

Date of publication – 9.10.2007

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The representative of the OECD, Dimitri Ypsilanti, presented a model of convergence that involves a certain conflict between the commercial models of the internet and of telecommunications. He pointed out that the political decision makers and regulatory bodies had an essential and decisive role in the final relationship between these two models.

Citing the importance of the significant developments in technologies for improving services, in terms of quality and convergence, he noted that unfortunately operators did not always provide services with a desired level of quality. He added that, when there was no choice, it became easier for the operator to limit demand.

He also made a distinction between growing technologies – broadband, fibre, wireless, fixed – and those in decline – ISDN, analogue.

Although there are different types of networks which support the same type of services, there were significant differences, particularly in terms of cost, mobility and speed, an issue arising from the problem of network neutrality which should be reflected in adopted policy.

Regarding next generation networks (NGN), he affirmed that the main challenge for regulatory bodies is to guarantee different types of access. When there is a position of technological neutrality, there must be efficiency, otherwise the regulator must demand structural separation.

Often the obvious is forgotten, that is that competition is important for both operators and consumers. Therefore, all work on price and access analysis shows that, in a competitive reality, more satisfactory prices are arrived at.

He concluded by affirming that the presence of content regulators at this type of event is essential if reform and convergence is to be achieved.