertheless made to submit the draft title to prior hearing by TMN, a process now concluded.

(+info, Portuguese only)

### INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS – CERTIFICATES ISSUED

By determination dated 15 March, ANACOM approved the issuance of ITED (the Portuguese acronym for telecommunications infrastructures in buildings) conformity certificates in infrastructures where tubes with commercial diameters equal to those established as internal in the ITED Manual have been installed. This decision, effective as from 1 January 2007, conditions the said issuance to the certifying entities' compliance with the following conditions: respect for the correct sizing of the internal diameters of the tubes as per the installed cables (formulas 1 and 2 of point 4.5.2 of the ITED Manual); the minimum commercial diameter of the tubes installed in individual ITED network infrastructures should be 20mm; and, in the case of 20mm commercial diameter tubes only the existence of a maximum of two cables of any technology will be admissible, whether copper-wire pairs, coaxial or fibre optic. (+info, Portuguese only)

This Authority also approved the provisional suspension of the registry of two entities certified for telecommunications infrastructures in buildings (ITED): *Leonel Barbeiro – Electricidade e Canalizações*, and *ISQ – Instituto de Soldadura e Qualidade*. The measures in question have been decreed for a period of three months counting from the respective notifications, which respectively occurred on 19 and 21 February. (+info, Portuguese only)

### RADIOCOMMUNICATION SERVICES

The information on satellite radiocommunication service (licensing, generic definitions, procedures to obtain a radio licence and additional information) has been updated on the respective area of the ANACOM website. (+info)

### PT PRIME ADHESION CONTRACT UPDATED

By order dated 2 March, the PT Prime Business Solutions adhesion contract was approved, for the provision of telephone service at a fixed location.

(+info, Portuguese only)

### STUDY RELEASED AT THE 6TH ANACOM SEMINAR

The study on "Inefficiency in Provisioning Interconnected Communication Networks", by Pedro Ferreira, of the UMIC – Knowledge Society Agency and Marvin Sirbu of Carnegie Mellon University has been posted online. It was presented in Lisbon on 28 March during yet another event in the ANACOM Seminars series. This study, including the respective pretexts and conclusions, is the exclusive responsibility of its authors, and neither commits nor conveys any position of ANACOM. (+info)

### OPERATORS/SERVICE PROVIDERS

Fourth quarter 2006 information is now available on the operators and providers operating in the area of telecommunications services/electronic communications and audiotext. (+info)

### ANACOM PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE IN CONNECT WORLD

The article by ANACOM President José Amado da Silva on the topic of "Convergence and Regulation in Portugal", published in the European edition of *Connect World* magazine (2007 edition, pages 17 and 18), has been posted online.

(+info)

The ANACOM president was likewise present on the programme "*Balanço & Contas*" broadcast at 9 p.m. on 17 March by Portuguese television's RTP 2 channel. The interview by the journalist Sérgio Figueiredo covered various topics concerning the communications sector, specifically Sonaecom's failed bid for Portugal Telecom (PT), universal service, digital terrestrial television (DTT) and market sounding on the 2007 National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP).

(+info)

### PUBLICATIONS – POSTAL SERVICE PRICE TABLE AND DISCOUNTS

ANACOM decided on 8 March not to oppose the entrance into force of the proposed price table and discounts for the service of newspapers, periodicals and books submitted by the *CTT-Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service) under the Price Convention for Universal Postal Service, signed on 21 April 2006. The prices in question should be disclosed by the CTT at least five working days before the respective date they take effect. (+info)

### HOSPITAL USAGE OF ICTs – 2006 SURVEY

Almost all Portuguese hospitals (97.5 percent) are connected to the internet, with 93.9 percent of those connections by means of broadband. This is one of the results disclosed in the survey on the use of information and communication technologies in national hospitals in 2006, a study conducted by the National Statistics Institute in collaboration with UMIC-the Agency for the Knowledge Society. The report also indicates that 22.8 percent of the internet-connected hospital centres practice tele-medicine activities and that 58.1 percent maintain a website. In terms of functions, 24.7 percent of the hospitals have computers that patients can use, though only 16.6 percent have equipment linked to the internet. As for hospital activities, the management of complementary means and the scheduling of external appointments are computerised in 69.7 percent and 84.3 percent of hospitals, respectively. The survey also examined the kind of internet connection and concluded that 47.2 percent of the hospitals use the health information network (RIS) and that 33.7 percent use DSL connections.

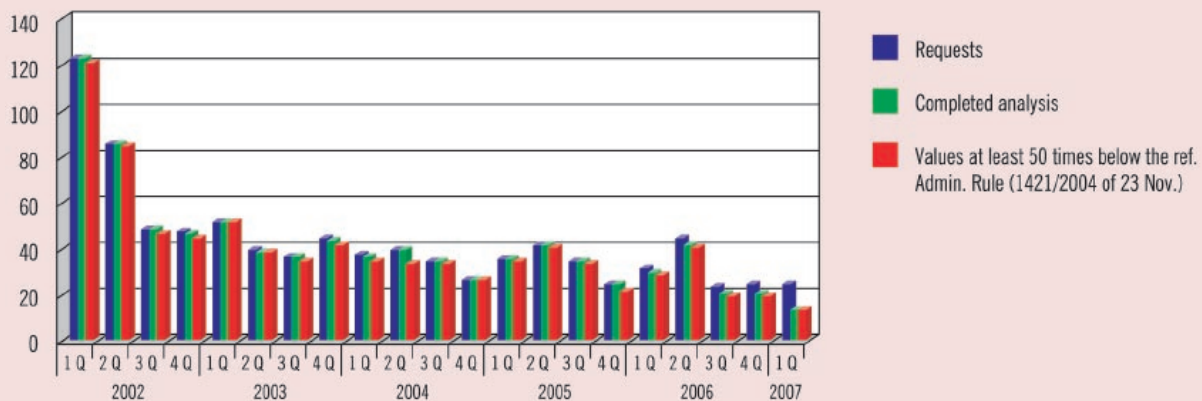
(+info)

### ELECTRONIC COMMERCE – 4TH QUARTER 2006

According to results of the "Quarterly Barometer of Electronic Commerce in Portugal – 4th Quarter 2006", recently released by the Portuguese Association for e-Commerce (ACEP) and the Netsonda company, more than 85 percent of the surveyed companies indicated that they had experienced an increase in internet sales during the fourth quarter of 2006 compared to the same period in the previous year. The increase was equal to or more than 50 percent for nearly 68.4 percent of the respondents. This indicator nevertheless reveals a drop of 5 percentage points compared to the figure for the third quarter of 2006. About 65 percent of the companies also indicated an increase of between 1 and 50 percent in the number of customers, while about 11.5 percent experienced rises of more than 50 percent. (+info)

## EVALUATION OF NON-IONISING RADIATION

	2002				2003				2004				2005				2006				2007
	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1 Q	2 Q	3 Q	4 Q	1 Q
Requests	122	85	48	47	51	39	36	44	37	39	34	26	35	41	34	24	31	44	23	24	24
Analyses concluded	122	85	48	46	51	38	36	43	36	39	34	26	35	41	34	24	29	41	20	20	13
Values at least 50 times below the ref. Adm. Rule (1421/2004 of 23 Nov.)	120	84	46	44	51	38	34	41	34	33	33	26	34	40	33	21	28	40	19	19	13



## PUBLIC CONSULTATION LAUNCHED ON 2007 NFAP

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) launched on 12 March a public consultation on the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP) for 2007. Approved by determination dated 8 March, the 2007 NFAP updates the version currently in force (2005-2006 NFAP) and, in a framework of gradual adoption of the principles of technological neutrality, ends compulsory use of the 900 MHz band according to GSM technology, which will enable more efficient spectrum use, specifically with recourse to UMTS technology. Also included is a market sounding for eventual expressions of interest in using spectrum identified as frequency band reserves for uses in the context of land mobile service (in the 450 MHz, 900 MHz and 1800 MHz bands). Lastly, the provision that previously reserved GSM spectrum in the 900 and 1800 MHz bands for the current land mobile service operators in case of proven need has been eliminated, including such spectrum for effects of the above-mentioned expression of interest.

Regarding terrestrial digital television broadcasting service (DVB-T), the reserved frequency bands (channels) are indicated; however, the respective usage and allocation model is still being determined. Besides these aspects, revisions have been introduced to update the information on usage with reference to 30 November 2006 (e.g., correction of the number of FWA blocs in use and respective usage context; revision of the number of channels in use by the fixed point-to-point services, audio and television broadcasting, updating of the frequency bands and/or the entities that have fixed satellite service uses, GMPSC (global mobile personal communication by satellite service), AES (aircraft earth stations) and amateur service), as well as updates of the section on spectrum uses exempt from radio licensing. Given its significant market impact, this document was subject to the general consultation procedure, whose deadline was 10 April. (+info)

## PRE-SELECTION – UNDUE TERMINATIONS BY PTC

ANACOM approved last 8 March the decision concerning pre-selection terminations unduly implemented by *PT Comunicações* (PTC), determining that the company should immediately cease pre-selection deactivations not originating in a request transmitted by the pre-selected operator based on the alteration or cancellation of the respective contract by the subscriber to that provider, in order to comply with the procedure envisaged in article 10 of the Selection and

Pre-Selection Regulation. It was also determined that PTC should within a maximum of 5 working days remove from its website information on the procedures for cancelling pre-selection according to the current terms, and that it should provide that information in compliance with the same provision of the said Regulation. (+info)

## OPINION ON CONTRACT PREVENTION MECHANISMS

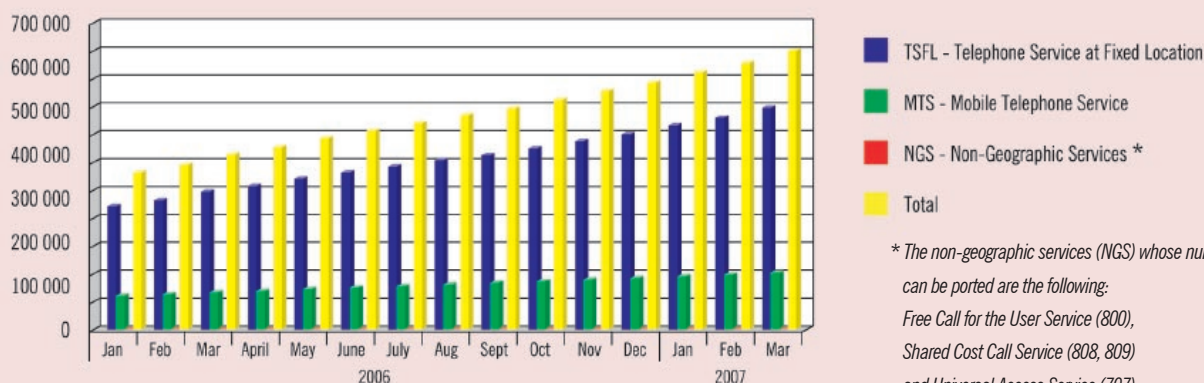
ANACOM has approved under the terms of article 46 of the Electronic Communications Law, concerning contract prevention mechanisms, the opinion on the operational conditions for the shared database, a project submitted jointly by the three mobile operators and which is meant to enable the identification of subscribers who have not satisfied their payment obligations vis-à-vis signed contracts. The opinion, approved by determination dated 8 March, focuses on the set of database operating conditions, covering the operators' mutual

relations, the operators' relations with the shared database management entity and relations between the operators and their customers. It was specifically concluded that it was advantageous that the costs for the beneficiary operators/companies to become a member and use the database in question should be adjusted so as not to hinder its use by the new electronic communications operators. (+info)



## ■ PORTED NUMBERS

	2006												2007		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
TSFL	281 753	295 502	314 749	327 983	344 547	359 003	372 508	386 848	398 609	414 078	430 484	446 371	466 357	483 978	506 734
MTS	76 957	80 456	85 178	88 251	92 197	95 416	99 018	102 809	106 625	110 302	114 260	117 597	121 043	125 134	130 442
NGS*	396	399	432	438	461	474	503	520	532	544	549	571	585	596	610
TOTAL	359 102	376 357	400 359	416 672	437 205	454 893	472 029	490 177	505 766	524 924	545 293	564 539	587 985	609 708	637 786



## □ FIXED TELEPHONY – PRICE CONDITIONS FOR RETIREES AND PENSIONERS

By determination dated 8 March, the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved a draft decision on the tariff conditions offered to retirees and pensioners subscribing to telephone service provided at a fixed location (FTS) by *PT Comunicações* (PTC). With effects retroactive to 1 January 2007, PTC is allowed to provide retirees and pensioners subscribing to a single analogue network, whose family unit has an income equal to or less than the national minimum wage, with a 50 percent discount on the lease of a network line (by reference to the base price table for universal service applicable by omission).

As a commercial option PTC may provide an additional 10 percent discount on the monthly fee for analogue access and a traffic credit worth not more than 2.30 euros (without VAT). The said discount should also be reflected in the SLRO accesses that support services offered to the aforementioned retirees and pensioners. This determination was submitted to the prior hearing of interested parties and the general consultation procedure; the respective deadline is 9 April 2007. (+info)

## □ FLAT INTERCONNECTION RATE AND SUPPORT COMPONENTS – CLARIFICATIONS

ANACOM has posted on its website a clarification on the flat interconnection rate, communicated to *PT Comunicações* (PTC) on 8 March. The clarification concerns the traffic transfer options, the obligation that all operators and service providers must have time-based interconnection beams in all interconnection geographic points (IGPs) where they implement capacity-based interconnection, and the 50 percent addition to PTC's remuneration for calls originating in the company's public payphones. (+info)

Also posted was the clarification communicated to PTC last 5 March on support components service, which according to that company would have its scope limited to the PTC local exchanges that are geographic interconnection points.

Given the doubts raised over the scope of application of that service, it was explained that this Authority had never restricted the application of interconnection support components service to the PTC local exchanges which constitute interconnection geographic points (IGPs) identified in the reference interconnection offer (RIO), and also that the scope of application of support components service consists of the scope of application of leased lines interconnection service (i.e., buildings with an existing terminal segment) combined with interconnection components service (based at any given time on the definition set out in the RIO and/or in the leased lines reference offer (LLRO)). (+info)

## ■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Decree-Law no. 73/2007** (I Series – *Diário da República* of 27 March) – Amends and republishes Decree-Law no. 190/98 of 10 July, which sets the conditions for licensing the radio stations of national vessels and the prior conditions to be met by the equipment contained therein.
- **Law no. 14/2007** (I Series – D.R. of 9 March) – Transmission of antenna rights in public television service.
- **Permit (extract) no. 35/2007** (II Series – D.R. of 9 March) – Concession of permit to RTP-Rádio e Televisão de Portugal.

## □ EUROPEAN UNION

### PROPOSED 'AUDIOVISUAL WITHOUT FRONTIERS' DIRECTIVE

The European Commission (EC) published on 9 March the consolidated text of the updated version of the "Television without Frontiers" Directive – Directive 89/522/EEC of the Council of 3 October 1989. It is to originate a new directive designated as "Audiovisual without Frontiers", which will now be subject to a second reading in the European Parliament and in the Council. The new directive is meant to enhance competitiveness of the European audiovisual sector, enabling all services to make use of the internal market, regardless of the technology used, specifically emerging services such as video on demand, mobile television and the audiovisual services transmitted in digital television. To that end various proposals are presented, with a background of some already stated goals such as the promotion of European works and independent audiovisual productions, as well as the need to protect minors and to ban content that incites religious or racial hatred. The European Commissioner for the Information Society and Media, Viviane Reding, said it may be possible to obtain a political agreement on this matter by the end of this May. (+info)

### CONSULTATION ON THE SINGLE FREEPHONE NUMBER BEGINNING WITH '116'

The public consultation launched by the European Commission to identify socially valuable telephone services common throughout Europe which might benefit from a single freephone number beginning with '116' is under way until 20 May. The consultation, launched last 20 March, follows on Decision 2007/116/EC of the Commission of 15 February, which envisages that the member States reserve an interval of six-digit numbers beginning with '116' for social services in Europe. The first number of the range, '116000' was immediately reserved for emergency lines for missing children. The aim now is to identify other telephone services that may likewise benefit from a single Europe-wide free number. Parties interested in the debate on this subject are asked to submit their contributions by 20 May to the electronic address [INFSO-116numbers@ec.europa.eu](mailto:INFSO-116numbers@ec.europa.eu). (+info)

### ERG DISCLOSES 2007 WORKING PROGRAMME

The European Regulators Group (ERG) has made public the working programme for 2007, a document that identifies regulatory challenges, harmonisation and innovation as main activity areas. This year the ERG aims to accompany and participate in reflection on the challenges facing regulation of the communications sector, particularly in the process of revising the regulatory framework for electronic communications in the European Union. The ERG will also seek to encourage harmonisation among its members, effectively contributing towards development of the internal market by means of the sharing and disclosure of best practices, among other aspects. (+info)

### IRG PUBLISHES PIBS ON CAPITAL COST CALCULATION

The Independent Regulators Group (IRG) has published "Regulatory Accounting – Principles of Implementation and Best Practice for WACC Calculation", a document that provides the national regulatory authorities with 12 principles for implementation and best practices for calculating the cost of capital vis-à-vis the imposition of obligations on operators associated with cost recovery and price controls. (+info)

### ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS – 12TH EC REPORT

The European Commission (EC) published last 29 March the 12th report on markets and the regulation of European electronic communications, which reviews the sector's situation in 2006. Even though the opening of European telecommunications markets to competition has been a success story, Commissioner Viviane Reding stresses that this sector's 2.3 percent growth in 2006

is still not enough, when European competitiveness in the global market is at stake. The report also considers that the regulatory measures applied by ANACOM in Portugal are achieving results, and are especially reflected in the lower prices paid by alternative operators to use the incumbent operator's network and in the increased investment by alternative operators in local loop unbundling. On the other hand, the EC underscores ANACOM's efficiency in conducting market analyses. The report's study of the national markets covers fixed and mobile telephony, broadband and television broadcasting, as well as relevant information for consumers. (+info)

### EUROPEAN DATA DIRECTIVES

The European Commission (EC) held last 14 March a public meeting on the transposition of Directive 2006/24/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March, concerning data retention. It was indicated that only one member State, Denmark, has transposed the Directive and that very few have put forward preliminary versions, with transposition only expected in January 2008. Given that 18 member States have requested extension of the transposition deadline for the measures involving the internet, only nine will achieve full transposition in this phase. Note that the deadline for transposing the Directive is 15 September 2007; it can be postponed until 15 March 2009 for measures associated with the internet. (+info)

The EC had previously on 7 March published a Communication on monitoring the working programme for better application of the directive on data protection – Directive 95/46/EC. It was concluded that it is not necessary to revise this instrument, though the programming of some actions in this area may go ahead. The Commission indicates that even though all the European member States have transposed the said directive, not all have achieved the best transposition. (+info)

### EC PROPOSES STRATEGY FOR RFID DEVICES

The European Commission (EC) presented last 15 March the Communication on "Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) in Europe: steps towards a policy framework", which sets out an action strategy for RFID devices that emphasises safeguarding users' privacy and enhancing Europe's economic and technological position, in a market growing by 60 percent at global level. Another line of action will be the disclosure of information to citizens, as the public consultation conducted in 2006 revealed that Europeans are not well informed about technology. Standing out among the planned actions is the establishment this year of an RFID stakeholder group to advise and assist the Commission in developing a European policy position on applications of this identification technology. By mid-2007 the EC also wants to propose changes to Directive 2002/58/EC on privacy and electronic communications, to take into account RFID applications, as part of revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications. And by the end of this year Brussels also plans to prepare a Recommendation on aspects of data security and privacy in RFID devices. (+info)

### INFORMAL TELECOM COUNCIL

The European Commissioner for Information Society and the Media announced last 15 March that after an informal meeting the ministers of telecommunications from the 27 European Union (EU) member States reached an agreement in principle on lowering the charges for roaming calls made in the European space. Viviane Reding added that the agreement envisages a top price of 0.50 euros per minute to make roaming calls and 0.25 euros to receive them. The agreement will be presented to the European Parliament in June and, if approved, will take effect the following month. The other point on the meeting's agenda was mobile television in Europe. (+info)

## □ **CEPT (EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATIONS) MEETINGS**

### **ECC – PLENARY SESSION**

The Polish city of Krakow hosted last 26–30 March the 16th meeting of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC). [\(+info\)](#)

### **ECC WG FM PT45**

The second meeting of project team FM PT45 of the ECC's Frequency Management working group (WG FM) was held last 5–7 March in Copenhagen. [\(+info\)](#)

### **ECC WG SE**

An extraordinary meeting of the Spectrum Engineering working group (WG SE) was held on 7 March in the German city of Mainz. [\(+info\)](#)

### **ECC TG3**

The 18th meeting of working group ECC TG3 – UWB (ultra wide band) was held on 7–9 March in Mainz, Germany. [\(+info\)](#)

### **ECC PT SE42**

Helsinki hosted last 20–22 March a meeting of project team PT SE42, which covers technical issues associated with the introduction of flexible spectrum use. [\(+info\)](#)

### **ECC TG4**

The second meeting of ECC TG4 took place last 19–21 March in Paris. [\(+info\)](#)

### **ECC PT2 TRIS**

Project team PT2-TRIS (Technical Regulation & Interconnection Standards) met last 22–23 March at the Copenhagen headquarters of the European Radiocommunications Office. [\(+info\)](#)

### **WG ITU AFFAIRS**

The WG on ITU Affairs met last 5 March in Prangins, Switzerland. This CEPT working group is responsible for basically policy and strategy issues involving the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). [\(+info\)](#)

### **CPG PT2 E PT3**

PT2 and PT3 of the Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) met last 12–16 March in Maisons-Alfort, France, to prepare the European position for the upcoming 2007 World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC-07). [\(+info\)](#)

## □ **SATELLITE ORGANISATIONS**

### **EUTELSAT – ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The 19th meeting of the EUTELSAT IGO Advisory Committee was held on 15–16 March in Paris. [\(+info\)](#)

### **IMSO – ASSEMBLY**

London hosted last 5–6 March the 19th (extraordinary) Assembly of the Interna-

tional Mobile Satellite Organisation (IMSO). [\(+info\)](#)

### **ITSO – ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES**

The 31st Assembly of Parties of the International Telecommunication Satellite Organisation (ITSO) took place last 20–23 March in Paris. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ **ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)**

### **ICCP**

The 52nd meeting of the Information, Computer and Communications Policies (ICCP) Committee was held last 15–16 March in the Hague. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ **EUROPEAN UNION (EU)**

### **RADIO SPECTRUM COMMITTEE**

Brussels hosted last 14–15 March the 19th meeting of the Radio Spectrum Committee. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)**

### **MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET GROUP**

An informal meeting of the ITU Council's Management and Budget Group (MBG) was held last 27 March in Geneva. [\(+info\)](#)

### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS STANDARDISATION ADVISORY GROUP**

The ITU Telecommunications Standardisation Advisory Group (TSAG) met from 26 February to 1 March in Geneva. [\(+info\)](#)

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

### **WG TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION**

Washington hosted last 5–6 March a meeting of the UPAEP Technical Co-operation working group. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ **15 TH AICEP FORUM**

The Mozambican capital Maputo will host on 24–26 April the 15th Forum of the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators in the Portuguese-speaking Countries (AICEP), which this year focuses on the theme topic of "Communications: new trends". The Forum's agenda includes analysis of new prospects for industry and telecommunication services, postal service and sector regulation.

## □ **WORKSHOP ON TRUSTED COMPUTING FROM A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE – THE IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC SECTOR**

The German city of Bonn was the site last 26–27 February of a workshop on "Trusted Computing from a European Perspective – The Impact on the Public Sector", held under the German presidency of the European Union (EU) and attended by representatives of companies, the scientific community and public administrations. [\(+info\)](#)



## ■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

### GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- BNetzA has published the first details on the possibility for telephone users to request that their phone numbers bar collect calls. **(+info)**
- A new automatic magnetic field evaluation system has been launched to measure radiation emissions from radio stations operating in the frequency band running from 9 kHz to 3 GHz. **(+info)**
- The German regulator has joined the German anti-spam alliance, which already included the Federation of German Consumer Organisations, the Centre for Unfair Competition and the Association of German Internet Enterprises. **(+info)**
- The cancellation of four numbers of the (0)900 type has been ordered due to abusive usage for spamming, by means of the unsolicited faxing of an alleged consumer newsletter. **(+info)**
- The regulator has notified Deutsche Telekom of its decision concerning the market for ATM (asynchronous transfer mode) bitspeed access. The conditions presented to DT include access in a non-discriminatory manner, recourse to accounts separation and the publication of a reference offer. **(+info)**

### BRAZIL – Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- The total number of mobile telephone users stood at 101.1 million at the end of February 2007, of whom 81.4 million use pre-paid mode and 19.7 million post-paid. **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- The ANATEL Board of Directors has approved number portability in the fixed and mobile telephony networks. Number portability will begin within 16 months on an experimental basis in some capitals and should reach the entire country by March 2009. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

### SPAIN – Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)

- In January 2007 portability in mobile networks registered a record of 445,857 numbers, a trend largely stimulated by the requests submitted by means of the mobile virtual operators (MVNOs) present in the Spanish market since the end of 2006. **(+info, Spanish only)**

### FRANCE – Autorité de Régulation des Communications Électroniques et des Postes (ARCEP)

- Work has begun on producing a report on application of the agreements signed between the cable operators and local governments. The first version of this report will be placed in public consultation in June, with publication of the final version planned for July. **(+info)**
- The regulator has released the first statistical data on the spread of digital terrestrial television (DTT) in France, specifically the distribution of alternative operators with respect to the incumbent TDF. **(+info)**
- ARCEP's decision to add the number 116 000 (social emergency – missing children) to the list of free emergency numbers has been published in the Official Journal of the French Republic. **(+info, French only)**
- The regulator has published a summary of replies to the public consultation on fixed satellite service and declared its position on organisation of the frequency band running from 3.4 GHz to 4.2 GHz. **(+info)**
- A public consultation has been launched on the wholesale market for voice call termination in individual mobile networks. **(+info)**
- The regulator has asked all potential parties interested in the allocation of a fourth licence to operate third generation (3G) mobile telephony to submit their applications by 31 July 2007. **(+info)**

### The NETHERLANDS

#### – Onafhankelijke Post en Telecommunicatie Autoriteit (OPTA)

- The regulator has published a study drawn up by the NERA consultancy firm which evaluates how the model for the strategic revision of telecommunications of the British regulator Ofcom and the commitments taken on by the incumbent operator British Telecom may be relevant for the Dutch communications market.

**(+info)**

#### IRELAND – Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

- Fourth quarter 2006 statistics on the internet market have been published, which indicate a total of 1.03 million users, of whom about 50 percent (517,000) have broadband connections. **(+info)**
- The regulator has given the green light to the award of geographic numbers to mobile operators for new hybrid fixed-mobile services such as, for example, the possibility of making/receiving calls on mobile phones at fixed line prices, at or near users' home. **(+info)**

- The award of the fourth licence to operate third generation (3G) mobile telephony to the operator Eircom has been announced. **(+info)**

### MOROCCO

#### – Agence Nationale de Réglementation des Télécommunications (ANRT)

- The regulator has released the annual statistics for 2006 on the Moroccan electronic communications market. Noteworthy is the drop in fixed telephony (5.6 percent less than in 2005) and the strong growth of mobile telephone service, up by 29 percent over the course of 2006. **(+info, French only)**

### REINO UNIDO – Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- The 2007/2008 annual plan has been released, in which the regulator sets out its policy framework for the next three years and defines priorities until 2008. **(+info)**

- The regulator has published a new regulation for Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services, which operators will have to comply with by June 2007. **(+info)**

- New limits have been announced for the prices charged by operators in the wholesale mobile service markets. For the first time the measure covers third generation (3G) mobile, besides second generation, which had already been subject to regulation. The measure will be applied in the next four years; Ofcom estimates that during that period it will lead to a fall in wholesale prices of between 592 and 740 million euros. **(+info)**

- According to the most recent report on the evolution of digital television in the United Kingdom, referring to the fourth quarter of 2006, 48.5 percent of the 60 million British televisions have a digital connection, a rise of 3.8 percentage points over the previous quarter (44.7 percent) and nearly 10 points compared to the end of 2005 (39 percent). **(+info)**

### SWEDEN – Post & Telestyrelsen (PTS)

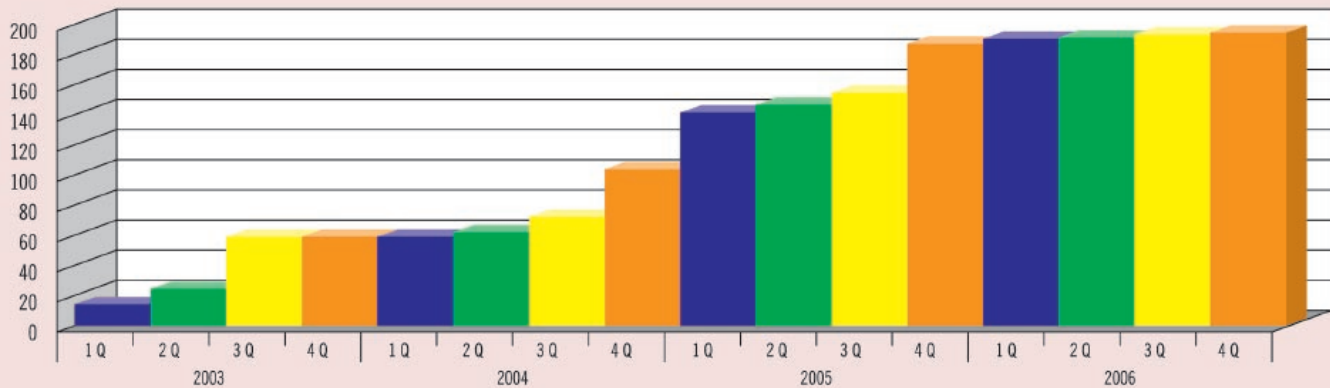
- The regulator has launched a public consultation to ascertain the market's interest and viewpoints on licensing in the 1900-1905 MHz and 2500-2690 MHz bands. The allocation of licences is planned for the spring of 2008. **(+info)**

### SWITZERLAND – Federal Communications Commission (ComCom)

- A decision has been made to renew the GSM licences awarded to the operators Orange, Sunrise and Swisscom Mobile until the end of 2013, when the validity of the licences awarded to Tele2 and In&Phone also expires. **(+info)**
- The regulator has altered the rules for operator pre-selection to protect consumers from unwanted changes and other eventual abuses. **(+info)**

## ■ GROWTH OF THE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES WITH CO-MINGLED OPERATORS – 4TH QUARTER 2006

2003				2004				2005				2006			
1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q
14	24	58	58	58	61	71	102	139	144	152	184	187	188	190	191



## □ ANACOM IN VICE-CHAIR OF OECD WORKING PARTY

The person in charge of ANACOM's Communications Security Office, Manuel Pedrosa de Barros, was elected to the vice-chair of the Working Party on Information Security and Privacy (WPISP) of the Information, Computer and Communications Policies (ICCP) Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) at the group's last meeting, held on

12-13 March. His candidacy, submitted by ANACOM last 15 February, was supported by the permanent delegation in the OECD and by the UMIC-Knowledge Society Agency. The WPISP chair is held by Australia; the other vice-chairs besides Portugal are Canada, the United States of America, Japan, Norway and the United Kingdom. (+info)

## □ ICANN REJECTS CREATION OF THE ".xxx" DOMAIN

The Council of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the body responsible for managing internet domains, has rejected the proposal to create an '.xxx' top-level domain specifically for pornographic internet content. The decision was made during the ICANN meeting held in Lisbon last 26-30 March, which also approved the DNSSEC protocol concerning secu-

rity functions in the domain names system. The latter is deemed important given the existence of possible attacks over the internet. Also adopted were agreements with the Ivory Coast, Libya and Russia, with a view to bringing those countries closer to ICANN. (+info)

## ■ IN APRIL 2007

### MEETINGS

#### AICEP

General Assembly (23)  
Forum (24-26)

#### CEPT

CERP  
- WG Political Affairs (17)

#### ECC

- CPG PT4 (2-4)  
- CPG (16-20)  
- WG FM PT22 (17-20)

#### ERG

NGN Seminar (17)

#### EU

Communications Committee (18)  
Postal Group (11, 23)  
Telecommunications Group (12, 19 and 26)

#### ITU

Telecom Development Sector  
- TDAG (18-20)  
Radiocommunications Sector  
- WP 6E (30-4/5)

#### UPU

Postal Operations Council (16/4-5/5)

### EVENTS

- **ENEI 2007 – National Meeting of Computer Students**  
Guarda, 20-22 (ANACOM sponsorship)

- **Coffee Talk APDC, with Luís Nazaré**  
Lisboa, 18 (ANACOM sponsorship)

- **9th Internet Global Congress**  
Barcelona, 16-19

- **NIDays 2007**  
Oeiras, 12

- **10th International ICT Forum and Exhibition Edition Arabcom 2007**  
Dubai, 11-12

- **2nd Technological Workshops**  
Marinha Grande, 10-13 (ANACOM sponsorship)

- **1st National Meeting of Engineering Students (ENE3)**  
Coimbra, 2-5 (ANACOM sponsorship)

(+info, Portuguese only)