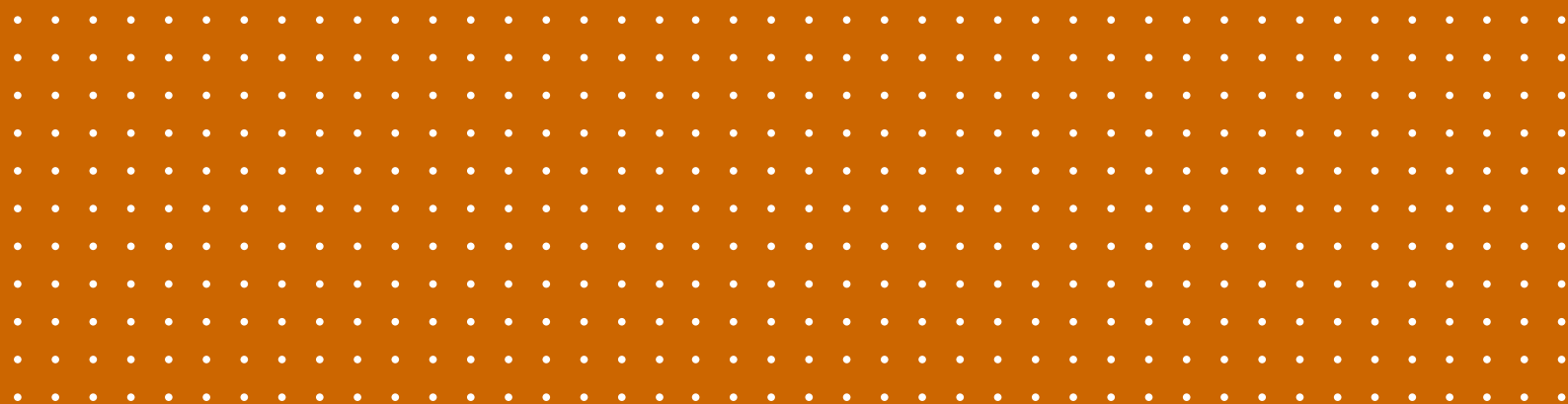


03.

International Activity



This activity is undertaken at three different levels:

As part of its remit as advisor to the Government, ICP-ANACOM is mandated by the Government to represent the Portuguese State as a competent body in the communications sector.

Furthermore, in the exercise of its duties and powers, ICP-ANACOM participates in community and international *fora*, in particular from a perspective of the necessary development and application of measures of market regulation.

Cooperation represents another aspect of this Authority's international intervention, including bilateral cooperation with its counterparts, in particular, and among others, with Portuguese-speaking African countries (PALOP) - Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe - as well as Brazil and East Timor.

● Representation of the Portuguese State

European Union (EU)

Council of Transport, Telecommunications and Energy (TTE)

ICP-ANACOM participated, in cooperation with the permanent national representatives (REPER) to the EU, in the postal and telecommunications group.

It also provided support to the Government in negotiations in the TTE Council, especially in the following fields:

Review of Regulatory Framework - presented the progress reports (first half) and adoption of political agreement (second half) on proposals for the review of the regulatory framework for electronic communications.

Postal Services - Publication of Directive 2008/6/EC amending Directive 97/67/EC concerning the full accomplishment of the internal market of Community postal services. The main proposal set out in this directive is the opening up of the postal market by 31 December 2010, while at the same time ensuring provision of the universal postal service to all users, irrespective of where they are in the Union.

Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) - Publication of Decision no. 626/2008/EC to create, at European level, a common procedure for selection of the operators of mobile satellite systems and establish provisions for the coordinated authorization by the Member States of the operators of MSS selected to operate in the 2 GHz band, pursuant to Decision 626/2008/EC and Call for Applications 2008/C201/03.

International roaming - Adoption of General Guidelines on the Review of the Regulation of international roaming, with the aim of extending the term of voice regulation, introducing regulation of SMS and data services and increasing measures of transparency.

GSM Directive - Presentation of a proposal amending the GSM Directive (87/372/ECC) which aims to allow the frequencies of this technology to be used for other mobile services.

Digital Dividend - Approval of the conclusions of the Council on the Commission Communication "Reaping the full benefits of the digital dividend in Europe: a common approach to the use of the spectrum released by the digital switchover".

ENISA - Adoption of a general approach on the amendment of Regulation no. 460/2004 establishing the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA).

i2010 - Adoption of the conclusions of the Council on i2010 - 2008 Annual Report on the Information Society.

Networks and the Internet of the future - Approval of the Conclusions on the networks and the Internet of the future, based on a Commission communication.

Note should also be made of participation in the World Summit on the Information Society, the Galileo initiatives, WTO, EUROMED, MERCOSUR, Gulf countries whose coordination is ensured at national level by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Committees and Groups of the European Commission (EC)

ICP-ANACOM represented the Portuguese State at the Committees and Working Groups detailed below:

Communications Committee (COCOM)

As part of this Committee's work, approval was given to the following documents:

- Recommendation on the authorization of mobile communications services on board aircraft (MCA services) in the European Community;
- Recommendation on non-technical conditions governing the rights to use radio frequencies, in accordance with the regulatory framework for electronic communications in the context of the Wireless Access Policy for Electronic Communications (WAPECS);
- Recommendation on procedures associated with the notifications, time limits and consultations undertaken pursuant to article 7 of the Framework Directive;
- Report on broadband.

At the end of the year, two proposed recommendations were still under discussion - one on regulated access to next generation networks and the other on the harmonized regulation of termination rates in the European Union.

Particular note should be made of ICP-ANACOM's contribution in developing the first annual questionnaire (for the year 2007) on the implementation of the European 112 emergency number.

This Authority also followed the meetings of the EGEA - Expert Group on Emergency Access and participated in a new working group established to support the Commission in the process of selecting MSS systems in the 2 GHz band, arising from the Decision 626/2008/EC.

Radio Spectrum Committee (RSC)

Of the activity of the RSC in 2008 (Radio Spectrum Committee), note should be made of the adoption of the following draft Decisions:

- Decision amending Decision 2005/928/EC on the harmonization of the 169.4-169.8125 MHz frequency band in the Community, which aims to allow the use of various channelling options, providing users with greater flexibility in the choice of optimal channelling, in accordance with the quality requirements of specific applications for the 169.4000-169.4750 MHz and 169.4875-169.5875 MHz bands;
- Decision on the harmonized use of radio spectrum in the 5875-5905 MHz frequency band for safety applications in the area of smart vehicle communications (ITS - Intelligent Transport Systems);
- Decision on the harmonization of the 2500-2690 MHz bands for terrestrial systems capable of providing pan-european electronic communications in the Community, without loss of protection and continuity of other uses of this band;
- Decision amending Decision 2006/771/EC on the harmonization of radio frequencies for use by short-range and low-power equipment;

- Decision on the harmonization of the 3400-3800 MHz frequency band for terrestrial systems capable of providing services of wireless broadband access in the Community (BWA - Broadband Wireless Access);
- Decision on the harmonized conditions of use of the spectrum for the operation of mobile communications services on board aircraft (MCA) in the Community, in order to avoid interference to land mobile systems.

TCAM

Over the course of 2008, TCAM (Telecommunications Conformity Assessment and Market Surveillance Committee) looked at issues concerning the implementation of Directive 1999/5/EC of 9 March on radio and telecommunications terminal equipment and mutual recognition of conformity.

Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG)

As part of this group's activities, note should be made of the adoption of two opinions, one on optimizing the regulatory environment of spectrum use and the other on aspects of an European approach to collective spectrum use.

The first opinion characterizes and analyses the key points of the current situation. It was concluded that the regulatory process governing the use of spectrum/equipment operates satisfactorily, in particular with regard to interaction between ETSI, CEPT and the European Commission (EC), noting however that there are areas of overlap, particularly between the work of the EC and CEPT.

The presented Recommendations are essentially aimed at overcoming these issues and at improving the efficiency of the link between the EC/CEPT and ETSI.

The other opinion concerns the collective use of the spectrum, where by definition, the CUS model provides for the simultaneous use of an undetermined number of independent users and/or applications in specific spectrum bands and in a particular geographical area, by establishing a minimum set of technical conditions, with the primary objective of reducing barriers to spectrum access.

A further Opinion was adopted to support Member States in the coordination of frequencies with countries outside the European Union, which sets out a raft of recommendations to improve and resolve problems of border coordination.

The Working Group on Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC Working Party)

This group assessed the impact and implications arising from the transposition of Directive 2004/108/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December, aimed at harmonizing Member State legislation in relation to electromagnetic compatibility.

Postal Directive Committee

Of the activity of this Committee in 2008, particular note should be made of the discussion of the implementation process of the Postal Directive, the preparation and accompaniment of the Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the preparation of the postal agenda for 2009.

With respect to the working group established by the Postal Directive Committee in April 2008 to monitor the issues related to the transposition of the Postal Directive 2008/6/EC of 20/02/2008, amending Directive 97/67/EC with respect to full realization of the internal market for Community postal services, ICP-ANACOM participated in two meetings, which took place in September and October, on safeguarding the universal postal service, barriers to competition and ways to overcome them.

ICP-ANACOM also contributed to sectoral negotiations in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO), under the European coordination committee (committee 133).

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Council

The ordinary session of the Council was held in Geneva in November, in the context of the High-Level Segment (HLS), and addressed the topics "ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) and climate change" and "Cyber-security".

Among the items on the agenda, mention should be made of the assessment of the results of the World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly (WTSA-08).

Furthermore, in connection with Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA), the ITU Secretary-General decided to establish a Group of High-Level Experts on Cybersecurity (HLEG) with the objective of providing assistance in the development of strategic proposals for Member States in the five pillars of GCA, including: Legislative Measures, Technical and procedural Measures, Organizational Structures, Capacity Building and International Cooperation.

This group, in which ICP-ANACOM was represented, comprised representatives from Government, industry, regional and international organizations, and academic and research institutions, as well as individual experts. As a result of the work, a final report was produced, which can be consulted on the website of the ITU.

Regarding the improvement of the functioning of the Union, where Portugal has taken the lead on behalf of Europe during the debates in the 2006 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-06), it was decided to launch a consultation of all members, with the result of this consultation contributing to the proposal that the Secretary-General will make at the next Council, and subsequently at PP-10.

Reference should also be made to the approval of the creation of a sub-group of the ITU Council Working Group, which monitors the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), to discuss public policy issues related to the Internet, as proposed by WTSA-08.

Portugal/ITU Memorandum of Understanding: WTPF-09 and Centre of Excellence

Regarding the participation of Portugal in the ITU, particular attention should be given to the performance and development of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Portuguese Government, represented by the Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications and the ITU in December 2007, which established a programme of cooperation in the area of telecommunications and the information society.

In this context of this protocol and on behalf of the Government, ICP-ANACOM invited this agency of the United Nations to hold the fourth World Telecommunication Policy Forum (WTPF-09) in our country.

In October, an Agreement was signed between the Portuguese Republic and the ITU concerning the conditions for the organization and financing of WTPF-09, with ICP-ANACOM charged, in cooperation with the ministries and entities involved, with advising the Government in preparing the event, in terms of both logistics and content, whereby preparatory activities were begun in 2008 for the event scheduled for April 2009.

In the context of the ITU and also with respect to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Portuguese Government and the ITU, ICP-ANACOM actively cooperated on behalf of Portugal in the creation of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Portuguese and Spanish speaking African countries (see Section 3.3.1.4.).

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

24th UPU Congress

The UPU congress, the highest body of this specialized United Nations agency, brings together plenipotentiaries of all member countries every four years. Originally planned to take place in Nairobi, during August, given the violent situation and the social and political instability in the country, the Congress finally took place in Geneva, Switzerland, with Kenya continuing to benefit from the privileges of the host country: to chair the Board during the next cycle and be eligible to be the host country of the Strategic Conference held mid-cycle in 2010. The conference brought together about 2,500 delegates, plenipotentiaries from 179 of the 191 UPU member countries. The Portuguese delegation was composed of representatives from ICP-ANACOM, CTT and the MNE (Mission in Geneva).

Among the most relevant decisions of the Congress, note should be made of the adoption of the Nairobi Postal Strategy and policy of cooperation for the four year period of 2009-2012, the new Agreement on Postal Services Fees, the review of the global system of terminal dues for international postal communications, and at an internal level, progress made in reforming the Union and approval of the financial plan for the 2009-2012 four year period. It should also be noted that Portugal was elected as a permanent member of the Postal Operations Council, assuming the role of observer in the Council of Administration until 2012.

Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council

ICP-ANACOM participated in the working groups, committees and sessions of the Administration Council (AC) and Postal Operations Council (POC), together with representatives of CTT. The first joint meeting of both councils began with a World Round Table on terminal dues with the aim of promoting discussion on a new global system of terminal dues to be adopted by the UPU Congress. During the session a proposal was also presented for restructuring the two Councils for the next cycle (2009/2012), with the aim of simplifying the organizational structure of the POC and streamlining resources and reducing costs.

Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal (UPAEP)

In 2008, ICP-ANACOM participated in the work of the Executive and Consultative Committee (CCE) and in the Postal Regulation Forum. It also followed the working groups of Postal Regulation, Technical Cooperation, Strategic Planning, Terminal Dues and Future Development, the last of these chaired by Portugal (CTT). The Forum discussed issues of the universal service and its funding model, the importance of collecting market information and the need for Latin American countries to have their own regulator, since the reality of the postal sector in this region is different from that of Europe.

Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)

OECD Ministerial Meeting on "The Future of the Internet Economy"

ICP-ANACOM attended the OECD Ministerial Meeting on the Future of the Internet Economy, held in Seoul, in June. There was discussion of issues related to opportunities for economic and social development, convergence, creativity and security. In this context, it was concluded that countries should continue to increase efforts to develop an Internet access network, including mobile, with other issues addressed including identity theft, data privacy and network security, as well as the growing interest in environmental issues and the benefits of the Internet.

The meeting culminated with the adoption of the Seoul Declaration which sets out a commitment to facilitate convergence between digital networks, equipment and services, to strengthen confidence in the Internet, network security through infrastructure protection at national and international level, protection of consumers, personal data and digital identities, and the reduction of malicious activity and the use of the Internet's potential to take on global challenges such as improving energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

ICCP

ICP-ANACOM was represented at the three meetings held in the context of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP), the OECD body that examines the policy issues arising from the development and application of technologies and services in the area of information, computing and communications, including their impact on the economy and society in general and in the strengthening of cooperation between Member States and non-members.

It is noted that Portugal took over the vice-presidency and that the mandates of the ICCP and its working groups, which will apply until the end of 2013, were reviewed.

Working Party on Information Security and Privacy (WPISP)

During 2008, Portugal, through ICP-ANACOM, continued to fulfil the role of one of the Vice-Chairs of this Working Party. Discussion included the following subjects: Economics of Malware, Digital Identity Protection, Policy for the Protection of Critical Information Infrastructure, Radio Frequency Identifiers (RFID).

European Satellite Telecommunications Organization (EUTELSAT IGO)

ICP-ANACOM provided national representation in the National Assembly of Parties of EUTELSAT IGO and in the Advisory Committee, a support body of the organization's executive structure, comprising the Secretariat and the Executive Secretary. In 2008, there were two meetings of this Committee in which analysis was made of the level of compliance by the operator Eutelsat in its operational and commercial activity with the basic principles stipulated by the IGO and their obligations in terms of universal service.

In this context reference should be made to the renewal of the mandate of the Executive Secretary of the organization. Following a proposal of Portugal, it was decided to go ahead with a formal process of nominations to the position, continuing until the end of February 2009.

International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO)

The election of the Director General of ITSO was held during the 32nd Assembly of Parties which was organized by ICP-ANACOM, in Estoril in October. The election was contested between a portuguese candidate and a candidate from Benin, with the portuguese candidate elected by a large majority. The Director General elect will take up functions in July 2009.

It is noted that this Assembly discussed the precarious financial position of the operator Intelsat and the future of ITSO after 2013.

ICP-ANACOM provides government representation in the Assembly of Parties and for next two years will assume the presidency of the General Assembly.

International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)

ICP-ANACOM provides national representation in both the Assembly of Parties of IMSO, the highest body of the organization, and the Advisory Committee as an observer.

In September/October, the 20th Assembly of Parties was held in Malta, where approval was given to the amendments to the IMSO Convention, following the base proposal made by the United States of America. Such amendments have provisional application, and Portugal expressed the impossibility of their application, for constitutional reasons. Essentially, these amendments seek to extend the functions of IMSO to the supervision of future providers of satellite services for the Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS) which are authorized for such by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), in a manner identical to that applied to Inmarsat. With respect to the Long Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT), the amendments will enable the IMSO to assume new functions as LRIT coordinator, a system being developed by IMO to improve safety in maritime transport.

● Technical Representation

Regarding the GMDSS, the Assembly also discussed the entry of new operators in the system, with approval given to the text of the future Reference Agreement of Public Services.

Regulation Organizations

European Regulators Group (ERG)

The ERG, established by Commission Decision no. 2002/627/EC, worked closely with the Commission in drafting legislative proposals aimed at revising the regulatory framework and also in the construction of a new institutional model, and issued a statement on the progress of the Community legal framework for electronic communications.

There was submission to public consultation of a document on the regulatory approach to next generation networks and a proposal for a Common Position on the geographic aspects of market analysis. Following these consultations, approval was given to a Joint Declaration on next generation networks and a response to the draft Recommendation on regulated access to next generation networks. Approval was also given to a Common position and a report was published on the geographic aspects of market analysis.

Additionally, note should be made of the publication of a report on the data collection process resulting from the application of the regulation of roaming, participation in the public consultation on international roaming, the response to the European Commission's public consultation on termination rates, the adoption of an action plan to implement the provisions of the Common Position on symmetry in termination rates, the publication of a report on the regulatory accounting systems used by members of the ERG in 2008 and another on the methodology for the comparison of retail prices for broadband services and approval, at the end of the year, of a statement on the development of access to next generation networks.

As a result of the Plenary held in Vilnius in May, the Presidencies of the ERG and the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) agreed on the development of a plan for future cooperation that would be materialized through the creation of a joint working group to examine issues of spectrum regulation, particularly the relationship between competition and the new spectrum management. The first meeting of this group took place in Gothenburg, where the subjects dealt with included transition, market definition, and analysis of dominant position, in the context of "spectrum trading".

Independent Regulators Group (IRG)

The IRG (Independent Regulators Group) is a group with participation of the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) of the communications sector of the 27 Member States of the European Union, as well as countries of the European Economic Area (Switzerland, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) and the EU candidate countries (Turkey, Croatia and Macedonia). ICP-ANACOM was present at all sessions and preparatory meetings, participating in an operational intermediary group with representatives of each NRA, known as the Contact Network.

In 2008, the IRG changed legal status to an association under Belgian private law, with the constitution for the first time of a professional secretariat.

ICP-ANACOM gave priority to its presence and participation in the following working groups: Review of Regulatory Framework, Mobile Termination Rates, Convergence, End-Users, IRGIS (IRG information system), Benchmark, Roaming and presided over two of these (End-Users and IRGIS).

Among the matters addressed, particular note should be made of CERT (Finland and Switzerland), attacks on websites (Lithuania), existing or future regulations on the subject (Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority - FICORA and the Hellenic Telecommunications & Post Commission - EETT), network resilience (the European Network and Information Security Agency - ENISA).

ICP-ANACOM also followed the "Informal IRG Working Group on Network and Information Security", a favoured forum for exchange of experiences on matters related to network and information security, which saw participation of ENISA members.

ICP-ANACOM was also involved in the preparation of the Common Position on symmetry in Fixed and Mobile Terminations and in the preparation of a response to the public consultation launched by the European Commission on a draft Recommendation on prices of Fixed and Mobile Termination in the EU.

Regulatel

Regulatel, the Latin American Forum of Telecommunications Regulators, has a mission to exchange information on the regulatory framework of each administration with the intention of harmonizing the rules and activities of the Regulatory Authorities. With a nature which is similar to that of the European groups, ERG and IRG, it aims to foster cooperation and coordination of activities in the field of telecommunications, promoting the development of the sector in Latin America.

ICP-ANACOM participated in the VIII meeting between the chairs of Regulatel and the IRG and the XI plenary of the chairs of Regulatel, which took place in Lima.

EMERG

June 2008 saw the official creation of the Euro-Mediterranean network of Regulators (EMERG), which brings together representatives of regulators of the electronic communications sector from around the Mediterranean region, including members of the Independent Regulators Group (IRG), from North Africa and the Middle East. ICP-ANACOM attended the first plenary in Malta, as a founding member. The aims of this network of regulators include the sharing of experiences and further consolidation and harmonization of the principles of regulation. Alongside these objectives, there is recognition of the existence of challenges and opportunities which may be reflected in promoting competition and stability in the electronic communications markets, the development of new technologies and overcoming the digital divide, making the benefits of the information society accessible to all.

Other Organizations

ITU Sectors

Standardization Sector (ITU-T)

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-08), the highest body of the Standardization Sector, took place in October in Johannesburg. New Resolutions were adopted, in particular, on accessibility for people with disabilities and there was discussion on the role of information and communication technologies in reducing the impact of climate change.

In addition, a Recommendation was approved on network externalities, although with reservations expressed by several countries, including Portugal.

Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)

In the annual meeting of the Telecommunications Development Advisory Group (TDAG), which took place in February, the need was shown for the definition of indicators (key project indicators - KPIs), which are quantitative and qualitative, to measure the implementation of the operational plan, for which purpose a working group was established.

Events with relevance to the sector were examined, particularly the Global Symposium for Regulators and the Connect Africa Summit (Geneva, October 2008), which were considered a true success, given the large amount of funding achieved for projects linked to the development of telecommunications in Africa.

Special mention should be made of ICP-ANACOM's support for the 2008 edition of the programme Youth Education Scheme (YES) of the ITU, as in 2004 and 2007. This initiative of the ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau, which is part of the ITU Youth Programme, aims to support needy youngsters from developing countries who wish to complete higher education in the field of information and communication technologies (ICT) and related areas and who wish to contribute to the development of their community, country or region.

As part of the programme of cooperation with Portuguese-speaking countries, ICP-ANACOM's sponsorship focused solely on candidates from Portuguese-speaking African countries (PALOP).

Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R)

The 15th meeting of the Advisory Group (RAG), which took place in February in Geneva, examined the decisions of the 2007 session of the Council and issues addressed in the Radiocommunications Assembly and at the World Radiocommunication Conference. This conference saw the creation of 35 new Resolutions, while note should also be made of the restructuring of the sector Study Committees, including the creation of a new Study Committee 5 (dedicated to terrestrial services) and the modification of Committee 4 (satellite services), as well as the appointment of chairs and vice-chairs of the Study Committee, of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM), the Committee for Coordination of Vocabulary, the Special Committee, and the RAG itself.

ICP-ANACOM also participated in other working groups, in particular WP 1A (responsible for research on Spectrum Engineering Techniques and dealing with matters related to the WRC, the PLT (Power Line Telecommunications) and review of several ITU Recommendations), in WP 1B (responsible for studies on methods of Spectrum Management and Economic Strategies, dealing with issues such as SRD (Short Range Devices), SDR & CR (Software Defined Radio & Cognitive Radio) and with Resolution 951) in WP 4B (responsible for studies related to satellite radio services), in WP 5A (responsible for studies related to the land mobile service, excluding IMT and the amateur and amateur satellite services) in WP 5B, responsible for studies related to the maritime mobile service, including the GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System), the aeronautical mobile service and radiodetermination, dedicated to the development of technical and operational specifications of weather radar systems and maritime mobile service systems in metric and decametric waves, in WP 5C (responsible for the technical aspects related to the fixed service, including the development of new frequency plans and the establishment of criteria for spectrum sharing between systems of the fixed service and other services) in WP6A (responsible for studies related to the broadcasting service, in particular the transition from analogic to digital technology) and JTG 5-6 (created by CPM11-1 "Conference Preparatory Meeting 2011", which requires the completion of studies of sharing between the mobile service and other services for which the 790-862 MHz band is allocated: broadcast services, fixed, mobile and aeronautical radio navigation - in Regions 1 and 3, according to Resolution 749).

European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)

The objectives of the CEPT include the harmonization of technical and regulatory matters, as well as the coordination of European regional positions in respect of the work of the international organizations in the sector, namely the ITU and the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

In 2008, ICP-ANACOM participated in the CEPT Assembly - its highest body -, which was held in June, in Malta, and which continued work reforming the organization.

EC Mandates to CEPT

In 2008, the following work was undertaken in response to mandates issued to the CEPT by the EC:

- SRD - with respect to the permanent mandate, with the objective of conducting an annual review of the Annex to the EC Decision on the harmonization of the spectrum for SRDs, including the technical characteristics and the frequency ranges of this type of equipment, whereby analysis was conducted of amendment proposals presented by the EC;
- UWB (Ultra Wide Band) - mandate to identify the technical and operational conditions related to the harmonized introduction in the EU of UWB - based applications;
- Digital Dividend - mandate to conduct the necessary technical studies aimed at defining not only the optimal technical conditions for the use of the 790-862 MHz sub-band by fixed/mobile electronic communications, but also by other potential networks or services, taking into account the co-existence of existing services, including the broadcasting service;
- MCV (Mobile Communications on Vessels) - a report was prepared (ECC REPORT 122) on GSM on board vessels in the 900 MHz and 1800 MHz bands, following the mandate to identify the technical and operational conditions necessary to ensure the absence of harmful interference in radio services operating in the 900 MHz and 1800 MHz frequency range, in the territorial waters of Member States.

European Communications Office (ECO)

ICP-ANACOM provided representation of the Portuguese Administration on the Boards of the European Radiocommunications Office (ERO) and the European Telecommunications Office (ETO), which met jointly in May and December, having chosen the new Chair and Vice-Chair (Netherlands and Norway, respectively). The joint Council conducted an analysis of the financial implications of the ongoing restructuring in the CEPT and approved the general principle of cost recovery to finance future activities. It was agreed that a proposal will be presented at the next Assembly that all 48 states participating in the organization bear the future costs of the ECO, which is currently supported only by the 29 countries that subscribed to the Convention. Regarding the ratification of the Convention establishing the ECO, resulting from the merger of the ERO and ETO, it is anticipated that this shall enter into force in early 2009, with the Office able to operate simultaneously. The Office prepared the 2009 celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the CEPT, in parallel with the completion of the organization's 15th Conference, which will take place in Montreux, in October.

Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)

The activity of this Committee in 2008 included the approval of the following decisions:

- Harmonized use of the 5 875-5 925 MHz frequency band by Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS);
- Harmonization of frequency bands for the implementation of digital systems for Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) in the 380-470 MHz range;
- Harmonized use of GSM systems on board vessels in the 880-915/925-960 MHz and 1 710-1 785/1 805-1 880 frequency bands.

Reviews were also conducted on the Decisions on the "Free circulation of radio equipment in CEPT countries" and on "Regulatory provisions for UWB applications using mitigation techniques".

Regarding the accompaniment of the ECC subgroups, ICP-ANACOM gave priority to its presence in the working groups and project teams of Frequency Management, Spectrum Engineering, Regulatory Affairs, IMT-2000 and Other Systems, Preparation of Conferences, Numbering and Addressing and Technical Aspects of interconnection. The following results obtained by these groups are highlighted below:

- The Frequency Management Working Group (WG FM) continued with activities with respect to radio spectrum harmonization at a European level, in the context of radio services and systems;
- Spectrum Engineering Working Group (SE WG) carried out studies that resulted in recommendations and reports to establish compatibility criteria between different radio systems. Note should be made of the reports on microphone transmitters (PWMS), specific UWB applications (ODC) and the Decision on the introduction of mobile services on board vessels (GSMOBV);
- Regulatory Affairs Working Group (RA WG) worked on the harmonization of regulatory technical standards and procedures at a European level, especially the review of Decisions on free circulation, use and exemption from individual licensing of terminals, analysis on the applicability of the R&TTE (Radio and Telecommunication Terminal Equipment) and EMC (Electromagnetic Compatibility) Directives;
- The Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) began preparation for the World Radiocommunication Conference which will take place in 2011, creating four projects for this purpose which will have the following issues on their agendas:

- PT-A (General regulatory and technical issues): technical aspects, regulations and procedures pertaining to various topics under discussion with respect to the agenda of WRC-11; coordination of European positions at the RA (Radiocommunications Assembly ITU-R), included in the structure of ITU-R. Additionally, as part of its mandate, the project team should coordinate the positions of the CEPT at the CPM (Conference Preparatory Meeting) and the SCRPM (Special Committee on Regulatory/Procedural Matters), and propose the creation or modification of the Rules of Procedure, presented by the RRB (Radio Regulations Board) with the aim of improving the interpretation and application of the RR;
 - PT-B (Scientific issues): aspects of the WRC-11 agenda associated with scientific services and the coordination of European positions to be put forward at the RA;
 - PT-C (Aeronautical, radiolocation, maritime, amateur): formulation of CEPT positions with respect to issues associated with the aeronautical mobile service, radiolocation, maritime, and amateur service on the WRC-11 agenda, as well as the coordination of European positions to be put forward at the RA;
 - PT-D (Various): coordination of various issues associated with ENG (Electronic News Gathering), fixed service, UHF band, HAPS and mobile satellite service.
 - The ECC PT1 Group, responsible for all IMT matters should coordinate contributions and European positions on issues of spectrum planning and sharing/compatibility;
 - The ECC TG3 Group which responded to the mandates of the EC to the study mitigation techniques and the development of regulatory solutions for generic UWB devices;
 - The ECC TG4 Group, which concluded its work on the first mandate of the EC to study the technical constraints with a view to the adoption of a harmonized policy for the digital dividend in the EU, presented Report CEPT 23 regarding the possibility of using the spectrum without harmonization between the awards and allocations of DVB-T (so-called “white spaces”) by future applications or services and CEPT Report 24 which contains a technical roadmap of the various technical options and possible scenarios for the optimization of the digital dividend;
 - FM PT 46, which conducted its activity with respect to the maritime mobile service and maritime radionavigation.
- European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP)**
2008 was marked by the adoption of a new structure for the CERP with only two Working Groups, with nine Project Teams reporting to these Groups, maintaining the Plenary as the final provider of approval to the Committee’s work.
- At the plenary meeting held in May in Riga, the reports of the various working groups and project teams were presented and the restructuring of the CEPT and its impact on CERP was discussed. Germany was elected to the Presidency, and Ireland to the vice-presidency.
- At the October plenary session in Athens, approval was given to the new CERP structure and there was participation of guests from the European Commission who addressed the theme of the current phase of postal liberalization in Europe.
- Working Group on ITU Affairs**
This group of CEPT is responsible for political and strategic issues related to the ITU and reports to the organization’s Plenary.

The group focused on preparations for the World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly (WTSA-08), having analysed the results of the latest TSAG meeting and approved the terms of reference and mandate of Project Team preparing this Assembly. In addition, the Common European Proposals (CEP) for WTSA-08 were adopted, as well as the CEP on network externalities, contrary to that proposed by the CEPT. The European countries presented, however, a reservation on the implementation of this Recommendation.

European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI)

ICP-ANACOM is a member of ETSI in the Administration category, and participated in this quality in the two General Assemblies, the highest body of ETSI, in Nice.

ETSI is active in three areas: Global Standards Producer, Service Providing Organization and European Standards Organization, while in the area of standards special attention is given to the strategic issues of M2M Communication, Radio Spectrum, "Internet of Things" (including RFID), Interconnection of IP-based services, Services Oriented Architecture (SOA) and Core Network Harmonization.

ETSI increased the number of its members, totalling around 700, with increasing representation of bodies from other continents. Note should also be made of the increasingly strong cooperation with entities outside Europe, notably with China.

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

ICP-ANACOM followed the work of the 3rd session of the Internet Governance Forum in Hyderabad (India), where issues were discussed such as access (with the goal of adding the next billion Internet users), cybersecurity and cybercrime (including the dichotomy of privacy vs. security), the management of critical/scarc resources (particularly the transition from IPv4 to IPv6 and articulation between the various stakeholders in the management of the Internet) and the Internet of the future. In particular, the following results should be noted:

- The contribution of ICT, and the Internet in particular, to the issue of climate change, particularly in terms of the circulation of information;
- The need for progress in the area of child protection. Indeed, while there are technical tools, there is a lack of tools of a social character, including the definition of what should be ensured in terms of privacy versus access to information;
- The great importance of granting tax credits or benefits with respect to the purchase of equipment, in order to reach the next billion users. Multilingualism has been identified as of great importance to achieve the desired increase in the number of accesses to the Internet;
- Accessibility from the perspective of ensuring that concerns such as the inclusion of people with special needs, needs to be properly ensured in the future model of Internet management (governance);
- Cybersecurity and legal aspects, namely the development of appropriate jurisdiction.

● Cooperation

Over recent years, ICP-ANACOM has played a particularly important role with regard to supporting the creation and development of regulatory bodies for communications in Portuguese-speaking countries. Today, all these countries have established independent regulatory authorities.

2008 was marked by a new strategy in ICP-ANACOM's cooperation policy, with the adoption of an approach which is more focused on the new paradigms of development at a global level, and especially at sectoral level.

New cooperation mechanisms were established which better correspond to the actual and changing needs of the countries involved. In parallel, new platforms of cooperation were established, in articulation with organizations and agencies aimed at providing support and development, in their public and private aspects.

Multilateral Cooperation

Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators of the Portuguese-speaking Countries and Territories (AICEP)

ICP-ANACOM participated in and provided financial support to the General Assembly and XVI AICEP Forum, held in Praia, Cape Verde, and also contributed with a presentation on "The new challenges for regulation".

Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP)

Centred on the theme "Prospects for regulation within the CPLP", this Authority participated in the Fifth Technical Meeting on Telecommunications of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP), held in Praia (Cape Verde), in July 2008. This was the last technical telecommunications meeting of the CPLP held in this respect. However, the need was jointly agreed and identified for the creation of an Association of Communications and Telecommunications Regulators of the CPLP, which association should continue to promote the work which to date had been developed in this framework.

Association of Communications Regulators of the CPLP (ARCT-CPLP)

Following the decision referred to in the preceding paragraph, ICP-ANACOM took responsibility for coordinating a working group to draft the Statutes of this Association. Following this work, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed in October in Estoril, establishing the ARCT-CPLP with the mission of strengthening cooperation between the regulators of the Portuguese-speaking countries of the CPLP.

ICP-ANACOM has given priority to this project from the beginning and has been willing to assume the duties of a permanent secretariat of this Association.

Centre of Excellence (CoE ITU)

ICP-ANACOM actively participated in the creation of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Portuguese and Spanish speaking African countries (in which it was also possible to include East Timor as a beneficiary).

The agreement for the establishment of the CoE was signed with the ITU in October, in Estoril, whereby, with the establishment of the CoE - in line with those set up for francophone and anglophone African countries - a contribution will be made over the next four years (2009-2012) to raising the level of institutional qualification of the participants of the sector in Portuguese and Spanish speaking Africa, by means of training programmes which focus on areas of high priority.

This project is co-financed by Portugal and Spain, with Portugal, in addition to making a financial contribution, also willing to contribute in kind, taking on the cost of participation of portuguese trainers/experts in the training programmes taking place within the framework of this Authority's activities. The overall budget of this project is around 1.3 million dollars, with Portugal the main donor.

The management and decisions on the activities plan of the CoE will be provided by a Standing Committee established for the purpose, with representation of the ITU, and donor and recipient countries.

Training courses

In cooperation with the Portuguese-speaking African countries (PALOP) and East Timor, ICP-ANACOM conducted two training courses for technicians from the regulatory bodies of these countries - one on Spectrum management and another on Regulation of the Communications Sector. 23 technicians were involved in the course, from the regulators of PALOP and East Timor.

Bilateral Cooperation

Indicative Cooperation Programmes and Annual Cooperation Plans

2008 was marked by several initiatives in this area, including the following:

- Technical missions to identify specific needs of individual countries;
- Negotiation and definition of the Indicative Cooperation Programmes (ICP). The ICPs (schedule of activities by country, with minimum periods for implementation, of 3 years) set out the main areas of urgent action, which should be implemented through Annual Cooperation Plans (ACP), including a number of actions, thereby realising the areas or courses of action identified in the ICPs;
- Three ICPs were defined (with the regulators of Angola, Cape Verde and Mozambique) and the respective ACPs were contracted for 2009;
- Contractualization of the ACP for 2009 in the case of the Regulators of Sao Tome and Guinea Bissau, given that the needs identified were urgent and required intervention in the short term;
- Review of cooperation protocols and agreement of new protocols with the regulators of Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique and Guinea Bissau and amendment of the protocol with Sao Tome and Principe.

Other actions

In 2008 the following initiatives merit particular note:

- Training course held in October by videoconference between ICP-ANACOM and the National Communications Institute of Mozambique (INCM), addressing postal sector issues. This initiative, which was supported by the Portuguese Embassy in Maputo, made it possible to bring 22 technicians (from the regulator and from the postal operators and Mozambique) together in the same room.
- 12th ordinary meeting of ANATEL (National Telecommunications Agency of Brazil) and ICP-ANACOM Coordination Commission which resulted in several commitments to jointly undertake work, particularly on the implementation of cost models, functional separation and broadband access, the creation of an information exchange between ICP-ANACOM and the manager of the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI) on the regulation of service providers and the creation of various working groups, organization of seminars and conduct of studies.
- Cooperation event held in June, on the premises of the National Communications Authority of Hungary (NHH), with the participation of 3 technicians from ICP-ANACOM, to exchange experiences and knowledge with respect to spectrum monitoring and control activities. The second phase of this activity took place in Portugal in October, with an NHH team participating in the daily work of the Spectrum Management Directorate in the area of Monitoring and Control.
- In October, ICP-ANACOM received a delegation from the Postal sector of Venezuela, consisting of the ministry and incumbent operator. This meeting was requested by the Venezuelan delegation, and saw participation from CTT.
- In November, a visit of the Ecuador postal regulator, the National Postal Agency, took place, with the aim of sharing the portuguese experience in terms of regulating the postal sector.

- Participation in the XII Congress of ACIST - Business Association of Telecommunications held in Praia, in Cape Verde, in support of the internationalization of portuguese business. This event was attended by over 100 sector entities (from Portugal and Cape Verde) and contributed to raising awareness of the Cape Verde authorities with respect to the importance of ITED regulation and to the establishment of partnerships between different companies of the two countries.
- Establishing contacts with entities versed in international cooperation, to establish possible partnerships which will facilitate cooperation plans and further optimization human and financial resources, including:
 - Start of negotiations on a protocol with the National Institute of Administration (INA) to allow the technicians and managers of regulatory bodies from PALOP access to their advanced training courses.
 - Initiation of contacts with the IPAD, with agreement reached on the conclusion of a cooperation protocol to ensure free Portuguese training for technicians of the regulatory body of East Timor (ARCOM), given by portuguese teachers based in East Timor as part of the portuguese training programme. Moreover, IPAD has also supported ANACOM, allowing the free shipment of literature and equipment to PALOP countries.

Several meetings with the World Bank and with the heads of the InfoDev Programme. These contacts led to the exchange of information on ongoing projects, trying to avoid duplication of activities and opening doors for the establishment of partnerships to enable possible joint operational missions of cooperation during 2009, with respect to PALOP.