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NEW STATUTES OF ICP-ANACOM

ICP-Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ICP-ANACOM) will be the new designation of the *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* after its new statutes take effect on 6 January 2002.

The publication on 7 December of Decree-Law no. 309/2001 primarily aims to join in one single legal text various responsibilities heretofore contained in separate measures, due to transposition of the "acquis communautaire" that has imposed new and additional duties on national regulatory authorities over the course of the past decade, which has in turn witnessed preparation for consolidation and, particularly, liberalisation of the telecommunications sector.

ICP-ANACOM is the continuation of the ICP's corporate entity and with the new statute is released from its previous legal status as a public institute, to become a public corporation.

Without interruption of institutional continuity, an integral and thorough comprehension of the ICP's role is thus enabled and its cohesion strengthened as an authority to regulate and supervise communications. Hence the change in its respective designation and organic-institutional framework, the enhanced powers and procedures of authority, and the introduction of flexibility in the instruments at its disposition, both legally and with regard to the economic-financial regime. The specific nature of ICP-ANACOM's

independence is also established from the organic and functional standpoints, with the particularity of a direct relationship with the Assembly of the Republic (Parliament).

ICP-ANACOM is thus required to annually send a report on its regulatory activities to the Government, which is also to be submitted to the Assembly of the Republic. The Chairman of the Board of Administration will likewise respond when solicited by the appropriate committee of the Assembly of the Republic for hearings to provide information or clarifications on the activities of ICP-ANACOM.

Regarding its internal functioning, ICP-ANACOM maintains the same bodies, i.e., a Board of Administration, comprising a chairman and two voting members, a Statutory Audit Council and an Advisory Council, the latter with an increased number of members. The members of the Board of Administration, who are subject to a regime of specific incompatibilities, have non-renewable five-year mandates. However, approval of the new statutes does not imply the end of mandates for the members of ICP-ANACOM bodies in office on the date the new measure takes effect.

The aim of ICP-ANACOM is to regulate, supervise and represent the communications sector, which encompasses both telecommunications and the postal service.

SEE <http://www.icp.pt/info/noticia.asp?id=1876&ida=182>

LOCAL LOOP UNBUNDLING

The *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* (ICP) approved on 29 November a draft decision that determines compensations incumbent on *PT Comunicações* (PTC) whenever it is unable to meet the deadlines to respond to other licensed operators' requests for information in the context of Local Loop Unbundling (LLU). The decision, still in the preliminary stage, was communicated to the interested parties, who have a limit of 10 days to respond. The same measure will imply changes to that company's 2001 Reference Offer for Unbundling the Local Loop, and also follow up on the previous ICP decision of 28 June.

Meanwhile, a 22 November decision approved an ICP understanding on the conformity of that same 2001 Reference Offer with the aforementioned 28 June decision, which had determined the introduction of modifications to PTC's initial version.

Indeed, the changes the company has meanwhile introduced in the Reference Offer (last revised on 1 October), do not cover all aspects considered in that decision. PTC thus now has 10 days to make sure the identified questions are included in its 2001 Reference Offer.

Also on 22 November, the requirements for co-installation space in the LLU context were approved, enabling PTC to immediately resume work related to the adaptation of infrastructures in the exchanges in lot 1, as well as the assignment of exchanges for lot 2. These principles must also be included in the 2001 LLU Reference Offer within 10 days' time.

The same date also saw approval of the decision concerning modifications of the price for various services offered in the context of the LLU Reference Offer (signal transport, component installation, uninstallation of the local loop), including the package of minimum information PTC is required to provide other licensed operators. Interested parties should respond within 10 days' time, under terms of article 100 and following of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

SEE <http://www.icp.pt/info/noticia.asp?id=1878&ida=183>

MOBILE PORTABILITY AFTER 1 JANUARY

Operator portability in the mobile network will take effect on 1 January 2002. In line with practice in the fixed network since last June 30, users will be able to switch mobile operator without changing telephone number. When a call is established from a transported number, if the tariff of the respective call has increased the user will be so informed by a recorded message.

SEE <http://www.icp.pt/info/noticia.asp?id=1883&ida=183>

CURRENT EVENTS

Interconnection rates reduced

The *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* (ICP) approved on 4 December a draft decision that introduces reduced rates for interconnection services practiced by land mobile service operators. The maximum wholesale prices from 1 January 2002 will be 45.50 *escudos* (€ 0.2270) for calls ending in mobile networks and 37.50 *escudos* (€ 0.1870) for calls originating in mobile networks; the rate readjustment will proceed from that date forward. Interested operators have 10 days to respond on the matter. Additional information at <http://www.icp.pt/interligacao/uk/nacional2.html>.

SMP in markets for leased lines and FTS

The ICP approved in a 29 November decision a preliminary understanding on significant market power (SMP) in the leased lines market for the year 2001, about which an opinion was requested from the Directorate-General of Trade and Competition (DGCC). Under terms of paragraph 1 of article 21 of the Regulation for the Operation of Public Telecommunications Networks, the ICP must in wake of said opinion determine and annually release the list of operators with SMP in that market. The ICP also approved on 22 November the preliminary understanding concerning SMP in the market for fixed telephone networks and/or fixed telephone service (FTS) for the current year. In this context, the appropriate opinion was also solicited from the DGCC. See <http://www.icp.pt/cauk/>.

Fixed Telephone Service charge

The fee the providers of fixed telephone service (FTS) charge customers to re-establish service following an interruption due to breach of contract by the latter has been set at 9.000 *escudos* by the ICP. The decision follows a consultation effected among FTS providers, under the legal framework of Decree-Law 195/99 of 8 June; the amount in question may be

revised within the maximum period of one year.

See <http://www.icp.pt/liberalizacao/ok/guarantee.html>.

LLU Advisory WG

The Advisory Working Group set up in the context of local loop unbundling recently resumed functioning, as mentioned in the last issue of *Spectru*; it has since proceeded to modify its terms of reference and activity. Details at <http://www.icp.pt/oll/gt1uk.html>.

Portable numbers

Some 1,393 numbers had been transported from the fixed network of *PT Comunicações* to other fixed telephone service operators by 30 November. The "number portability" function has been operational in the fixed network since 30 June 2001.

Statistics on the ICP website

The latest statistical data compiled by the ICP, to be published in the next issue of *Spectru*, is available on the Institute's website, at http://www.icp.pt/publicacoes/estcom/stcm/stdados2_01uk.html (internet and data transmission services - 2nd quarter of this year).

5th annual Netd@ys

The fifth annual Netd@ys, an initiative of the European Commission, was held this year from 19 to 25 November, focusing on the themes of "European youth on the net" and "European citizenship and the internet" and "European cultural diversity on the internet". Also scheduled for Portugal are a competition on digital sound and images, with the theme subjects of "Cultural diversity in Europe", "European language year" and "€uro". Details at <http://www.deb.min-edu.pt/netdays/netdays2001.htm>.

WG UMTS

The four priority areas chosen by the UMTS Working Group, which comprises the four third generation mobile operators, the Interministerial Commission for the Information Society and the *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal*, are the establishment of a citizens' portal with access from UMTS terminals, the implementation of a system of clinical information between emergency medical vehicles and emergency units in hospitals, electronic vigilance of forests and fire prevention, and the promotion of access to communications networks and services for citizens with special needs. During the four meetings held thus far, the WG agreed on the model for management and implementation of projects of common interest, i.e., projects to promote the Information Society that are common to the proposals of the operators involved and which include Public Administration. Also, the process has begun to select the consultancy company that will draft the project of common interest to undertake in partnership between operators and the state in the four previously mentioned priority areas.

2nd eContent tender opened

"Digital contents are the essential elements of European commitment to the

information society". With this idea, European Commission representative Krister Olson opened presentation of the second tender of the "eContent" programme, during a promotion session held on 28 November in Lisbon.

The aim of this European Union tender is to support the production, utilisation and distribution of European digital contents, based on three action lines: improved access to public sector information; enhanced content production in multilingual and multicultural environments, and increased dynamism of the digital content market. The time period for the submission of candidacies opened on 1 November and runs until 1 February 2002.

The programme has already experienced one such tender call, which resulted in the financing of just one portuguese proposal. The conclusions of that tender obviated the increased need to ensure better quality and rigour for portuguese proposals in the current phase of preparation. Also, this session reflected on the gaps registered in the contents sector in Portugal, and highlighted the future challenges of the third mobile generation and digital television. The package of recommendations also highlighted the fact that the portuguese language market also encompasses other countries (Brazil, the Portuguese-speaking African countries, East Timor) - an aspect to take into account and exploit.

SEE <http://www.cordis.lu/econtent/>

LEASED LINES

The *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* (ICP), by decision of 29 November, solicited from *PT Comunicações* (PTC) the reformulation of its supply of leased lines. PTC's new supply plan for leased lines must be sent to the ICP by 14 December and obey the principles of transparency, non-discrimination and cost orientation.

The Institute particularly underscored the need for PTC to simplify and revise the current system of discounts and to effect significant price cuts, especially with regard to national digital lines with capacity equal to or above 2 Mbps, and lines with capacity of between 64 Kbps and 2 Mbps. PTC was also informed of the new levels for quality service indicators for years 2002 and 2003, including the average time for the installation of a new line and the average time to repair problems.

Comparative price study

The ICP has completed a study that compares the prices for leased lines service practiced in 2001 by historic operators in the European Union (EU) countries.

With regard to other previous studies, the objective comparison of the current study has added the prices of 34 Mbps digital lines.

The study generically concluded that the prices practiced in Portugal are less than the average in the other countries in the case of analogical short distance lines and national digital 64 Mbps lines, and higher in some segments with regard to greater capacities. Concerning international digital lines, the prices practiced by Portugal's historic operator are generally less than those practiced by the remaining counterpart operators in the EU.

The price of the entire basket of national lines, which encompasses analogical lines, digital 64 Kbps lines and digital 2Mbps lines, is 6.7 percent less than the average of the other EU countries.

SEE <http://www.icp.pt/info/noticia.asp?id=1884&ida=183>

TRANS-EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS - NATIONAL INFORMATION DAY

The National Information Day on Trans-European Telecommunications Networks was held in Lisbon on 22 November. The session, organised by the *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* (ICP), aimed to explain the programme and how proposals can be sent in the scope of this new TEN-Telecom 2001/2 call for proposals.

Proposals for trans-European telecommunications networks to be developed in areas ranging from generic services to teaching and training, access to cultural heritage, small and medium sized companies, transports and mobility, environmental and emergency management, health, urban and regional networks, and labour market services, may be submitted until 31 January 2002.

In the context of the TEN-Telecom tender in effect since 1998, some 55 projects from around the European Union have since been approved, six of which included Portuguese participation. This year, some 20 million euros have been mobilised for the project.

Meanwhile, and also in the context of projects of common interest in the area of Trans-European Telecommunications Networks, the call to submit candidacies to draw up a list of assessors for TEN-Telecom action proposals is open until 31 December.

SEE http://europa.eu.int/information_society/programmes/tentelecom/index_en.htm

NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Decree-Law no. 309/2001** (I Series-A of the *Diário da República* of 7 December) - Contains the new statutes of the ICP, which is to assume the designation *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal-Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações*, shortened to ICP-ANACOM.

- **Order no. 1014/2001** (II Series of the D.R. of 20 November) - Joint measure from the ministries of Finance and Infrastructure which establishes a working group to revise the contract for concession of public telecommunications service between the State and *Portugal Telecom*. This group, comprised by representatives from the ministries of Finance and Infrastructure, the Inspectorate General of Finance, the *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* and *Portugal Telecom*, began working immediately after the date the order was signed (18 October). It was charged with presenting by 10 November the results of its task of evaluating the opportunity and terms of revision for the concession contract signed in March 1995.

- **Resolution no. 131/2001** (II Series of the D.R. of 16 November) - Appoints José Joaquim da Silva Dias Coelho to carry out the duties involved in monitoring the policies, programmes and measures of other countries, particularly in the European Union, with regard to the Information Society.

- **Decree-Law no. 287/2001** (I Series-A of the D.R. of 8 November) - Sets the regime applicable for the supply of conditioned access to television, radio broadcasting and information society services, and to the respective legal protection and associated user equipment.

- **Joint order no. 987/2001** (II Series of the D.R. of 31 October) - Measure from the ministries of Infrastructure and Culture designates the seven members of the working group established in the context of the Convergence and Regulation initiative.

The Council of Ministers of 15 November also approved a proposal for a law that approves the first modification of Law no. 91/97 of 1 August, which defines the general bases followed for the establishment, management and operation of telecommunications networks and the provision of telecommunications services. The same Council also approved the Decree-Law that approves the new legal framework of the Portuguese Quality System.

EUROPEAN UNION

7TH IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

The Commission adopted on 28 November the 7th implementation report of the telecommunications regulatory package, which reviews the state of sector competition in the 15 Union member-states. Despite positive figures with regard to generic market growth (estimated at 9.5 percent this year, and 22.3 percent for mobile services), the report's conclusions highlight seven concerns on which the sector should focus attention, namely the impasse in local loop unbundling (in all of community Europe only 640,000 lines had been unbundled, with shared access reaching a few hundred lines in only four countries), suggesting compulsory deadlines, credible sanctions and stronger intervention by national regulatory authorities (NRAs); the huge disparity of interconnection prices, particularly in mobile-terminating calls and the almost total lack of measures to promote the flat rate for internet access; the excessive price of leased lines and delays in their supply; the persistent distortion of rates; the absence of a general supply of operator portability and pre-selection services; difficulties raised with new operators on the question of rights of passage; and, lastly, the strengthening of consumer protection policies. The need to reformulate the NRAs' powers, to endow them with more power and faster mechanisms to resolve litigation, is likewise mentioned in the report.

More information at http://europa.eu.int/information_society/topics/telecoms/implementation/index_en.htm and http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=SPEECH/01/593|0|RAPID&lg=EN.

STUDY ASSURES FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF GALILEO

The European satellite radionavigation system GALILEO should generate an extremely positive cost-benefit relationship, affirms an independent study by PriceWaterhouseCoopers, disseminated a few days after the European Space Agency (ESA) guaranteed in mid-November that it would participate in financing the project, budgeted at 3.6 billion euros. Given that it will enable simultaneous localisation in time and space, GALILEO has already been labelled by Transport Commissioner Loyola de Palacio a "social and technological revolution", equivalent to that of mobile telephony.

Details at http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/01/1637|0|RAPID&lg=EN.

CYBERCRIME CONVENTION

The Council of Europe signed the International Convention on Cybercrime on 23 November at the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest. Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 8 November, the first international treaty aiming to fight the various forms of computer crime (copyright infringement, computer fraud, child pornography or offences against network security) will take effect after being ratified by five states, at least three of which must be members of that organisation.

The document is the result of four years of work and co-operation among experts from not only the Council of Europe member-states, but also from countries such as the United States of America, Canada and Japan, encompassing a total of nearly 50 states involved. In its additional

protocol, the Convention holds that all forms of disseminating racist or xenophobic content by means of the internet should constitute a criminal offence.

Meanwhile, the European Commission held on 27 November the first plenary session of the European Forum against Cybercrime, in the Charlemagne building in Brussels.

See [http://press.coe.int/cp/2001/840a\(2001\).htm](http://press.coe.int/cp/2001/840a(2001).htm) and http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=IP/01/1664|0|RAPID&lg=EN.

EUROPEAN CODE FOR GOOD ADMINISTRATIVE CONDUCT

The European Justice Ombudsman, Jacob Soderman, has finally witnessed approval of the European Code of Good Administrative Conduct, a project launched three years ago with the aim of regulating relations between employees of decentralised agencies, bodies and institutions of the European Union and the public. The "right to good administration" anticipated in the Charter of Fundamental Rights adopted in December 2000 in Nice regulates aspects ranging from the obligation to objectively and impartially avoid any sort of discrimination and abuse of power, to the duty of responding to citizens within a reasonable time period, in their respective language and indicating the possible means of recourse.

At <http://www.euro-ombudsman.eu.int/code/en/default.htm>.

IRG MEETINGS

SMP WG

The definition of relevant markets in the context of international roaming, the concept of effective competition and its sustainability in the telecommunications sector, i.e., the matters under debate in the context of the 99 Review package, and the joint work with the other Working Groups (WGs) of the Independent Regulators Group (IRG), were discussed during the meeting of the WG on Significant Market Power (SMP) held on 30 November in Dublin.

LLU WG

At this meeting of the WG on Local Loop Unbundling (LLU) held on 23 November in Paris, the focus of discussion was the document "Implementation Principles and Best Practices for LLU". The current situation of certain issues related to the opening of the local loop in the IRG member-countries was also reviewed.

CEPT MEETINGS

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The first meeting of the new Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) of the European Conference of Post and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) was held in Antalya, Turkey, between 12 and 16 November. It resulted in approval of the go-ahead to launch its work, namely concerning the mandate, rules of procedure, mission and initial structure of the Committee.

Besides the unanimous election by acclamation of the next president of the ECC (the Netherlands) and of the vice presidents (Denmark and Romania), a Task Group was also set up to submit a proposal on modifications to the Committee's current structure, according to guidelines from the CEPT Plenary Session.

Also approved were decisions on phasing out the CT1 and CT1+ wireless analogical systems by the end of 2002 and of CT2 wireless digital systems by the end of 2005, on the national frameworks for frequencies assignment, and on the Frequencies Information System of the European Radiocommunications Office (ERO), designated EFIS.

Regarding digital sound radio broadcasting, the Frequency Management Working Group (FM WG) will continue its work preparing for the Multilateral Planning Meeting for T-DAB (terrestrial digital audio broadcasting) in the L band, based on pretexts previously approved by the European Radiocommunications Committee (ERC). Given that the T-DAB blocs have already been defined, the group on satellites (PT5) should now focus on the need to begin a milestones process for S-DAB (satellite digital audio broadcasting) in the remaining blocs.

In the context of presentation of PT5's report, the appeal was reiterated for the CEPT administrations to join one-stop shopping for satellite networks and services developed with the financial support of the European Union. The next meeting of the ECC has been scheduled for 11-15 March 2003 in Paris.

CPG/PT1

A meeting of the Regulatory Questions Group (PT1) of the ITU's Confe-

rence Preparatory Group (CPG-2003) was held in Luxembourg on 24-26 October, during which the Rules of Procedure (RoP) drawn up recently by the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) were discussed.

The RoPs aim to simplify the work of the ITU's Radiocommunications Bureau (BR), with the prior publication, co-ordination and notification of frequencies for geo-stationary satellite system networks.

The RoPs must clearly explain the objectivity of the CEPT administrations' proposal on the BR's action with regard to application of Paragraphs S9.35 and S9.36 of the Radiocommunications Regulation, i.e., that the items for prior publication from satellite networks should be examined only vis-à-vis S5, and in case of favourable assessment be subject to a qualified favourable finding. Verification of conformity with the conditions imposed in the provisions of S9.35 and S11.31 will hence take place during presentation of the request for notification. With this understanding, a new contribution has been prepared, which Sweden will submit to the BR.

PT1 noted that the delay in processing co-ordination requests, along with the fact that the Radiocommunications Regulation is subject to periodic revisions every two or three years, may lead to situations in which the regulatory regime in effect on the date of considering the BR's request is different from the regulatory regime that would be applicable if the same period were considered on the date of its reception by the BR. It thus concluded that it would be desirable to have more transparency in the BR's internal procedures.

Lastly, with regard to point 1.26 of the agenda of the World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC-2003) - to consider the provisions whereby earth stations installed aboard vessels (ESV) can operate in fixed satellite service networks in the 3700-4200 MHz and 5925-6425 MHz bands - PT1 noted that SE19 had already reached understanding on the separation distance between the coastline and vessels, beyond which ESV operation does not require agreement from the administration responsible for the operation of FSS systems. This distance is 300 kilometres for the C band and 250 kilometres for the Ku band.

SEE www.cept.org

SEE www.ero.dk

SEE www.eto.dk

INFRASTRUCTURE SHARING IN 3G MOBILE NETWORKS

Infrastructure sharing has obvious financial and environmental advantages, besides assuring rapid implementation of third generation mobile (UMTS) networks, in light of various countries' experience with GSM site sharing. Such may be the conclusion of the 26-29 November Amsterdam seminar organised by IIR - Telecoms & Technology, on a matter of maximum current importance for most telecommunications operators and regulators.

On the various possible levels of sharing (sharing of sites, sharing of B interchanges, sharing of radio network controllers (RNCs), sharing of core networks, among others), studies presented at the forum indicate that higher benefits result from the sharing of RNCs, i.e., virtual RNCs (physically one single RNC, which nevertheless allows each operator to retain functional control of his network, including the use of the respective assigned frequencies).

The question of equipment availability was also discussed, given that there is some doubt over the dates anticipated for making such available - a situation which from the start compromises some of the sharing possibilities.

Some operators and manufacturers have also added national roaming in UMTS to the sharing list. This perspective, mainly applied in rural areas, is naturally viewed with a great deal of interest by some operators, although they recognise that there are major difficulties from the regulatory standpoint.

Also discussed was the need for regulators to adapt their policies to the new situation, while nevertheless paying mind to the need to remain compatible with the general situations in which licences were granted.

The presence of *Vodafone* (Portugal) among the speakers was also worthy of note; the operator provided a briefing on the situation of UMTS in Portugal, underscoring the aspects, in its opinion positive, inherent to the process of granting licences and the recent clarification issued by the *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* on infrastructure sharing.

CO-OPERATION...

In the context of the co-operation policy of the *Instituto das Comunicações de Portugal* (ICP), various initiatives were undertaken in November with São Tomé and Príncipe, Guinea-Bissau and East Timor, completing the actions planned for 2001.

...WITH SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

The training session course for the representative of the *Companhia Santomense de Telecomunicações* focused on spectrum monitoring and control, and radio supervision. The course ran from 30 October to 7 November, and included visits to the ICP's oversight services in Barcarena, and to the RDP telecommunications services at Monsanto and Amoreiras in Lisbon.

... WITH GUINEA-BISSAU

Four training courses were undertaken as part of ongoing co-operation with Guinea-Bissau. The first covered the areas of accounting, financial management, institutional organisation, documentation and public relations, and ran from 5 to 9 November, with three officials from the *Instituto das Comunicações da Guiné-Bissau* (ICGB) attending. The second, from 12-16 November, provided training in frequency management and was also attended by three ICGB representatives. Issues

approached in this context included those linked to radio licensing for various radiocommunications services (mobile service, radio broadcasting service, fixed service and satellite service), and included a cellular network module that focused on aspects of the architecture, services and planning of networks such as GSM or TETRA.

The third course, from 22 to 26 October, focused on planning and the treatment of statistical data, with one representative of the ICGB attending.

...WITH EAST TIMOR

Training was provided to yet another employee of East Timor's Division of Information Technologies, Post and Communications, who attended a 19-29 November course on tariffs and numbering. Also covered were issues such as local loop unbundling, price regulation and interconnection, internet access, fixed-mobile calls, fixed telephone and leased line service quality, price regulation of leased lines and FTS, the price regime for universal service and contract concession, as well as the numbering plan for East Timor (an experimental study was drawn up on this matter) and the tariff schedule for telecommunications services provided in East Timorese territory.

SEE <http://www.icgb.org/index.html.en>

SEE <http://www.gov.east-timor.org>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRESS IN EAST TIMOR

Ongoing reconstruction of the telecommunications system in East Timor, almost entirely destroyed during the self-determination process that culminated in September 1999, has made significant advances, with the launch of a tender - the so-called Bill Operate Transfer Project or BOT Project - to create an entirely new telecommunications system, which anticipates the award of a licence to operate fixed and mobile networks.

Results of the tender should be released in the first quarter of 2002. Meanwhile, the Telecommunications Law (Regulation no. 2001/15) was published on 21 July and establishes a regulatory body for the sector, the Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA). It also sets out the principles for telecommunications policy, namely safeguarding the principle of universal service. The CRA, which is still not operational, should succeed the Information Technology, Post and Telecommunications (ITPT) department of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, which covers all matters linked to postal service and telecommunications.

SEE http://www.gov.east-timor.org/showpage.php?sect_id=31&type=generic§name=Telecoms&dept_id=080400&lang_id=1

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

In the context of the Studies Group 1 - Spectrum Management (ITU-R SG1) of the Radiocommunications Sector of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the subgroup on Spectrum Monitoring Methods and Techniques (WP1C) met on 6-13 November in Geneva and approved the document on inspections and another on liaison with the WP6E group, concerning the amount of deviation for sound radio broadcasting.

Also approved were the draft of the new Recommendation on radiogoniometry and the localisation of TDMA and CDMA signals, the draft for the new Recommendation on the identification and size of interference sources and revision of ITU-R Recommendation SM.1050 (Monitoring Tariffs). Lastly, a survey on the measurement of digital radio broadcasting signals was adopted, along with a questionnaire on inspections.

SEE <http://www.itu.int/home/index.html>

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

The plenary session of the Board of Administration of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) was held in Bonn from 24 to 26 October. One result was the approval, after eight meetings and two years of work, of the report of the High Level Group, in accordance with the mandate of the Beijing Congress, with conclusions and suggestions for future development of the UPU.

The Board also approved the accounts for the 2000 fiscal year and the revised version of the budget for the 2001/2002 biennium, in the context of the work of Commission 2 (Programme and Budget), as well as the actions undertaken in the context of Commission 3 (Technical Co-operation) by the Directorate of Co-operation and Development of the Union's International Secretariat, with the aim of assuring a more co-ordinated co-operation plan. Also worth highlighting are the work of the Universal Service Project Team, which approved the revised version of the Memorandum on Universal Service, and of the Project Team on relations with the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which reported on developments in postal services, focusing on negotiation and the compatibility of the UPU's terminal duties system with the WTO.

Also approved was the provisional programme of the High Level Conference that will take place in October 2002 in Geneva, whose theme will be "the mail of the future".

SEE <http://www.upu.int>

NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

SPAIN - Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT) - The Spanish courts have confirmed the CMT's decision to fine the incumbent operator the amount of 450 million pesetas. The *Audiencia Nacional* thus denied the administrative appeal filed by *Telefónica* in a case involving non-compliance with provisional remedies concerning pre-selection, which opposed the company to the operators *RSL Communications Spain* and *BT Telecomunicaciones*. See http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro_info/c_prensa/pdf/c20011115_sentenciaANacional.pdf. On 8 November, the Commission decided to modify *Telefónica's* signal delivery conditions with regard to other operators, in the context of local loop unbundling. At http://www.cmt.es/cmt/centro_info/c_prensa/pdf/c20011108_OBAmecautelar.pdf.

ITALY - Autorità per le Garanzie nelle Comunicazioni - The Italian regulatory authority published on 21 November the regulation on the transition to digital terrestrial television. Details at http://www.agcom.it/prov/relaz_d_435_01_CONS.htm.

FRANCE - Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications (ART) - On 30 November, the French government significantly reduced UMTS rates, which hence encompass a fixed amount of 619 million euros and a variable part calculated on the basis of operating revenues. At <http://www.art-telecom.fr/>. Based on the Recommendation of the EU Council, the Authority also reports that it has introduced in the register of current and future operator responsibilities requirements aiming to protect public health from the effects of electromagnetic radiation. See <http://www.art-telecom.fr/dossiers/sante/fresante.htm>.

In wake of the regulation of differences between *France Télécom* and *Free Télécom* (at <http://www.art-telecom.fr/communiqués/pressrelease/2001/37-2001.htm>), ART decided on 20 November to authorise the former to set its own rate for per-minute access to the internet. The Authority also lowered the prices of telephone calls between fixed and mobile networks: between 2001 and 2004, the average cut should reach 40 percent. Details at <http://www.art-telecom.fr/communiqués/pressrelease/2001/36-2001.htm>.

UNITED KINGDOM - Office of Telecommunications (OFTEL) - OFTEL published on 20 November a study on mobile network quality that covers April-September performance of the four existing mobile operators in the United Kingdom. At http://www.oftel.gov.uk/publications/research/2001/call_survey/index.htm.

On 14 November, a consultation on public payphones was launched. Additional information at <http://www.oftel.gov.uk/publications/consumer/payp1101.htm>.

UNITED KINGDOM - Postal Services Commission (Postcomm) - Postcomm has published its first annual report, available at <http://www.psc.gov.uk/documents/postoffices/final%20pdf%20version.pdf>.

SWEDEN - Post & Teletyrselen - National Telecoms Agency (NTA) - The NTA published on 20 November a study that reflects on the effects of UMTS infrastructure and network sharing in competition and estimates that investment costs can with this option be cut by 20 to 50 percent. At <http://www.pts.se/dokument/getFile.asp?FileID=2504>.

SWITZERLAND - Office Fédéral de la Communication (OFCOM) - Revision of the radio and television law and consultation on the new project, taking place from December to April 2002 (see http://www.ofcom.ch/en/aktuell/revision_rtv/index.html) is the main news from OFCOM, whose website was recently reorganised, not only with regard to graphic presentation but also in terms of new functions, as can be seen at <http://www.ofcom.ch/en/medieninfo/medienmitteilungen/bakom/artikel/00577/index.html>.

GERMANY - Regulierungsbehörde für Telekommunikation und Post (RegTP) - The German regulator has come forward with a compromise solution for a new interconnection price structure and with new rules on the supply of leased lines, which oblige *Deutsche Telekom* to meet tighter delivery schedules (between eight weeks and six months) in order to end the successive delays and complaints from new operators. Details at http://www.regtp.de/en/aktuelles/start/fs_03.html.

CZECH REPUBLIC - The process of assigning three third generation mobile licences in the Czech Republic began badly, with candidate operators refusing to move forward unless the government lowers the bid price; this situation led to postponement of the initial auction scheduled for October.

ANGOLA - Instituto Angolano das Comunicações (INACOM) - The Angolan regulatory body is preparing to award new licences to provide public use telecommunications services, involving fixed wireless access (FWA) technology.

GUINEA-BISSAU - Instituto das Comunicações da Guiné-Bissau (ICGB) - An international tender is open for the award a new second generation mobile licence. Details at <http://www.icgb.org/portuguese/gsm.htm>.

MOROCCO - Agence Nationale de Réglementation des Télécommunications (ANRT) - The Moroccan government plans to award by the end of the year a new fixed network licence. The draft record of responsibilities, available on the internet, provides further details. At <http://www.anrt.net.ma/>.

TUNISIA - Ministère des Technologies de la Communication - The Tunisian government has opened an international tender aiming to award a second GSM mobile licence. Candidates may submit their proposals until 10 January 2002.

USA - Federal Communications Commission (FCC) - The FCC has reorganised its website. At <http://www.fcc.gov/>. On 8 November, the Commission modified some of the transition rules for digital terrestrial television, in order to speed the transition and permit access by more operators. See http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Mass_Media/News_Releases/2001/nrmm0114.html.

URUGUAY - Unidad Reguladora de Servicios de Comunicaciones (URSEC) - The tender for the award of third generation mobile licences begins on 28 January 2002. The deadline for submission of candidacies ends on 11 January. Additional information at http://www.uyweb.com.uy/ursec/S_telecom/subastas.htm.

INDIA - Department of Telecommunications (DoT) - The opening of fixed long distance telephony networks is already a reality in India. See <http://www.dotindia.com/>.

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BELGIAN PRESIDENCY - COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The second Council of Ministers of Transport and Telecommunications under the Belgian Presidency will be held in Brussels on 6-7 December, with the agenda including the long-awaited adoption of the "99 Review" package.

The results of the Council were expected to include adoption of a new regulatory framework for the telecommunications sector, to encompass the Framework-Directive, the Directive on the access and interconnection of electronic communications networks and associated resources, the Directive on the authorisation of electronic communications services and networks, the Directive on universal service and user rights in matters concerning electronic communications services and networks, and, lastly, the Directive on personal data treatment and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector.

Also anticipated, beyond approval of the above-mentioned package, was adoption of a draft regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, aiming to establish the .eu top-level domain and the draft Directive that anticipates liberalisation of the mail and postal services.

The Commission was likewise to debate the 7th report on telecommunications implementation in the 15 member-states.

The provisional agenda also included three matters: discussion of the decision on revision of annex 1 of Decision no. 1336/97/EC of the Parliament and of the Council, of 17 June 1997, which includes a package of guide-

lines on trans-European telecommunications networks; presentation of a Commission communication on promoting the regulation of on-line litigation; and, lastly, the Commission's presentation of a proposal for a Directive on mutual recognition of evaluation certificates on the safety of information products.

In the context of the Transport Council, the Commission submitted its report on the financial feasibility plan for GALILEO, the European satellite radionavigation system, and discussed the possibility of setting up a common company to manage same.

Depending on results of the 6-7 December Council of Ministers, another Council on Telecommunications may be held on 20 December; in such case it is likely that meetings of the Economic Affairs Group will be scheduled between the two ministerial encounters.

Meanwhile, the major expectation vis-à-vis both the Council and the 12 December plenary session of the European Parliament concerns the Commission's veto right, which the latter and the EP want to see confirmed in article 6, paragraph 4 of the Framework-Directive and which, if approved, will enable the Commission to veto decisions of the national regulatory authorities. The text under discussion (see <http://www.europarl.eu.int/meetdocs/committees/itre/20011127/452698en.pdf>) was approved on 27 November by the Parliamentary Commission on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy.

SEE http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh?p_action.gettxt=gt&doc=MEMO/01/427/01RAPID&lg=EN

SEE <http://www.eu2001.be/Main/Frameset.asp?reference=01%2D01&lang=fr&sess=990129463&>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS

Certified Entities registered with the ICP	Registration Date	Certified Entities registered with the ICP	Registration Date
Epoch - Consultores de Telemática, Lda.	19.04.2001	Guimete - Projecto e Instalação de Materiais Eléctricos e Telecomunicações, Lda.	01.10.2001
PT Comunicações, S.A.	19.04.2001	Rediprotel - Engenharia, Estudos e Projectos, Lda	01.10.2001
EBL - Electro Belarmino, Lda.	30.04.2001	Monticanalizações e Instalações Eléctricas, Lda.	01.10.2001
Rimielgab - Gabinete Técnico de Engenharia	30.04.2001	Signum - Comércio, Serviços e Representações, Lda.	01.10.2001
Instituto Electrotécnico Português	10.05.2001	Mitel - Sociedade de Equipamentos de Telecomunicações, Lda.	01.10.2001
Laboratório Industrial da Qualidade	10.05.2001	HPG - Soluções Tecnológicas, Lda.	09.10.2001
Santos & Sousa, Lda.	10.05.2001	Linhas Múltiplas - Projecto de Telecomunicações, Lda.	22.10.2001
Gatipel - Telecomunicações e Informática, Lda.	22.06.2001	Genco - Gabinete de Engenheiros Consultores, Lda.	22.10.2001
Sednorte - Montagens Eléctricas, Lda.	28.06.2001	Totalinspe - Inspeção de Sistemas Energéticos e Ambiente, S.A.	22.10.2001
Multinfra - Projectos e Representações Electromecânicas, Lda.	28.06.2001	Leonel Barbeiro - Electricidade e Canalizações, Lda.	31.10.2001
Imotron - Edifícios Inteligentes, S.A.	05.07.2001	Elevar - Associação de Apoio Técnico	15.11.2001
Instituto de Soldadura e Qualidade	30.07.2001	Vasconcelos & Filho, Lda.	15.11.2001
Cerqueira & Oliveira, Lda.	30.07.2001	TELJAP - Manutenção, Instalação e Comercialização de Telecomunicações, Lda.	15.11.2001
Ribatel - Equipamentos de Telecomunicações, Lda.	08.08.2001	Odiphone - Serviços e Equipamentos de Comunicação, Lda.	22.11.2001
Rudistel - Equipamento Eléctrico e Electrónico, Lda.	08.08.2001	Certeijo - Certificação de Instalações de Telecomunicações, Unipessoal, Lda.	22.11.2001
Electro Arroeteense - Instalações Eléctricas, Lda.	08.08.2001		
Astroluz - Sociedade de Electricidade e Construção Civil, Lda.	08.08.2001		
Renet Açores - Engenharia, Infraestruturas e Obras Públicas, S.A.	23.08.2001		

IN DECEMBER 2001

EU
- Council of Ministers (6-7 and 20)
- Economic Affairs Group - Telecommunications

- WG FM PT41 (6-7)
ETO
- CA (18)
NATO
- PWG - Policy Working Group (17-18)
- Frequency Management Subcommittee (19)

ITU/Telecommunications Development Sector
- Regulators Symposium (3-5)

CEPT
- WG ITU - ex JWG ITU (4-6)
- PT WTDC02 (6-7)

EVENTS
- *European Telecommunications Law and*

Regulation Update - 10-11, London
- *IP Multicast: The Forum* - 10-12, London
- *2nd International Wireless LAN Conference*
- 10-13, Dublin
- *How to Build & Extend Brands Using the Web: Branding I Century* - 12, Los Angeles
- *Next-Generation Billing Systems* - 12-14, Amsterdam
- *Internet World Fall 2001* - 10-14, New York
- *Euro Web 2001* - 18-20, Venice