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2016 ANACOM CONFERENCE - VIDEO AND CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions and video of the ninth conference of the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM), which focused on the theme of 'new regulation for a gigabit

society', are now available. The conference was held on 2 November at Lisbon's Calouste Gulbenkan Foundation. (+)

ACTIVITY OF POSTAL SERVICES PROVIDER - ANNUAL FEE

By decision dated 18 November ANACOM set at 0.2663 percent the t2 contribution percentage to apply to relevant income of

postal service providers with reference to 2016. Also approved was the issuance of invoicing for the corresponding annual fee. (+)

ACTIVITY OF SUPPLIER OF NETWORKS AND SERVICES - ANNUAL FEE

By decision dated 11 November ANACOM set at 0.6884 percent the t2 contribution percentage to apply to relevant income of suppliers of electronic communication networks

and services with reference to 2016. Also approved was the issuance of invoicing for the corresponding annual fee. (+)

DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TV (TDT)

SERVICE OUTAGE

ANACOM resolved by a determination dated 11 November that within 60 working days MEO-Serviços de Comunicações e Multimédia must install a transmitter that corrects the coverage problem detected in Castelo de Paiva county, which is among its obligations. MEO should therefore implement the communication plan it had proposed, including the part concerning inclusion of a notice on the DTT website about the operational launch of the new transmitter and regarding the update of the transmitter list.

It was also determined that MEO should, without incurring further inaccuracies in the indication of best servers, within five working days after that transmitter becomes operational correct the indication on the DTT website of the transmitters

that provide the best terrestrial service reception conditions in places where it is noted that information provided on the DTT website was not correct, updating the information for all places where the new transmitter becomes the best server.

MEO was notified of the situation verified, with indication of the obligations considered not to have been met with respect to quality of DTT signal reception and implementation of user support measures. It was also notified, per the terms of the determination dated 1 October 2015, to: (i) express an opinion about the reported facts, informing ANACOM of the solution it would implement to correct the situation; (ii) submit a proposal regarding the provision of suitable information to potentially affected end users; and (iii) indicate the time periods deemed necessary to correct the situation and inform users. (+)

COMMUNICATIONS IN PORTUGAL

NEWS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS PRICE TRENDS

The report on “Trends in Telecommunications Prices” was released on 21 November, with figures for October 2016. This report is drawn up by the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) based on indicators from the National Statistics Institute (INE) and Eurostat. It includes information about the consumer price index and telecommunication prices, besides comparing telecommunications price trends in Portugal and the European Union. (+)

POSTAL NETWORK AND SUPPLY OF CTT SERVICES

Also available is the ANACOM report on the postal network and services supplied by CTT-Correios de Portugal, the universal postal service concession company. The report, referring to the second quarter of 2016, highlights that at the end of that period there were 2,326 operational postal offices, of which 614 were fixed postal stations, 3 were mobile postal stations and 1,709 were mailing posts.

The total number of post offices has remained stable since the end of the fourth quarter of 2014, in line with the goals for postal network density and minimal service offerings set by ANACOM decision of 28 August 2014. (+)

SURVEYS OF ICT USE

The INE recently released the result of surveys on the use of information and communication technologies by families and businesses in 2016. With respect to families, the survey indicates that in 2016 74 percent of Portuguese families have internet access at home, most in broadband; this access type prevails among families with children (94 percent) and those residing in the Lisbon region (82 percent).

In business terms, the survey indicates that in 2016 70 percent of Portuguese businesses with ten or more active employees accessed the internet in mobile broadband. Of those companies, 64 percent have a website, 45 percent use social networks as a strategy to connect to customers, suppliers or business partners and 41 percent send electronic invoices to other companies or public bodies. It is also noted that 18 percent of companies acquired cloud computing services, mainly for email. Also notable is that 13 percent of the companies analysed big data in 2015, the main sources being geolocation of data from portable devices (57 percent)

and use of data generated by digital media (54 percent). (+)

COMMUNICATIONS MARKET IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

The ANACOM publication on the “Communications Market in the National Economy (2011-2015)” has been released. It presents an overview of the changing communications market in the Portuguese economy during that period and contains information about the overall communications sector and about the subsectors of electronic communications and postal services. (+)

HIGH-SPEED NETWORKS AND SERVICES

The ANACOM report on “High-speed Networks and Services at a Fixed Location” is now available, with figures for the third quarter of 2016.

This report presents the number of home customers of high-speed services at a fixed location in mainland Portugal and in the Azores and Madeira autonomous regions, as well as total cabled households for all operators. (+)

ANACOM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The speech by the chair of ANACOM’s board of directors, Fátima Barros, given at the ITU Telecom World event held on 14-17 November in Bangkok, organised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), is now available. (+)

Also available are her speeches at the 2016 ECTA Regulatory Conference organised by the European Competitive Telecommunications Association (ECTA) and held on 9-10 November in Brussels. (+)

Barros also took part with ANACOM vice-chair José Perdigoto in the 2 November parliamentary hearing held by the Committee on Economy, Innovation and Public Works to discuss changes to the Electronic Communications Law, namely regarding contract length, loyalty periods and commercial offerings of service providers. (+)

Board member João Confraria also participated as moderator of the round table on clashing perspectives in the scope of the Net Neutrality Workshop - Public Session for Debate and Reflection, organised jointly by ANACOM and the Portugal Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC Portugal) and held on 16 November at the Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (IAPMEI) in Lisbon. (+)

OPERATORS/PROVIDERS OF COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SERVICES

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERVICE PROVIDERS

	No. of authorised entities ^(a)	No. of active entities ^{(a) (b)}
TV signal distribution service ^(c)	17	12
Mobile telephone service		
Mobile network operators (MNO)	3	3
Mobile virtual network operators (MVNO)	9	6 ^(e)
Telephone service at a fixed location	17	13
Internet access service		
Fixed broadband	54	43
Mobile broadband	10	9
Nomad voice over internet service (Nomad VoIP) ^(d)	24	15
Public payphone service	9	2
Virtual calling card service	23	9

POSTAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

	No. of authorised habilitadas ^(a)	No. of active entities ^{(a) (e)}
Postal services outside the scope of universal service	80	63
Postal services covered by the scope of universal service	15	11

a) Situation at 30 September 2016

b) Includes operational entities with retail and/or wholesale offering.

c) Includes service provided in the scope of CDNs (9 operational providers) and via other platforms (3 operational providers).

d) Services provided using the '30' numbering range.

e) Includes 24 companies providing the service under the MRW brand on a franchising basis (the company IBERCOURIER owns the MRW brand), 16 companies providing the service under the NACEX brand on a franchising basis (the company LOGISTA owns the NACEX brand) and 2 companies providing the service under the ENVIALIA brand on a franchising basis.

LOCK-IN PERIODS - SURVEY

The conclusions of a survey of lock-in periods in the residential population have been released. It was conducted by the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) to gauge consumers' readiness to pay to end or reduce

the 24-month loyalty requirement. The figures were gathered by interviewing subscribers of bundled electronic communication services between 22 and 26 October. (+)

NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

Decree-Law no. 81/2016 of 28 November, creating in the organic structure of the Judiciary Police the National Unit for the Fight Against Cybercrime and Technological Crime (UNC3T), which replaces the now disbanded National Unit for Investigation of Computer Crime. (+)

Parliamentary Decree 52/XIII was published in the parliamentary gazette on 24 November, the first amendment of Law no. 33/2016 of 24 August. It further explains the provisions on conducting financial, technical and legal studies about future development of digital terrestrial TV (DTT). (+)

REGISTRATION OF BFWA STATIONS IN 5.8 GHZ - CLARIFICATION

In the wake of the public consultation on the National Table of Frequency Allocations (NTFA 2009-2010), the allocation of the frequency in the 5.8 GHz band (5725-5875 MHz) for broadband fixed access systems was inserted in the Reservations section.

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) decided that the respective attribution of frequency usage rights (i.e. radio licence exemption) is not required, though it is subject to prior registration of stations. (+)

SIMPLIFIED INFORMATION FORM (FIS)

ANACOM has provided an editable simplified information form (FIS) in annex 1 of Regulation no. 829/2016, published on 23 August. The aim is to facilitate implementation by target enterprises of new obligations regarding pre-contract and

contract information, with the proviso that this document neither replaces nor derogates from the publication that appeared in the Diário da República (official gazette). (+)

FORUM FOR THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

The Forum for the Information Society - Internet Governance 2016 event was held from 21 October to 23 November. The main goal was to debate and consider, in Portugal, the subject of internet governance. ANACOM participated to respond to

the question about how universal telecommunications service guarantees internet access and quality of service for part of the Portuguese population. (+)

NET NEUTRALITY WORKSHOP

A public session to discuss and reflect about net neutrality was held last 16 November at the Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (IAPMEI) in Lisbon, jointly organised by ANACOM and the Portugal Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC Portugal). The event was held in the scope of the Forum for the Information Society - Internet Governance 2016.

ANACOM took part in various sessions, focusing on topics associated to net neutrality, such as European Regulation EU 2015/2021, corresponding guidelines from the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and quality of service (+).

T'COM INFRASTRUCTURES WORKSHOP - PRESENTATIONS

The presentations given at the ANACOM-ISEL workshop on 'technical rules in connecting public telecommunication

networks', held on 22 November at Lisbon's High Institute of Engineering, are now available. (+)

ENISA

FORUM ON REGIONAL CYBER-SECURITY FOR EUROPE

The Telecommunications Development Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA), together with the Ministry of Transportation and Information and Communication Technologies of the Republic of Bulgaria held a meeting last 29-30 November in Bulgaria. It was attended by high-level delegates from more than 43 European countries, including representatives of national, public and governmental authorities, decision-makers, service providers, academics and experts in cyber-security, who analysed good practices in cyber-security, with the intent of supplying

a platform to strengthen responses to computer security incidents, and in national cyber-security strategies. (+)

CYBER THREATS IN SMART HOSPITALS

ENISA presented a study that sets out the information security scenario for adopting the Internet of Things at hospitals. The study involved information security agents from more than ten European Union hospitals; it describes the ecosystem of information and communication technologies in smart hospitals and uses an approach based on risk of relevant threats and vulnerabilities to analyse attack scenarios and map good practices. (+)

COMMUNICATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

EUROPEAN UNION

ASYMMETRIC TERMINATION RATES

The European Commission (EC) published on 28 November a recommendation addressed to the Italian national regulatory authority (NRA) (Autorità per le Garanzie nelle Comunicazioni (AGCOM) with a view to amending or withdrawing the proposed settlement of the dispute between the mobile virtual network operator PosteMobile and the operators H3G, Fastweb and Telecom Italia. AGCOM's proposal forces the operators H3G, Fastweb and Telecom Italia to pay to PosteMobile termination rates 75 percent higher compared to those of the other mobile operators. (+)

2016 EUROPEAN BROADBAND AWARDS

The winners of the 2016 European competition for the five best projects on broadband were awarded on 14 November. They had been selected in different categories, with a focus on innovative financing models, cost reduction, affordability, competition and quality of service. Some of the projects involve rural broadband connectivity, while others have a broader scope and cover regions or an entire country. The winning projects will be considered as examples for planners of broadband development in Europe. (+)

NEXT GENERATION INTERNET

The EC initiated on 10 November a public consultation on next generation internet, which runs until 9 January 2017.

The aim is to gather as many contributions as possible and to give all the opportunity to share opinions and ideas about the internet in 2030. The consultation includes, among others, questions concerning specific technology areas which can become significant for the internet of the future, such as decentralised architectures, immersive environments and network solutions beyond IP. (+)

DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET IN EUROPE - PARLIAMENTARY HEARING

The 8 November parliamentary hearing with European Commission Vice President Andrus Ansip on the subject of the 'Digital Single Market in Europe - framework' is now available. The hearing was before a joint meeting of the Committee on European Affairs and the Committee on Culture, Communication, Youth and Sports. (+)

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPETITIVENESS

Brussels hosted on 28-29 November the Council of Ministers responsible for competitiveness, which approved a draft regulation that forbids unjustified geo-blocking among member states. This draft regulation aims to end discrimination based on customer nationality, place of residence or location of establishment and to strengthen electronic commerce. The Council also considered the new space strategy for Europe. (+)

BEREC

29TH PLENARY MEETING

The 29th BEREC plenary meeting was held on 8-9 December in Berlin, hosted by the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA). During the meeting an opinion published on 13 December was adopted, concerning the EC proposal about the draft regulation for electronic communications. The BEREC opinion centres on three major aspects of the EC proposal: scope of the regulatory

framework, regulated access and institutional framework. (+)

2016 STAKEHOLDER FORUM

A BEREC press release concerns the major issues debated at its fourth Stakeholder Forum, held last 17 October in Brussels. The presentations given and the complete transcription of the forum are also available on the BEREC website. (+)

ANACOM INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) represents the Portuguese communications sector before relevant international organisations and took part in recent meetings in the scope of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the European Union (EU), the Equipment Compliance Association (REDCA), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Telecommunications Standardisation Institute (ETSI), the International Mobile Satellite Organisation (IMSO), the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC), the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP) and the Latin American Forum of Telecommunications Regulatory Authorities (Regulatel).

CEPT

The following meetings were held in the context of the ECC's work:

- CPG PTD - 20-22 September in Rome; (+)
- 74th of WG SE - 26-30 September in Bled, Slovenia; (+)
- CPG PTB - 9-11 November in London; (+)
- 43 plenary of the ECC - 15-18 November in Prague; (+)
- ECC WG NaN - 22-24 November in Brussels. (+)

EU

The following meetings were held in the EU ambit:

- 57th meeting of the RSC - 5-6 October in Brussels; (+)
- meeting of RSPG WG PMSE - 20 October in Vienna; (+)
- joint meeting of WG Framework Review and WG DSM Strategy - 25 October in Budapest; (+)
- 44th meeting of TCAM and 10th meeting of the TCAM Experts Group - 3-4 November in Brussels. (+)

REDCA AND EUANB

Meetings of REDCA and the EUANB were held on 16 and 17 November in Zagreb. (+)

ITU

The following meetings were held in the ITU context:

- meeting of WP 6A - 18-26 October in Geneva; (+)
- WTSA-16 - 25 October to 3 November in Yasmine Hammamet, Tunisia; (+)
- ITU Telecom World 2016 - 14-17 November in Bangkok. (+)

NATO

WG C3B CaP3 met on 12 and 13 October in Brussels. (+)

OECD

The 73rd meeting of the CDEP took place on 16-18 November in Paris. (+)

ETSI

The 68th General Assembly was held on 29-30 November in Sophia Antipolis, France. (+)

IMSO

The 24th Assembly was held on 15-17 November in London. (+)

BEREC

The following meetings in the BEREC context were held in Brussels:

- meeting of NN EWG - 3 November; (+)
- joint BEREC/OECD workshop on IP interconnection in the net neutrality context - 21 November; (+)
- MEA EWG meeting - 21 November. (+)

Also, the BEREC/IRG Contact Network met on 17-18 November in Jurmala, Latvia. (+)

ERGP

The plenary meeting and the internal workshop on efficiency of the ERGP took place on 24 and 25 November in Naples. (+)

REGULATEL

The Regulatel plenary meeting was held on 28-29 November in Santiago, Chile. (+)

COOPERATION - ANAC/CABO VERDE

The International Regulation Symposium, focusing on the current context of the digital economy and marking ten years of existence of the Agência Nacional das Comunicações (ANAC), the regulatory authority of Cabo Verde (Cape Verde), was held in the capital Praia on 23-25 November.

Among the symposium participants was ANACOM board member Hélder Vasoncelos, in the panel on 'regulation challenges in the digital economy context', with a presentation on the subject of 'regulation challenges of electronic communications, perspectives and trends'.

NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

BELGIUM - Belgian Institute for Postal services and Telecommunications (BIPT)

- The company Scarlet Belgium has been fined 15,000 euros for not informing subscribers about price changes in compliance with the Electronic Communications Law. (+)

BRAZIL - Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- Statistical data on pay-TV in Brazil have been published, according to which this service diminished by 0.2 percent, for a loss of 42.745 subscribers from September to October. (+)

BULGARIA - Communications Regulation Commission (CRC)

- A public consultation launched on 2 November under the Electronic Communications Law concerns the proposed reference offer presented by the Bulgarian Telecommunications Company (BTC) and the CRC's position on modification of that reference offer. The proposed CRC decision is meant to guarantee effective implementation of the specific obligations imposed on BTC. (+)

CANADA - Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

- Text with 9-1-1 service (www.textwith911.ca) is now available. It enables communication by text message between attendance centres and users with hearing or speech impediments registered by their service providers. (+)

USA - Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

- The results of a study on performance of fixed broadband internet access service in the scope of the sixth "Measuring Broadband America" report were published on 1 December. They show the FCC's efforts to encourage more transparency about network performance as a way to help consumers make more informed choices about their internet services provider (ISP). (+)

SPAIN - Comisión Nacional de los Mercados y la Competencia (CNMC)

- Statistical information about electronic communications in the second quarter of 2016 has been published, according to which 83.4 percent of homes have an internet connection up 5 percent over 2015. The figures presented also show that pay-TV penetration has increased, reaching 26.7 percent of homes. (+)
- A decision on maintenance of the most relevant wholesale obligations and deregulation of the retail market has been approved. Maintenance of wholesale market regulation is especially meant to benefit users of fixed telephony services. (+)

FINLAND - Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority (FICORA)

- Improvements have been made to the communications monitoring service, MONITORi, which provides information about communication services in Finland, including TV, radio, broadband and postal, thereby promoting accessibility. A highlight is that price information can now be checked by municipality. (+)

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

- The ARCEP Observatory results concerning electronic communications have been published - on high-speed and very high-speed fixed services and for the third quarter. The figures indicate that high-speed broadband subscription has surpassed 5 million accesses. (+)
- A public consultation has been launched on quality indicators for internet and fixed telephony services. Comments can be submitted until 5 January 2017 to qos-fixe@arcep.fr. (+)

FRANCE - Commission des Affaires Européennes du SÉNAT

- A resolution has been approved on the principle of subsidiarity concerning the European Commission's proposal on expansion of the powers of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC), in the scope of the draft European regulation on the digital single market. (+)

The NETHERLANDS - Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM)

- Providers of public electronic communication services have been asked to send in by 1 January 2017 the declaration of net turnover in 2015. (+)

IRELAND - Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

- A public consultation on the markets for wholesale local access (WLA) and wholesale central access (WCA) has been launched. These wholesale services are used to supply downstream retail services, including (though not limited to) fixed telephony services, broadband internet/connectivity and TV for home and business consumers. The consultation runs until 30 January 2017; comments may be submitted to graeme.omeara@comreg.ie. (+)

UNITED KINGDOM - Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- A consultation has been published on proposed markets, market power determinations and remedies for wholesale call termination, wholesale call origination and wholesale narrowband access markets. Comments may be submitted until 28 February 2017. (+)

3RD QUARTER 2016 STATISTICS RELEASED

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE BUNDLES

At the end of the third quarter of 2016 (3Q2016), 84.3 of each 100 families had bundled services. The number of subscribers to such offerings was 3.4 million (up 2.7 percent over the previous quarter and 8.2 percent year-on-year). Growth of the number of package subscribers accelerated in 3Q2016, countering the slowdown in recent quarters. The accelerated growth in the number of bundled service subscribers led to an increase in 3P packages (36,000 more subscribers) and an atypical increase of the fixed telephone plus fixed broadband service modality (33,000 more subscribers). 5P packages were no longer the main component responsible for multiple play growth (33,000 more subscribers). (+)

MOBILE SERVICES

At the end of 3Q2016 there were 6.3 million registered effective users of typical mobile broadband services (video-telephony, broadband data transmission, mobile TV, etc), up 7.7 percent over the previous quarter and 10.5 percent year-on-year. (+)

INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE

At the end of 3Q2016 internet access service penetration at a fixed location stood at 32.1 per 100 inhabitants for fixed accesses and 59.4 percent per 100 inhabitants for

mobile accesses actually used. Penetration of home fixed broadband service was 67.3 per 100 classic families and 46.4 per 100 classic family households. In that quarter fibre optics (FTTH/B) surpassed the million-access barrier and overtook ADSL, becoming the second-ranking form of fixed broadband internet access (30.5 percent and 29 percent of accesses, respectively). (+)

PAY-TV SERVICE

During the period under analysis there were nearly 3.6 million subscribers to paid TV signal distribution service, up 44,000 over the previous quarter and 159,000 year-on-year. Service growth was driven by offerings borne on fibre optics (FTTH/B), whose subscriber numbers were up 63,000 over the previous quarter and 220,000 year-on-year, thus reaching 27.1 percent of total subscribers. (+)

FIXED TELEPHONE SERVICE

The penetration rate of main telephone accesses at the end of 3Q2016 was 46 per 100 inhabitants, the highest since such statistics have been gathered (4Q2006). The recorded quarterly growth was above all due to an increase in VoIP/VoB accesses, which include accesses borne by fibre optic networks and cable TV. (+)

10TH CONGRESS OF THE PORTUGUESE URSI COMMITTEE

The 10th Congress of the Portuguese URSI Committee was held last 18 November in Lisbon, with the theme of 'communications in security and emergency scenarios'. The vice-chair of the board of directors of the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM), José Perdigoto, awarded the ANACOM-URSI Portugal Prizes and the Best Student Paper Award (2016), whose respective aims are to encourage creativity and rigour in scientific research work in Portugal and to provide an incentive for young authors.

The winner of the ANACOM-URSI Portugal Prize was Ricardo

Correia of the Department of Electronics and Informatics at the University of Aveiro, for his work on "Quadrature Amplitude Modulation Backscatter for Passive Wireless Sensors".

First place in the Best Student Paper Award went to Miguel Monteiro, a master's student at the High Technical Institute, for his work on "Load Balancing in Self-optimised 4th Generation (LTE) Networks" (+)

The presentations given at the Congress are also available for consultation. (+)

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK REVIEW - PRESENTATIONS

The presentations given at the ANACOM-organised workshop on the review of the regulatory framework for

electronic communications, held last 8 November in Lisbon, are available for consultation. (+)