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## □ PUBLIC CONSULTATION – BROADBAND WIRELESS ACCESS (BWA)

By determination dated 23 November 2006, the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has placed in public consultation the introduction of broadband wireless access (BWA) in Portugal, taking into consideration the positions discussed in international organisations, specifically in the European Commission (EC) and the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT). The results of the public consultation on fixed wireless access (FWA), duly promoted by ANACOM, also serve to support the BWA

consultation. The work carried out to date enabled the conclusion that the priority bands for BWA applications will be 3.6 GHz and 5.8 GHz. (+info)

A 20 working day deadline to submit comments (until 2 January 2007) was originally set, though in a determination dated 5 December 2006 ANACOM decided to extend it until 8 January 2007; same should be sent, preferably by electronic mail to [consultaBWA@anacom.pt](mailto:consultaBWA@anacom.pt). (+info)

## □ FIXED TELEPHONE – CONTRACT TERMINATION

ANACOM has ruled on the termination of contracts for fixed telephone service (FTS) should the subscriber line resale offer (SLRO) be suspended for lack of subscriber payment, in the clarification issued 13 November 2006, which follows on a previous clarification dated 4 October 2006. Note that in this area the rule contained in the determination dated 29 April 2005, according to which any subscriber contact with the *Grupo PT* companies with respect to the subscriber line should be carried out via the beneficiary, is thus applicable to PTC. In an

access with SLRO activated, the subscriber should therefore proceed to cancel the FTS contract exclusively to the beneficiary, who will be the only interlocutor. Such procedure does not call to question the existence of a contract relationship between the subscriber and the *Grupo PT* companies, as it only aims to ensure a single point of contact, similar to the norm in other regulated cases such as portability and pre-selection. (+info)

## □ SONAECOM BID TO TAKE OVER PT – ANACOM OPINION

The ANACOM opinion on the draft decision prepared by the Competition Authority (AdC), following the reorganisation of the commitments offered by Sonaecom

in its Public Acquisition Offer (OPA) for *Portugal Telecom* (PT), was approved on 23 November 2006. (+info)

## □ 2007-2009 MANAGEMENT PLAN

ANACOM has posted its management plan for the 2007-2009 three-year period online, in which this Authority's strategy goals are indicated: to encourage open and competitive markets; improve citizen usage conditions; boost innovation and investment in infrastructures; increase ANACOM's capacity for activity and efficiency; actively monitor development of the European Union (EU) internal market; and encourage international co-operation. Fulfilment of this strategy

is based on three major activity areas, distinct though interdependent: encouragement of competition, innovation and investment; guarantee and protection of the rights of users and citizens; and increased efficiency of the regulator. The document also includes the means plan for the period in question, for the components of personnel, investment and finance. (+info)

## ■ THIRD ANACOM SEMINAR – 12 DECEMBER

ANACOM hosts on 12 December at 5:30 p.m. in Lisbon the third seminar of the ANACOM Seminars series, a recently launched initiative to promote knowledge, reflection and discussion of relevant topics for the communications sector. In this third event Professor Maria de Lurdes Martins of the Universidade do Minho will present the work on "Privatisation, Liberalisation and the Portuguese Telecommunications Sector: a social cost-benefit analysis", which is co-authored by professor Natália Maria Monteiro from the same university. (+info)

Meanwhile, the study on "Handset Subsidies – an Empirical Investigation", by Pedro Pita Barros, professor at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, has been posted on this Authority's website, after being presented on 22 November 2006 in the second seminar of the ANACOM Seminars series. Both of these studies, including the respective pretexts and conclusions, are the exclusive responsibility of the authors. (+info)

## ■ CURRENT EVENTS

**PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE – INVENTORY**

By determination dated 23 October 2006 the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved the 2004 inventory of assets pertaining to the public telecommunications service concession, with some reservations, which should be resolved by *PT Comunicações* (PTC) in future inventories. It is recommended that from 2007 on PTC should submit the inventory by August of the year after the one in question and that the communication to ANACOM of the auditor chosen by the concessionaire to conduct the inventory should be accompanied by the corresponding contract specifications. (+info)

**CITIZENS BAND – LICENCE VALIDITY EXPIRATION**

ANACOM has been advising that as from 1 January 2007 the only Personal Radio Service – Citizen's Band (PRS-CB) stations allowed to operate will be those with equipment working in AM and FM and whose conformity is evaluated per the procedures envisaged in Decree-Law no. 192/2000 of 18 August. This is because the validity of the licences for CB stations whose equipment has been verified in accordance with Recommendation T/R 20-02 of CEPT (European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations) and issued under Decree-Law no. 153/89 of 10 May expires on 31 December. Interested parties seeking more information may contact the ANACOM public attendance service on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., personally or by the free phone 800 20 66 65. (+info)

**NATIONAL NUMBERING PLAN**

Information concerning the national numbering plan (NNP) has been updated with respect to nomad services (information on the '30' numbering range for VoIP nomad service) and telephone service accessible to the public at a fixed location, for all geographic areas. (+info)

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES**

As per its sanction and oversight duties, ANACOM has divulged the decisions pertaining to four administrative offence cases, two in the area of public pay-phone service and another two in postal services. Also divulged were the rulings for administrative offence proceedings in the market for radio equipment and the market for telecommunications terminal equipment. (+info, Portuguese only)

**PT UPDATES REFERENCE OFFERS**

PT Comunicações has published the most recent versions of the subscriber line resale offer (SLRO), the reference unbundling offer (RUO) and the reference conduits access offer (RCUO). (+info, Portuguese only)

**INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS**

In a determination dated 16 November 2006, ANACOM designated the Cristóvão Colombo Vocational School as an ITED (Portuguese acronym for telecommunications infrastructures in buildings) training entity, able to give authorised ITED courses to electricians. This designation is valid for three years from the date of its respective approval; the training entity is obliged to maintain the conditions verified on the designation date. (+info, Portuguese only)

Three new ITED certification entities were also registered: Intelsol II – Projectos e Instalações Eléctricas, Lda., T.M.S. – Telemática e Serviços, Lda., and Caçote's – Telecomunicações, Lda. (+info, Portuguese only)

**SUMMARY OF THE 16TH APDC CONGRESS**

The Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC) has published a summary of the 16th Communications Congress, held in Lisbon on 14-16 November. Noteworthy are the conclusions concerning the role of regulation (competition, telecommunications and content), the evolution of regulation in the internal market, Web 2.0 and technologies and safety.

(+info, Portuguese only)

**ANACOM AT THE CONFERENCE ON****'REGULATION AND STRUCTURAL ISSUES'**

Director José Ferrari Careto's presentation at the conference on "Regulation and Structural Issues" has been posted on the ANACOM website. The initiative, organised by the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC), was held last 24 October at the Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon. His speech provides a general outline of the regulatory measures framing the electronic communications market, including a summary of their respective maturity and effectiveness. (+info)

**CONGRESS ON REGULATION IN CAPE VERDE**

Also posted online were the ANACOM presentations at the National Congress on Regulation in Cape Verde, an event organised by the National Regulation Agency (ARE) and held in Praia last 10-12 October. Titled "GSM Mobile Networks – Gauging the Quality of Service" and "Evaluation of Internet Access Service", the presentations supported the speech on "Auditing the Quality of Service (in internet access and land mobile service)". (+info, Portuguese only)

**COURSE ON 'PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL'**

ANACOM took part in the 2 November session of the training course on 'Urban Planning and Urban Renewal from the Standpoint of the Extent of the City's Energy/Environmental Performance'. The session focused on the topic of "Urban Infrastructures and the City's Energy/Environmental Performance", with ANACOM's presentation covering ITED (telecommunications infrastructures in buildings). The course is sponsored by Lisboa E-Nova – the Lisbon Municipal Agency for Energy and the Environment and is held every Thursday from September through December 2006, in partnership with the *Instituto Superior Técnico*, and counts the assistance of the Municipal Directorate for Urban Planning of the Lisbon City Government. (+info, Portuguese only)

**USE OF ICTs BY PORTUGUESE FAMILIES**

In the first quarter of 2006 computers were present in 45.4 percent of Portuguese households and the internet in 35.2 percent (with broadband at 24 percent), corresponding to average annual growth of 15.7 percent and 25.2 percent respectively since 2002. These results are included in the "2006 Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Families", conducted by the National Statistics Institute with the collaboration of UMIC – the Agency for the Knowledge Society. The report also indicates that in the first quarter of 2006 some 42.5 percent of individuals aged between 16 and 74 used computers and 35.6 percent accessed the internet. As for the use of electronic commerce, the study indicates that during the first three months of 2006 nearly 13 percent of Portuguese internet users had either purchased or ordered goods and services online. (+info)

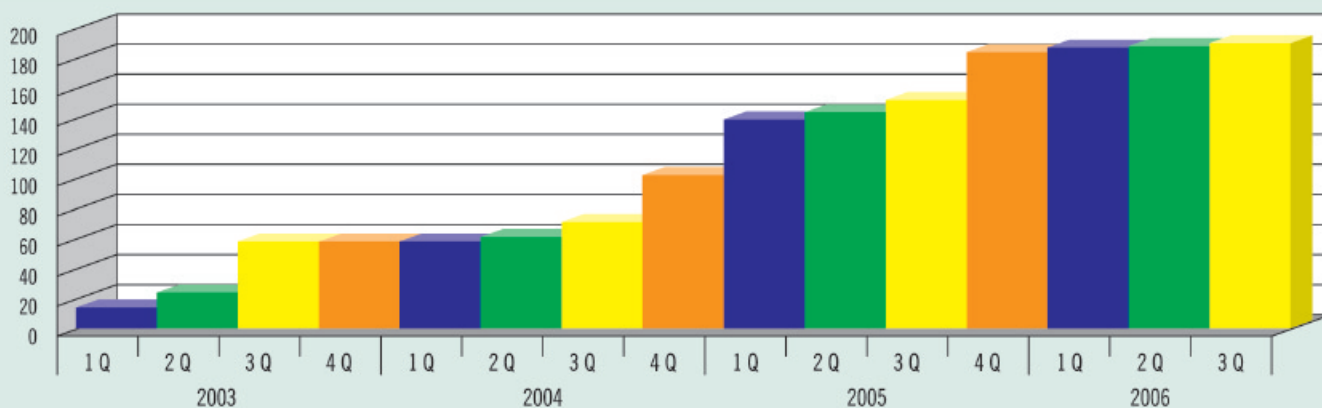
**INFORMATION SOCIETY PRIZES**

The Association for Promotion and Development of the Information Society (APDSI) has announced that the winner of the '2006 Information Society Person of the Year' prize is José Magalhães, Assistant State Secretary and of Internal Administration, so recognised for his lifetime contribution. The prize/homage to 'A Life' was given to Raul Junqueiro, former president of the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC). Also made public were the winners of the third 'Portuguese Media Prizes' for 2006, awarded by the Association for Multimedia Development in Portugal (APMP). "The Red Shoes", a project by Sandra Zuzarte, won in the Video/Image category, while in Music/Sound the prize went to "Wordsong – Fernando Pessoa". In the Web/Mobile Telephone category the winner was professor Nuno Correio and team, from the Faculty of Science and Technology at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

(+info, Portuguese only)

## ■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES WITH CO-MINGLED OPERATORS – 3RD QUARTER 2006

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



## □ TITLES FOR RIGHTS TO USE FWA FREQUENCIES

By determination dated 23 November 2006, the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has decided to issue reworked titles for the rights to use frequencies to operate fixed wireless access (FWA) systems assigned to the companies AR Telecom, Novis Telecom, Onitecom, Vodafone Portugal, WTS, PT Comunicações and Broadnet Portugal. This completes the first phase of the plan to reorganise the operation of FWA systems, which included the transfor-

mation of a national coverage system into a system comprising several geographic areas, for which in this phase the licensed entities indicated those that interested them and those where they did not intend to operate. This process enabled some spectrum to be freed, to be made available in the second phase, which has already begun, though only with respect to the 24.5-26.5 GHz frequency band. (+info)

## □ UNIVERSAL POSTAL SERVICE QUALITY CONVENTION

ANACOM determined on 9 November 2006 to reject the request submitted by *CTT-Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service) to deduct the registers directly affected by the employee strike last 28 April when calculating the quality

of service indicators set out in the Universal Postal Service Quality Convention. (+info)

## □ ANACOM AUTHORISES GSM-R TRIALS

ANACOM has authorised *Refer Telecom – Serviços de Telecomunicações* to use the channels 878.6-923.6 MHz and 879-924 MHz until the end of 2006 to conduct technical trials and demonstrations of GSM-R (global system for mobile communications – railway), which will take place in Sacavém and in the Oriente train station in Lisbon. This positive reply to the company's request does not

bind, oblige or condition ANACOM's action vis-à-vis any future assignment of the rights to use frequencies reserved for GSM-R technology in Portugal. This authority will monitor the trials and access the respective conclusions, whether for the respective technology or in terms of the effective market potential of GSM-R-based services. (+info)

## □ SIC AND TVI – FREQUENCY USAGE RIGHTS RENEWED

ANACOM decided in a determination dated 26 October 2006 to issue the titles to renew the right to use frequencies to conduct television activity (analogue system) of SIC – *Sociedade Independente de Comunicação* and TVI – *Televisão Independente*. This decision comes in the wake of the determination dated 6 July 2006, which submitted to the prior hearing of interested parties the details

of the renewal titles. The frequency usage rights in question are renewed for the period of 15 years, until 22 February 2022, unless any changes introduced in the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP), particularly those deriving from the setting of the legal date for the switch-off of analogue system television emissions, require ANACOM to recover same. (+info)

## ■ NEW STATISTICAL INDICATORS

### LEASED LINES AND INTERNET

On 2 November 2006 ANACOM approved decisions concerning the statistical information that providers of leased line and broadband internet access services must submit, likewise to determine relevant markets and SMP. Regarding the leased lines market, the questionnaire aims to gather periodic broken-down information on three areas: supply of leased lines to retail customers, supply of leased lines to wholesale customers and infrastructure. The providers of those services must submit the set of indicators to ANACOM by 30 May of the year after the one in question. As for broadband internet access services, the questionnaires are prepared to monitor those markets and gather periodic broken-down information on broadband access (retail and wholesale) and potential supply. These indicators should be sent to ANACOM by 15 May of the year after the one in question. **(+info)**

ANACOM also decided on 16 November 2006 that the providers of leased line and broadband internet access services must submit by 31 December 2006 the statistical information for 2003, 2004 and 2005. **(+info)**

### FIXED TELEPHONE SERVICE

By determination dated 9 November 2006, the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) redefined the statistical information the providers of fixed telephone service (FTS) must submit in order to define relevant markets and significant market power (SMP) in the markets for low bandwidth switched fixed services. Among other aspects, the questionnaire now approved updates the dialling codes for the non-geographic numbers indicated in the request for information on minutes and traffic revenue per call type. Data on the operators' retail offers is also requested, to ascertain what kinds of 'packages' are being offered, the number of subscribers and corresponding support technology. The data should be sent to ANACOM by 30 May of the year following the one in question; data for 2005 and 2006 should be submitted by 30 May 2007. **(+info)**

## □ 2005 STATISTICAL YEARBOOK PUBLISHED

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has published in both physical and electronic format the most recent edition of the Statistical Yearbook for the communications sector (electronic and postal) containing data for 2005, as well as a first chapter providing an overview of the communications market's influence on the Portuguese economy. The publication provides

information on postal services and, with respect to electronic communications, on public telecommunications networks, leased line service, fixed telephone service and public payphones, mobile telephone service, mobile trunking service, cable distribution networks, data transmission and internet access services, and radiocommunication services. **(+info)**

## □ TELEVISION LAW IN PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The first draft of the proposed Television Law presented by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on 20 November, after approval by the 16 November Council of Ministers, is in public consultation until 15 December 2006. The Government considers that there is an urgent need to revise the system regula-

ting television activity (Law no. 32/2003 of 22 August), among other reasons because the phased introduction of digital terrestrial television (DTT) must be prepared. The government has also put forward a legislative proposal to reorganise the public service concessionaire for radio and television, RTP. **(+info)**

## ■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Council of Ministers Resolution no. 158/2006** (I Series – *Diário da República* of 27 November) – Approves for the current year the distribution of compensatory indemnities by the different companies providing public service.
- **Orders nos. 23744/2006, 23745/2006 and 23746/2006** (II Series – Part E, D.R. of 21 November) – Sub-delegation of powers, respectively, in the ANACOM Department of Image and Communication, Department of Studies and Strategy, and Directorate of Regulation and Legal Affairs.
- **Resolution of Parliament no. 56/2006** (I Series – D.R. of 3 November) – Concerning the constitution of an eventual parliamentary inquiry commission to look into the processing, provision and disclosure of the telephone call registers protected by the confidentiality obligation.
- **Decree-Law no. 219/2006** (I Series – D.R. of 2 November) – Seventh modification of the Movable Assets Code, approved by Decree-Law no. 486/99 of 13 November, which transposes into the national legal order Directive 2004/25/EC of the Parliament and of the Council of 21 April, concerning the public acquisition offers and first modification of the legal regime for competition, approved by Law no. 18/2003 of 11 June.

**(+info)**



## ■ EUROPEAN UNION

### REPORT ON ROAMING IN EUROPE

“Excessive prices restrict the use of mobile telephones in other countries, which affects consumers, European industry and Europe itself,” stated the European commissioner in charge of the Information and Media Directorate General, Viviane Reding, following divulgation of the Special Eurobarometer 269 – Roaming, which presents the results of a roaming survey conducted in the 25 EU member States. The study concludes that 81 percent of the surveyed Europeans consider the cost of roaming to be the main deterrent to using mobile telephones when abroad, and reveals that the Portuguese are among the most reluctant users of mobile phones when travelling abroad (nearly 90 percent of respondents). [\(+info\)](#)

### EUROPEAN RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY

The Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) of the European Commission (EC) adopted during a meeting held last 25 October two Opinions and launched a public consultation on a draft Opinion. The first Opinion refers to the introduction of multimedia services, particularly in the frequency bands assigned to broadcasting services (mobile television, for example), and how the digital dividend can be used for its introduction, including the debate on various frequency bands, among them those situated at 470-862 MHz and 1452-1492 MHz. The second Opinion concerns the co-ordinated use of spectrum for scientific ends in Europe. The draft Opinion in turn concerns the implications of the digital dividend on European spectrum policy; the public consultation lasts until 15 December 2006. [\(+info\)](#)

A study on legal, economic and technical aspects of collective spectrum use in the European Union has been posted on the EC website. [\(+info\)](#)

### FIGHT AGAINST SPAM, SPYWARE AND MALWARE

The European Commission (EC) has urged the regulatory authorities and other players to be more active in the fight against spam, spyware and malware (malicious software). In a Communication adopted on 15 November, the EC stresses that despite the existence of European legislation to combat such illegal activities, the Union continues to suffer from the effects of same. Internet security companies such as Symantec and MessageLabs estimate that between 54 percent and 85 percent of all electronic mail is spam. [\(+info\)](#)

### EC QUESTIONS UNITED KINGDOM ON 3G LICENCES

In a letter sent to the British regulator, Ofcom, the European Commission (EC) expresses its concern over the way the wholesale prices covered by the United Kingdom's five mobile operators, for terminating their customers' calls, are determined. In the EC's opinion, the reason the rates proposed by Ofcom maintain higher than necessary call termination charges is because the cost of using third generation (3G) mobile communications may be inflated. The Commission asks the British regulator to reconsider its evaluation. [\(+info\)](#)

### GERMANY – WHOLESALE LEASED LINE MARKETS

The German regulator, Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA) has informed the European Commission (EC) that it plans to go ahead with its analysis of wholesale leased line markets, thus withdrawing the draft decision previously presented to the EC. BNetzA will gather more information and study the latest developments in the markets in question, especially on the emergence of new technologies. [\(+info\)](#)

### LUXEMBOURG: MORE BROADBAND COMPETITION

In a letter dated 30 October, the European Commission (EC) indicated that it supports the measure presented by Luxembourg's regulator, the Institut Luxembourgeois de Régulation (ILR), to allow new competitors in telecommunications sector bit-stream access to end users by means of the broadband network of the incumbent operator, the Entreprise des Postes et Télécommunications (EPT). [\(+info\)](#)

### STUDY HIGHLIGHTS EFFECTIVENESS OF SAFER INTERNET PROGRAMME

An independent study has concluded that the European Safer Internet Programme, which promotes online safety, especially for children, has been very effective in combating illegal and dangerous content, while at the same time respecting individuals' freedom of expression. The expert opinions will be taken into account by the European Commission when it implements the Safer Internet Plus programme in 2007 and 2008. [\(+info\)](#)

Likewise available is a study on the digital television market in the European Union conducted by the European Commission's Information Society and Media Directorate General. [\(+info\)](#)

### EURO-PARLIAMENT APPROVES SERVICES DIRECTIVE

The European Parliament approved in a session last 15 November the Council's common position on the services directive, which largely reflects the Parliament's opinion in its first reading on 16 February. Many of the Parliament's changes had already been put in the Commission's modified proposal, whose key elements were included in the common position. The member States have three years to transpose the directive into national legislation. Note that the services represent 70 percent of the GDP and jobs in most of the Union countries. [\(+info\)](#)

### INTERNET USE IN THE EU25

At the end of the first quarter of 2006, 52 percent of households in the 25 European Union member States possessed internet access, up from 48 percent in 2005, and 32 percent of those homes had a broadband connection, also up from the 23 percent recorded in 2005. [\(+info\)](#)

### ETNO – 4TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The fourth annual Conference of the European Telecommunication Network Operators Association (ETNO) was held last 7 November in Brussels; the presentations have been posted online. [\(+info\)](#)

## ■ OJEU

- **Decision no. 2006/804/EC (2006/L329/64)** – Of the Commission of 23 November 2006, on the harmonisation of radio spectrum for radio-frequency identification devices (RFID) operating in the ultra high frequency (UHF) band. Published on 25 November.
- **Decision no. 2006/771/EC (2006/L312/66)** – Of the Commission of 9 November 2006, on the harmonisation of radio spectrum for use by low power short range equipment. Published on 11 November.

[\(+info\)](#)

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

### ECC PT1

The 23rd meeting of project team 1 of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC PT1) was held on 8-9 November 2006 in the German city of Mainz. [\(+info\)](#)

### ECC CPG PT4

Project team PT4 of the Conference Preparatory Group (CPG) met for the tenth time in Bournemouth (United Kingdom) on 7-9 November 2006. [\(+info\)](#)  
PT4 had previously met in Hilversum (the Netherlands) on 24-25 October 2006. [\(+info\)](#)

### ECC PT SE19

The 37th meeting of the PT SE19 group, which covers fixed service issues, was held last 21-22 November in Copenhagen. [\(+info\)](#)

### ECC JPT BWA

The tenth meeting of the Joint Project Team Broadband Wireless Access (JPT BWA) working group was held last 22-23 November in Copenhagen. Its mission is to study regulatory solutions for broadband wireless access systems in the 5725-5875 GHz and 3400-3800 MHz bands. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR ELECTRO-TECHNICAL STANDARDISATION (CENELEC)

### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE 209

Brussels hosted last 12 October a meeting of CENELEC Technical Committee 209. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)

### CONTACT NETWORK

The Contact Network of the IRG and the European Regulators Group (ERG) met last 16-17 November in Malta. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS INSTITUTE (ETSI)

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 48th ETSI General Assembly was held last 21-22 November in the French city of Nice. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

### EUROPEAN REGULATORS GROUP (ERG)

The ERG held last 7 November a public hearing on its draft working programme for 2007. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

### COUNCIL – OPENING SESSION

The new Council elected during the 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-06), held on 6-24 November in Antalya, Turkey, held its opening session on the last day of that event. [\(+info\)](#)

### COUNCIL – FINAL SESSION 2006

As usual during a Plenipotentiary Conference (PP), the 2006 Council meeting

held its final session last 4 November in Antalya, Turkey, immediately before PP-06. [\(+info\)](#)

### PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (PP-06)

The ANACOM website contains a large amount of information on PP-06, specifically the weekly summary of that conference's activities. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)

### STRATEGY CONFERENCE

The UPU Strategy Conference was held last 14-16 November in Dubai. [\(+info\)](#)

## □ OECD PUBLISHES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OUTLOOK 2006

The information and communication technologies (ICT) industry should grow about 6 percent in 2006, indicates the Information Technology Outlook 2006 report recently published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Among other aspects it highlights the fact that the ICT business is growing more than production and business volume in this sector. On the other hand, global ICT investment was on the order of 5.6 percent yearly between 2000 and 2005. The report highlights the Chinese market, along with

other markets such as India. In 2005 China asserted itself as the sixth biggest ICT market, following the United States of America (USA), Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom and France. The report also notes that China, after overtaking the USA in 2004 as the world's biggest ICT exporter, maintained strong export growth in 2005 and 2006. In terms of commercial balance, China basically imports electronic components and exports computers and related equipment. [\(+info\)](#)

## ■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

### GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- The German regulator has defined the postal rates applied to correspondence weighing up to one kilogram. The prices will be in effect until the end of 2007, when the validity of the exclusive licence of Deutsche Post (universal service provider) to operate in the postal sector expires. **(+info)**
- A new plan for call termination charges in mobile networks has been announced, implying a 16 percent cut in the rates covered by the operators involved: T-Mobile, E-Plus Mobilfunk and O2. Due to the legal deadlines, a decision on the termination charges to be applied by Vodafone D2 will be made later. **(+info)**

### BELGIUM – Institut Belge des services Postaux et des Télécommunications (IBPT)

- In the wake of the regulator's decision on voice call termination in individual mobile networks (market 16), an adjustment of the rates to be applied by the operator BASE has been published, as the traffic figures which supported the initial decision were incorrect. **(+info, French only)**

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

- The Brazilian regulator has revised the general plan for targets to make universal fixed switched telephone service provided on a public basis, and set new deadlines for the installation of telecommunication service posts and attendance units for co-operatives located in rural areas. **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- The Radio-Amateur Service Regulation has taken effect. Its aim is to discipline the obtaining of certificates and the use of this service. Regarding frequency bands, the conditions continue to be those set out in the regulation on spectrum use. **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- The first of the three rights to operate the Brazilian satellite to convey telecommunication signals was bought by the company Star One, which bid 6.1 million reais for the licence (the minimum price to bid was 1.57 million). **(+info, Portuguese only)**

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

- The recourse to portability between mobile operators rose to 2.7 million numbers at the end of the third quarter of 2006, for 40 percent growth in the first nine months of 2006. In December 2005 the total number of ported mobile numbers was 6.76 million. As for the fixed network, at the end of September 2006 ported numbers totalled 2.29 million, up 36.84 percent over the previous year. Total broadband lines reached 6.13 million in the third quarter of 2006, most of which use DSL technology (4.79 million). **(+info, Spanish only)**

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

- The regulator has published a guide on the installation in business areas of broadband and high bitspeed telecommunications infrastructures, which companies and planning officials deem to be a factor of competitiveness. **(+info, French only)**
- At the end of September 2006 there were 11.757 million broadband con-

nections, with ADSL technology dominating the market, as it represents 11.1 million accesses. Cable and high bit-speed connections respectively accounted for 650,000 and 7,000 subscriptions. **(+info)**

- Results of the survey on the quality of information services after the replacement of the previous dialling codes (12, 712, 612, 222, etc.) by the new number 118 have been published. **(+info)**
- ARCEP has published results of the consultation on use of the 900 and 1800 MHz bands currently allocated to second generation (2G) by third generation (3G) mobile telephony, and on the operators' interest in a fourth 3G licence. At the same time the result of the consultation on renewal of the 2G licence of Bouygues Telecom, due to expire in December 2009, was disclosed. **(+info)**
- The regulator has launched a public consultation on added value services and proposes a set of measures to improve the operation of this market, so as to benefit consumers. Interested parties may submit comments until 5 January 2007. **(+info)**
- Results of the fourth annual survey conducted by ARCEP and the General Council for Information Technologies (CGTI) to evaluate the penetration of information and communication technologies in France has been published. **(+info)**
- The regulator has disclosed a legally requested opinion on the draft consumer defence law. **(+info)**

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

- The regulator has reported that Eircom (the incumbent telecommunication operator) has published its new reference interconnection offer. **(+info)**
- A proposal to modify the current system for assigning fixed wireless access local area (FWALA) operating licences has been published. **(+info)**

### UNITED KINGDOM – Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- The regulator has launched a public tender to award a national digital audio broadcasting licence (DAB); the deadline to receive proposals is 28 March 2007. **(+info)**
- A series of essays on the coming decade in the communications sector have been published. They were prepared by Ofcom, but express the viewpoints of their respective authors. **(+info)**
- The report on the international communications market, the last study in the Ofcom Communications Market Report series, is available for consultation. **(+info)**
- A study on the economic impact of spectrum use, which concludes, among other aspects, that there has been 50 percent growth in the last three years, has been disclosed. **(+info)**
- The regulator has published a discussion document on next generation networks (NGN). **(+info)**

### SWITZERLAND – Federal Office of Communication (OFCOM)

- The Swiss regulator has launched, upon request by the Federal Communications Commission (ComCom), a call to award two broadband wireless access (BWA) licences. If there are enough candidates the licences will be awarded by auction. **(+info)**

## □ PORTUGAL ELECTED TO THE ITU COUNCIL

Portugal was one of the 46 States elected to the Union Council – Region B (Western Europe), obtaining 121 votes, during the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-06) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), held last 6-24 November in Antalya, Turkey. Besides Portugal, the following countries from that region also join the Council: France, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Italy and Turkey. The Council is responsible, in the time period between plenipotentiary conferences, for ensuring that the ITU's activities, policies and strategies are consistent

with what the plenipotentiaries have determined. Elections were also held for the positions of Secretary General (M. Touré, from Mali), Deputy Secretary General (H. Zhao, China), Director of the Telecommunications Development Department (Sami Bin Al-Basheer, Saudi Arabia), Director of the Telecommunications Standardisation Department (Malcolm Johnson, United Kingdom) and Director of the Radiocommunication Department (V. Timofeev, Russia). (+info)

## □ GSM ASSOCIATION STUDY ON MOBILE NETWORKS

Mobile telephony networks will cover 90 percent of the world's population in 2010, versus the current 80 percent, despite the policies of some governments which continue to subsidise the development of fixed networks, indicates an Intelcon Research study conducted for the GSM Association. The latter is a commercial association representing more than 690 mobile operators in 213 countries and territories. According to the report, which covers 92 developed

countries, governments receive 6 billion dollars (about 4.8 billion euros) from the telecommunications industry, of which nearly 2 billion (about 1.6 billion euros) comes from mobile operators. Only 5 percent of the amount applied has been used to increase mobile telephony coverage. The study also concludes that 32 of the 92 countries have set up funds to collect for universal service. (+info)

## □ PALOP COUNTRIES – CO-OPERATION WITH CAPE VERDE

As part of its co-operation and assistance activities with the Portuguese-speaking African countries (known by the Portuguese acronym PALOP), and following a request from Cape Verde's *Agência Nacional de Comunicações* (ANAC), two ANACOM officials travelled to Praia last 24 November. The aim of

the trip was to provide technical assessment to ANAC as it chooses the technically and economically most favourable proposal to implement the island nation's national spectrum control system, per the respective international public tender.

## □ ANACOM HEADS WG-UMTS

ANACOM director Eduardo Cardadeiro will head the UMTS working group (WG-UMTS) established by Council of Ministers Resolution no. 143/2006. The mission of this WG, comprising representatives from this Authority, the UMIC – Agency for the Knowledge Society and the three mobile telecommunication operators with UMTS licences (Optimus, TMN and Vodafone), is to monitor

compliance with the obligations assumed by the three companies, specifically with regard to projects that foster development of the information society. Besides holding the chair, ANACOM is also represented in the group by Mário de Freitas, the director of convergence and development.

## □ THIRD QUARTER 2006 STATISTICS RELEASED

ANACOM has released third quarter statistical information (see supplement that accompanies this edition) on fixed telephone service, mobile telephone service, cable distribution networks, and data transmission/internet access services. The next edition will contain the data for postal services. (+info)

Note that in order to encourage the consultation of information, this Authority has decided to rework the presentation of statistical data posted on its website. The quarterly information will hence include a file with the history of the published information on the various electronic communication and postal services.

## ■ IN DECEMBER 2006

### MEETINGS

#### CEPT

ECC  
- TG3 (20-22)  
- PT1 (4-5)  
ERO/ETO Council (13)

#### EUTELSAT

Advisory Committee (5)

#### IRG

PT 2006 Review (15)  
Plenary session (7)  
Meeting with MEDA (6)

#### EU

CNSA (13-14)  
Council of Ministers (10-11)  
ERG plenary session (7-8)  
Radio Spectrum Committee (3-5)

#### CO-OPERATION

ANACOM/ANATEL Co-ordination Commission (13-15)  
São Tomé and Príncipe (AGER) (11)

### EVENTS

- *Workshops "The Future of Communications or the Promises of Technology"*  
Lisbon, 14
- *Seminar "Privatisation, Liberalisation and the Portuguese Telecommunications Sector: a social cost-benefit analysis"*  
Lisbon, 12
- *Congress on "Internet and Intellectual Property"*, Lisbon, 6-7
- *ITU Telecom World 2006, Asia World-Expo*  
Hong Kong, China, 4-8