#### Industry presentation

# **Conceptual approach for a mobile BU-LRIC model**

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### **Project objectives [1/2]**

- ANACOM has commissioned Analysys Mason Limited ('Analysys Mason') to develop a bottom-up long-run incremental cost (LRIC) model to understand the cost of mobile voice termination in Portugal
- The model will be used by ANACOM to inform its market analysis for mobile termination:
  - we will adopt a pure LRIC approach following the EC Recommendation\* on wholesale termination costing as requested by ANACOM
- Throughout this process, ANACOM and Analysys Mason have been seeking the input from mobile operators and other industry players



### **Project objectives [2/2]**

- As part of this effort, ANACOM is conducting a public consultation with the industry to obtain input on the principles used in the model:
  - we discuss those principles in the following slides
  - the concepts presented in the 'Conceptual approach for a mobile BU-LRIC model' attached to ANACOM's consultation are marked with the symbol N in the top-right corner of each slide



# The cost model will be designed according to four key dimensions

#### Operator

- Structural implementation
- Type of operator
- Footprint
- Scale of operator

#### Technology

- Technology and network architecture
- Network nodes



#### Implementation

- Increments
- Depreciation method
- Weighted average cost of capital (WACC)

#### Services

- Service set
- Traffic volumes
- Accounting of wholesale costs and retail costs



Introduction

**Proposed conceptual approach** 



## We have considered a range of operators to model

- We have considered a range of operators:
  - average operator players in the mobile market are averaged to define a 'typical' operator
  - hypothetical existing operator based on actual operators, except for specific aspects, e.g. date of market entry
  - hypothetical new entrant an operator entering the market now with today's modern network deployment

Characteristic	Discussion points
Date of entry	<ul> <li>Different for all operators, therefore the average date of market entry is not meaningful</li> </ul>
Technology	<ul> <li>Technology migration is apparent for the access network, but more difficult to define in the core network</li> </ul>
Efficiency	<ul> <li>An average operator may include inefficient costs</li> </ul>
Transparency	<ul> <li>Making a clearer technology choice enables transparency</li> </ul>
Reconciliation	<ul> <li>Data for a new-entrant operator cannot be reconciled with top-down accounts as there are no new entrants in Portugal</li> </ul>



#### 4 \ 9 \ 13 \ 17 We propose to model a hypothetical existing operator

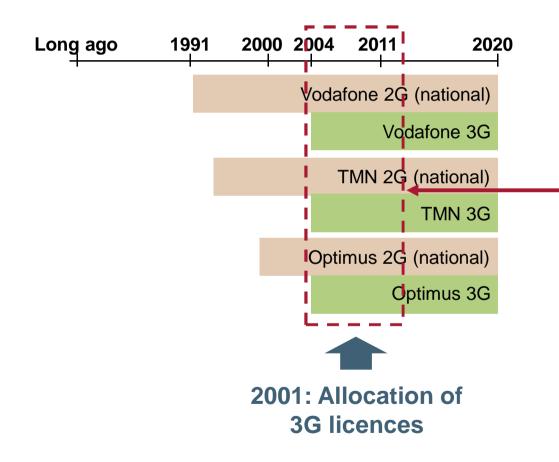
- This will enable us to calculate the costs that are based on those incurred by existing suppliers of mobile termination in Portugal
- The characteristics of an actual modern network can be taken into account
- The costs associated with the deployment of network nodes will be calculated using a modified scorched-node approach, which will ensure a network design that is modern and reasonably efficient

#### **Mobile network**

- Rolling out 2G in 2005/2006
- Launching service in 2006/2007
- Adding capacity with 1800MHz
- Adding overlay with 2100MHz
- Operating 2G and 3G networks in the long term
- Progressive migration from 2G to 3G
- We propose to model an hypothetical existing operator
- The model will use a time series of 45 years three 15-year spectrum licences – to calculate the costs of long-lived assets



## Market entry and deployed technologies are key inputs to the model ...



Although the initial date of market entry and technology migration varies among Portuguese operators, a consistent picture has emerged from 2004 onwards





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## ... as well as coverage and long-run market share

- Coverage (footprint) of the network will be a key input to the model:
  - the degree to which investments precede demand has an impact on the unit cost of traffic
- In order to reflect reality, the modelled operator should offer national coverage:
  - >99% of population for 2G
  - >80% of population for 3G

EC Recommendation on wholesale termination costing:\* 20% market share for an operator with efficient scale



#### Hypothetical mobile operator that:

- rolls out a national network
- achieves a market share of 20% in the long term





- Current spectrum allocation is similarly distributed:
  - operators own similar amounts of spectrum in 900MHz
  - the allocation of 1800MHz and 2100MHz paired spectrum is symmetric
- It is therefore assumed that forward-looking spectrum and coverage costs are symmetrical

We will assume that the modelled operator has similar amounts of spectrum as the existing operators (2×8MHz of GSM, 2×6MHz DCS and 2×20MHz of UMTS frequencies)

- GSM/UMTS seems to be the current efficient technology mix:
  - all existing operators use a GSM/UMTS mix
  - they operate in a competitive market, thus stimulating the efficient use of technology
  - it is recommended by the EC
- 4G is unlikely to be used to deliver large volumes of voice termination in the short term

We will use both GSM900/1800 and UMTS2100 radio technology in the long term, with UMTS as an overlay



## Mobile spectrum fees will also need to be defined

- Spectrum fees have historically been assigned by different mechanisms (e.g. auction, allocation, extension, trade)
- According to the EC Recommendation, only additional spectrum acquired to provide the wholesale termination service should be taken into account:
  - 3G spectrum shall not be considered incremental in the pure LRIC model
  - 2G spectrum will be analysed based on its sensitivity for wholesale traffic termination

• For all spectrum:

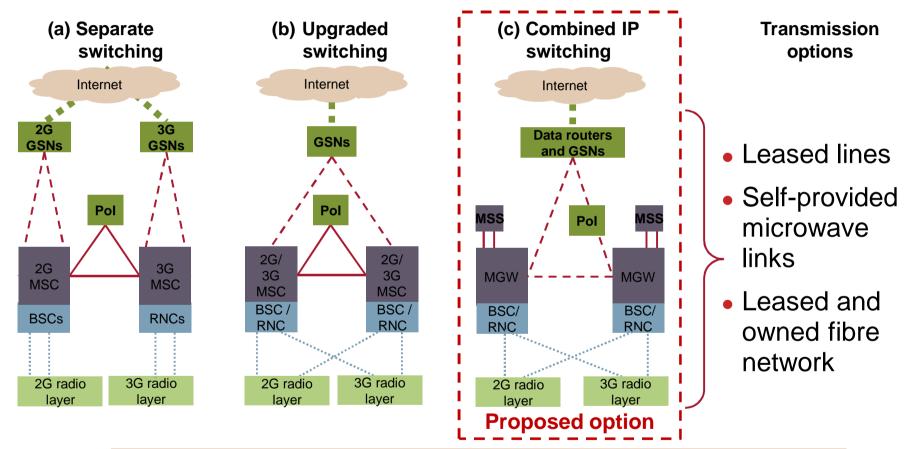
- yearly fees that take into account the change from the pre-2009 to post-2009 calculation method, taking into account the migration period 2009–2011
- For 40MHz of 2100MHz:
  - initial fee paid by operators of PTE20 billion per licence

We propose to use the actual amounts paid for spectrum by Portuguese operators as input to the model



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# For the mobile core network, there are 3 similar plausible architectural options



Option (c) 'Combined IP switching' represents the most modern switching technology that an efficient operator would have deployed in recent years



### der more

## The model needs to consider more services than just voice termination

- The aim of the model is to understand the costs of mobile voice termination
- However, mobile networks typically provide a wide range of services, leading to:
  - economies of scale and scope
  - a lower unit cost for voice and data services

- A full list of services needs to be used in the model:
  - this will allow allocation of shared and network common costs

**Retail costs will be excluded** – a 'network share' of business overheads (e.g. Chief Executive Officer) will be specified





# The model must capture all common services (at a network\* volume)

#### Mobile services

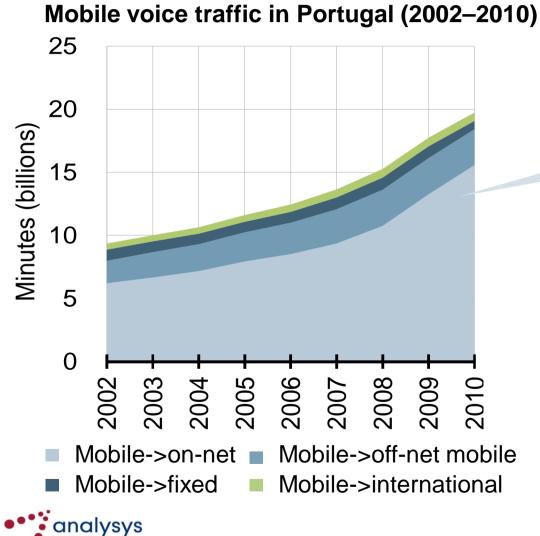
- On-net calls
- Outgoing to international, fixed and other mobile operators
- Incoming to international, fixed and other mobile operators
- Roaming in origination and termination
- SMS on-net, outgoing and incoming
- 2G packet data
- Low-speed 3G packet data (Release-99)
- High-speed 3G packet data (HSPA)

#### The model will capture all common services





# A traffic forecast based on current market averages will feed the model



Price competition in Portugal has led to very low on-net tariffs that have driven the main growth in traffic

- The network will be dimensioned on the basis of both voice traffic and data traffic requirements
- Traffic is forecast to reach 1300 minutes per annum, of which 21% is wholesale termination traffic

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### A number of choices must be made when implementing a LRIC methodology

- A number of areas need to be considered:
  - 1 what size of increment?
    - e.g. marginal, service incremental or average incremental
  - 2 what depreciation method?
    - e.g. economic depreciation, accounting depreciation
  - 3 reasonable return on capital?
    - WACC



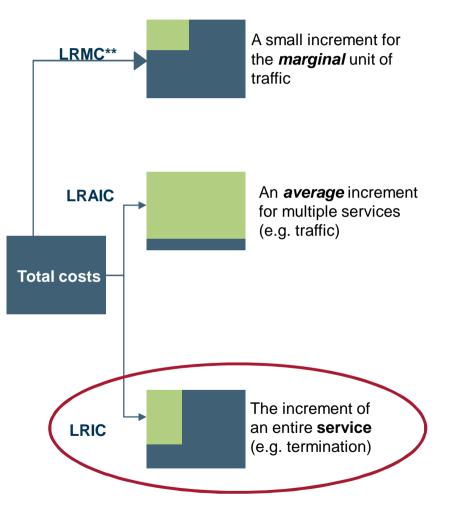
### Pure LRIC will be applied, as recommended by the EC

- The increments used in models to calculate the cost of mobile termination have evolved over time, from LRMC to LRAIC, LRIC\* and pure LRIC nowadays
- Pure LRIC defines the increment of an entire service and:
  - considers the increment to be all traffic of a single service
  - incremental costs are those avoided when not offering the wholesale termination service

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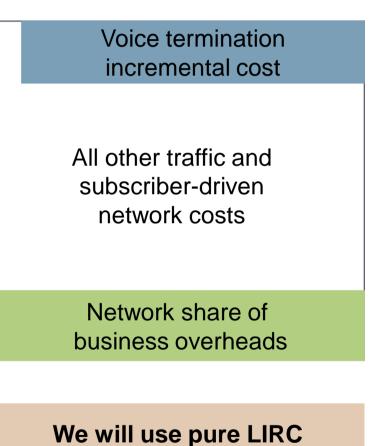
\*LRMC = long-run marginal cost; LRAIC = long-run average incremental cost; LRIC = long-rung incremental cost



\*\*The colour-filled boxes indicate the costs included Ref: 15235-142 in the unit cost of terminated traffic for each method

## The pure BU-LRIC approach only includes incremental costs

- The model will use a pure BU-LRIC approach based on the EC Recommendation:
  - only the cost 'that is avoided when not offering voice termination' is allocated to this service
  - wholesale termination is treated as the 'last' service in the network
  - non traffic-related costs, such as subscriber costs, are not allocated
  - network common costs and business overheads are not allocated to the end result

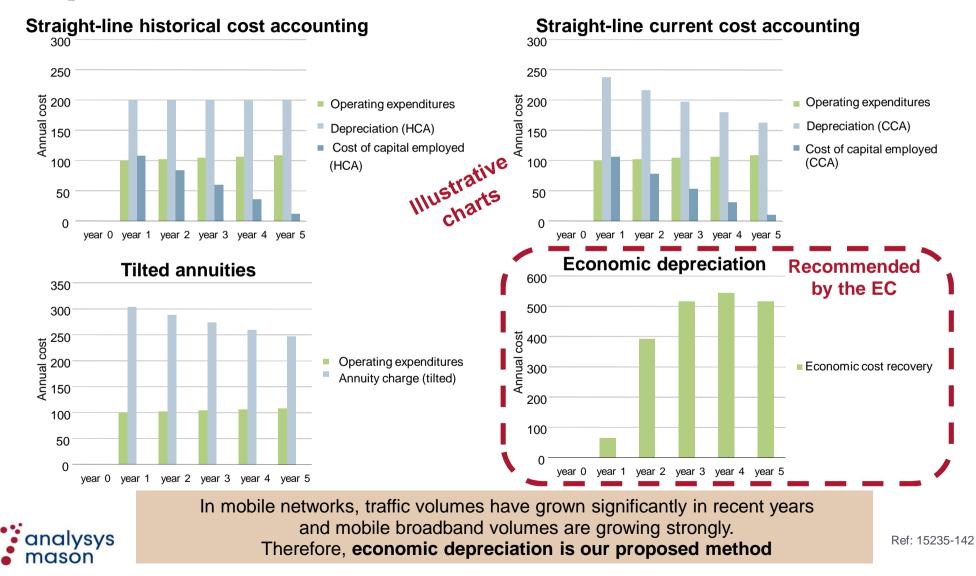


increments in our model





### 2 There are several approaches to depreciation in a cost model





### **3 Our WACC will work in real,**

#### pre-tax terms

- We will follow standard best practice for the WACC calculation
- A single WACC will be used in the model
- We will review the CMT list of 'pure play mobile' operators, such as MTS, Mobistar, Telenor, Teliasonera and Vodafone Group
- The model will work in real, pre-tax terms

- The model will express costs and revenues in real (inflation adjusted) terms, using the corresponding 'real terms' WACC
- The model will apply a '**pre-tax**' **WACC** to pre-tax cashflows
- The 'pre-tax' WACC will be determined using an analogous methodology to that already set out by ANACOM for Portugal Telecom, adjusting its WACC to reflect the change from nominal to real terms







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