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CONDITIONS FOR PROVIDING UNIVERSAL SERVICE

By decision dated 16 April, the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) approved the report from the public consultation on revision of the conditions for supplying the various components of universal electronic communications service as

well as the recommendations addressed to the government on that subject. A press conference was subsequently given on 18 May at the headquarters of this Authority to present the conclusions and proposals of ANACOM. (+)

LOWER FIBROGLOBAL PRICES

By decision dated 3 May ANACOM approved the "Analysis of the prices of wholesale offerings borne in high-speed rural networks and proposed reduction of prices of Fibroglobal offerings" and their forwarding to the government, proposing lower prices for

Fibroglobal offerings. According to that proposal, the prices should drop an average of 30 to 66 percent depending on the kinds of access, in order to guarantee that they remain at reasonable and non-discriminatory levels. (+)

WHOLESALE MOBILE TERMINATION MARKETS

By decision dated 3 May, ANACOM approved the draft decisions to notify to the European Commission, the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the national regulatory authorities of the other European Union member states corresponding to i) the determination of product markets and geographic markets, assessment of significant

market power (SMP) and the imposition, maintenance, amendment or withdrawal of regulatory obligations, and ii) the specification of the price control obligation of those wholesale markets. ANACOM furthermore considers that it is important for Fibroglobal to expand its bitstream offer to internet speeds of 200 Mbps, 400 Mbps or even 1 Gbps. (+)

CONSULTATIONS

WHOLESALE FIXED ORIGINATION MARKET - UNTIL 15.06.2018

By decision dated 13 April, ANACOM initiated a public consultation on the wholesale market for call origination in public telephone networks at a fixed location to make retail telephone services viable - determination of product market and geographic market, assessment of SMP and imposition, maintenance, amendment or withdrawal of regulatory obligations, whose response deadline was meanwhile extended by decision dated 25 May. Interested parties must submit their

written comments in the Portuguese language until 1 June, to the email address originacao2018@anacom.pt. (+)

WHOLESALE FIXED TERMINATION MARKET

ANACOM approved a public consultation on the wholesale markets for call termination in public telephone networks at a fixed location (market analysis and specification of the price control obligation). The deadline for receiving contributions was 25 May. (+)

COMMUNICATIONS IN PORTUGAL

NEWS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

In the area of postal services, the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) applied a warning penalty to Exigentexpress - Transportes Unipessoal for the negligent practice of an administrative offence due to violation of the obligation to submit to ANACOM the prior communication of start of activity. The penalty was accepted by the offender. (+)

TRENDS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS PRICES

The ANACOM-produced report on trends in telecommunications prices, with figures for March 2018, has been published. It includes information about changes in the consumer price index and telecommunications prices, besides comparing telecommunications price trends in Portugal and the European Union. (+)

TRANSFER OF USAGE RIGHTS

By decision dated 13 April, ANACOM did not oppose the transfer to the ownership of RVE Sociedade Radiofónica of the right to use frequencies in the 87.5-108 MHz band allocated to Rádio Salesiana, for the provision of local radio programme service for the county of Alijó. (+)

COM.escolha RECEIVED 19,157 VISITS

The COM.escolha interactive price comparison tool provided by ANACOM, which enables consultation of the rates offered by operators of TV, fixed and mobile internet and fixed and mobile telephony services, received 19,157 visits from 16,317 users in the first quarter, up 3.47 percent over the previous quarter, in which it received 18,514 visits from 15,559 users. Some 75,969 pages were visited, for an average of 3.97 page-views per visit. (+)

ANACOM CONSUMER PORTAL

During the first quarter, the ANACOM Consumer Portal received 268,889 visits to informative content and electronic services (COM.escolha and NET.mede), up 12.5 percent over the previous quarter. Some 499,865 pages were viewed, up 9.34 percent over the fourth quarter of 2017. The most visited informative content in the Consumer Portal during the period under analysis included "Ask ANACOM", "In what situations can

I cancel a contract without having to pay a penalty?", "Added value calls - special rate numbers", "Links and useful contacts" and "Problems with your operator". (+)

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

In collaboration with RTP - Rádio e Televisão de Portugal and Eurovisão, ANACOM monitored for more than a month the radio spectrum in the Altice Arena, the venue where the Eurovision Song Contest was held, and the surrounding area. The aim was to guarantee that no interference would occur or otherwise affect transmissions, a fundamental aspect to ensure the success of an event of such international significance. ANACOM also had technical teams in place to accompany the entire event. (+)

ANACOM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The article by the chair of the ANACOM board of directors, João Cadete de Matos, titled "Digital Transformation Requires Modern and Competitive Electronic Communications", was published in the 2017 issue of the magazine of the International Association of Portuguese Language Communications (AICEP). (+)

João Cadete de Matos met on 11 April with the chief executive of Ericsson Telecomunicações, Luís Silva, (+) and on 3 April with the chief executive of Vodafone, Mário Vaz. (+)

Board member Paula Meira Lourenço took part along with ANACOM communications security experts in the 4 April "Meeting to reflect on forest fires" organised by the Centre for Studies on Forest Fires of the Association for the Development of Industrial Aerodynamics of the University of Coimbra. (+)

Meetings were also held in April with the team from the Ombudsman's office, (+) with MEO - Serviços de Comunicações e Multimédia (+) and with Fibroglobal, Comunicações Electrónicas, (+) which were attended by ANACOM board members.

Also available on this Authority's website are the speech by the director of security and communications, Manuel Pedrosa de Barros, given during the fifth Course on Cybersecurity and Crisis Management in Cyberspace, held on 4 April in Lisbon, (+) and the opinion article by Carla Amorosa, head of the Fixed and Mobile Telephony Markets Division, titled "The Costs of Inter-Operator Calls Are Lower. And They'll Continue to Drop", published in the magazine Exame Informática Semanal. (+)

HOME CUSTOMERS OF HIGH-SPEED SERVICES AT A FIXED LOCATION

NUTSII	3Q2017		4Q2017		Variation 4Q17/3Q17	Variation 4Q17/4Q16
	No. of home customers	Home customers per 100 families ^[1]	No. of home customers	Home customers per 100 families ^[2]		
NORTH	691	51,2	715	52,9	3,5%	13,2%
CENTRE	335	36,6	351	38,4	5,0%	24,9%
LISBON METRO AREA	910	77,5	929	79,1	2,1%	7,3%
ALENTEJO	90	29,4	97	31,8	8,1%	44,6%
ALGARVE	79	43,5	83	45,6	4,9%	20,1%
AZORES	40	48,3	42	51,3	6,2%	17,6%
MADEIRA	59	64,0	61	65,4	2,3%	12,3%
TOTAL	2204	53,7	2279	55,5	3,4%	13,6%

Unit: Thousands of private domestic households (families), %. Source: ANACOM.

At the end of the fourth quarter of 2017 the number of home customers with high-speed services and networks at a fixed location stood at about 2.3 million, up 3.4 percent over the previous quarter and nearly 13.6 percent year-on-year.

REDUCTION OF CTT PRICES

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) approved last 3 May the draft decision on values of the indicators for quality of universal postal service verified by CTT - Correios de Portugal (Portuguese postal service) in 2017. ANACOM determined a 0.085 percentage point

reduction of the CTT prices in force in 2018 due to noncompliance with two universal postal service quality indicators: transit time in priority mail on the mainland and transit time in cross-border intra-community mail. (+)

PORTABILITY REGULATION - RECTIFICATION

ANACOM approved on 19 April the rectification of three material errors identified in the regulation amending Regulation

no. 58/2005 of 18 August (Portability Regulation). (+)

CHANGES TO THE NTFA

By decision dated 26 April, ANACOM included in the National Table of Frequency Allocations (NTFA) the changes resulting from the application of Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1438 of 4 August and Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/1483 of 8 August.

The decisions in question respectively concern the usage in harmonised conditions of radio spectrum for devices that use ultra-wide-band technology in the Community, and the harmonisation of radio spectrum so it can be used by low-power short-range devices. (+)

NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

Council of Ministers Resolution no. 42/2018 (Series I - Diário da República of 23 April), approving the draft of the addendum to the contract between the Portuguese state and SIRESP - Gestão de Redes Digitais de Segurança e Emergência, S. A. (+)

ANACOM DECISIONS - SUMMARY OF THE 1ST QUARTER OF 2018

Full information available at www.anacom.pt

DATE	DETERMINATION
23.03.2018	Wholesale markets for call termination in public telephone networks at a fixed location - market analysis and specification of the price control obligation (draft decision) (+)
23.03.2018	Handling of complaints submitted via the complaints book - dematerialisation of the process of transmitting information and documentation and requisites the responses to those complaints should follow (draft decision) (+)
23.03.2018	Approval of the transfer of the frequency usage right of Sintonizenos - Comunicação Social (decision) (+)
23.03.2018	Non-opposition to the proposed price table for universal postal service (decision) (+)
27.03.2018	Recommendation on charging to send bills (decision) (+)
23.03.2018	Extension of the deadline for the consultation on zero-rating and similar business practices in Portugal (decision) (+)
13.03.2018	New extension of the deadline for the consultation on quality of service parameters and performance goals associated to the provision of universal postal service (2018-2020) (decision) (+)
01.03.2018	Approval of the consultation on spectrum availability in the 700 MHz frequency band (decision) (+)
23.02.2018	Authorisation to dispense NOS Comunicações from contribution to the compensation fund for universal electronic communications service with respect to the net costs of universal service for 2016 (decision) (+)
24.02.2017	Authorisation to dispense NOS Comunicações from contribution to the compensation fund for universal electronic communications service with respect to the net costs of universal service for 2015 (decision) (+)
23.02.2018	Approval of zero-rating and similar business practices in Portugal (draft decision) (+)
16.02.2018	Transfer to Infraestruturas de Portugal of the rights to use numbers held by IP Telecom - Serviços de Telecomunicações (decision) (+)
07.02.2018	Cost accounting system of MEO (financial year 2015) (final decision) (+)
07.02.2018	Extension of the deadline of the consultation on criteria for setting universal postal service prices for 2018-2020 (decision) (+)
07.02.2018	Extension of the deadline of the consultation on quality of service parameters and performance goals associated to the provision of universal postal service (2018-2020) (decision) (+)
26.01.2018	Public tender to acquire an integrated solution for printing and copy services (decision) (+)
26.01.2018	Approval of the list of entities that must contribute to the universal service compensation fund and setting the contributions' value with respect to the net costs of universal service (2014 and 2016) (decision) (+)
18.01.2018	Cancellation of registration of the company SIC (decision) (+)
18.01.2018	CTT cost accounting system (2015) (final decision) (+)
18.01.2018	Wholesale markets for voice call termination in individual mobile networks and specification of the price control obligation (draft decision) (+)
18.01.2018	Approval of changes to the Reference Unbundling Offer (final decision) (+)
17.01.2018	Rectification of the draft decision on quality of service parameters and performance goals associated to the provision of universal postal service for the period 2018-2020 (decision) (+)
11.01.2018	Approval of publication of the study on additional expansion of the offering of programme services in digital terrestrial TV (decision) (+)
05.01.2018	Annotation to the declaration for provision of postal services issued to RANAEXPRESS (decision) (+)
11.01.2018	Approval of the public consultation on quality of service parameters and performance goals of universal postal service (2018-2020) (draft decision) (+)
11.01.2018	Approval of the consultation on the criteria for setting the universal postal service prices for 2018-2020 (draft decision) (+)
05.01.2018	Cancellation of the registration of the company SYNIVERSE (decision) (+)
05.01.2018	Approval of the IP interconnection proposal (final decision) (+)

OJEU

Regulation (EU) 2018/644 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 April, concerning cross-border parcel delivery services. (+)

Commission Communication (2018/C 159/01) of 7 May, on guidelines for market analysis and significant market power assessment in the scope of the EU regulatory framework for electronic communication networks and services. (+)

COMMUNICATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

EUROPEAN UNION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The European Commission (EC) presented last 25 April a European initiative meant to stimulate investment in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) and set guidelines for ethical questions, thereby responding to the request from European leaders. The aim of the presented measures is to boost competitiveness and place AI at the service of citizens. The EC proposes an approach based on three axes: increasing public and private investment in AI, preparing socioeconomic changes and guaranteeing an appropriate legal and ethical framework. (+)

PARCELS - E-COMMERCE

The European Council has adopted a regulation meant to improve cross-border parcel delivery services, already approved by the European Parliament last March.

The aim of the new rules is to promote electronic commerce by implementing a procedure that enables comparison of parcel delivery prices throughout the European Union (EU), thereby increasing transparency and consequently creating competitive pressure that eventually lowers inflated prices. (+)

FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL ONLINE CONTENT

An EC-launched public consultation in the scope of the fight against illegal online content is under way until 25 June. The aim is to gather information that helps determine potential strategic options for dealing with the challenge of illegal online content involving terrorism, incitement to hate, child pornography, illegal business practices, narcotic sales and counterfeiting, among others. (+)

SIGNIFICANT MARKET POWER

The EC has presented a communication on revision of the guidelines for national regulatory authorities on significant market power. The proposed revision reflects the last few years of case-law in this area and relevant developments such as the competitive impact of online service providers and the competitive pressure from cable services, among others. (+)

INTERNET OF THINGS

The EC has released a working document meant to identify the legal challenges raised by emerging digital technologies such as the internet of things. It also identifies specific uses of that technology, specifically drones and autonomous cars and smart home ecosystems, analysing how community legislation can be applied.

The aim of this work is to promote reflection about the allocation of responsibilities in order to ensure fair compensation and solutions for consumers, offer legal transparency to producers and prevent eventual disparities in the digital single market. (+)

ONLINE PLATFORMS

The EC has presented new rules for implementing a secure network in the digital economy for small-business online platforms. The aim of this measure is to create a fair, transparent and predictable business environment for small-scale entrepreneurs who use those platforms. (+)

ONLINE DISINFORMATION

The EC has proposed several measures to fight online disinformation, specifically a code of conduct, support for an independent network of fact-checkers and a set of actions meant to stimulate quality journalism and promote media literacy.

The Commission will soon convoke a multilateral forum to provide a framework for effective cooperation among interested parties, including online platforms, the advertising sector and major advertisers, and to obtain commitments in favour of coordination and intensification of efforts to fight against disinformation. (+)

DATA MANAGEMENT

An EC communication has been published which envisages implementing a package of measures meant to create a common EU data space - a single digital area capable of promoting the development of new data-based products and services. (+)

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 context of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the European Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (EUTELSAT), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the European Union (EU), the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP).

ITU

ITU Council - 17-27 April in Geneva. (+)

EUTELSAT

Advisory Committee - 6 April in Paris. (+)

CEPT

- ECC PT1 - 16-20 April in Prague; (+)
- PT FNI of ECC WG NaN - 17-18 April in Riga; (+)
- EFIS-MG of ECC WG FM - 27-28 March in Luxembourg; (+)
- Maritime Forum Group of ECC WG FM - 21-22 March in

Hamburg, Germany. (+)

EU

- CEF-Telecom Committee - 26 April in Brussels; (+)
- RSC - 14 March in Brussels; (+)
- European Commission workshop on development of a costing model for roaming service - 10 April in Brussels. (+)

BEREC

- NGN EWG drafters (videoconference) - 24 April; (+)
- MEA EWG drafters (videoconference) - 16 April; (+)
- Data Economy subgroup of MEA EWG (videoconference) - 16 April; (+)
- Regulatory Accounting working group - 13 April in Brussels; (+)
- Geographic Segmentation subgroup of MEA EWG (videoconference) - 12 April. (+)

ERGP

- Expert Meeting on Postal Statistics - 23 April in Brussels; (+)
- Steering Group - 12 April in the Hague; (+)
- Task Force on Efficiency - 11 April in the Hague. (+)

ANACOM-UKE BILATERAL MEETING

Lisbon hosted on 17 April a high-level bilateral meeting between ANACOM and its Polish counterpart UKE (Office of Electronic Communications). The meeting mainly focused on

sharing experience on broadband markets and the adoption of European regulations concerning the inclusion of cable in the scope of market analyses. (+)

ANACOM-ACM BILATERAL MEETING

A meeting between ANACOM and the Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) took place last 12 April in the Hague. The

main goal was to share experience in the areas of regulation of postal services and telecommunications. (+)

EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY

An ANACOM delegation headed by board chair João Cadete de Matos visited last 9 April the Lisbon offices of the European Maritime Safety Agency, where they were hosted by EMSA officials led by Markku Mylly. Together they discussed mutual synergies, bearing in mind the mission and methodology of each organisation.

That meeting will be followed by another, this time at

ANACOM's facilities in Barcarena, so that EMSA can learn more details about this Authority's activity managing and monitoring radio spectrum. EMSA supports the European Commission (EC) and the member states in developing and implementing European legislation concerning maritime safety and efforts to prevent and fight pollution. (+)

NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

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

- Figures referring to postal service in Belgium in 2016 have been published. They show that the quality of service indicator for priority mail delivery at national level was not complied with. The indicator sets a delivery objective of 93 percent of mail within a one-day period. However, the 2016 results were 90.9 percent, the lowest value in the last ten years. (+)

BRAZIL - Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- A public consultation under way until 18 May focused on the revision of the General Regulation on Rights of Telecommunications Service Consumers. The aim was to receive contributions concerning attendance, supply and contracting, transparency and simplified rules. (+)
- A decision was made to reactivate the Committee on National Information Infrastructure, to identify proposals and recommendations associated to the telecom sector that contribute to the development and use of information infrastructure. The committee should deal with subjects such as e-commerce, new technologies and information infrastructures, with a view to identifying problems and accompanying new technologies. (+)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

- A proposal to forbid use of the Universal Service Fund for purchasing equipment or services from companies that might compromise the security of communications networks has been disclosed. As manager of that fund, the FCC launched a public consultation meant to obtain contributions regarding the kind of equipment and services that should be covered and ways to identify companies that may represent a threat to networks' integrity. (+)
- A public consultation was launched and ran until 23 May, concerning procedures associated to the auctions to award frequency usage rights in the 28 GHz and 24 GHz bands to promote the development of 5G technology and services based on the internet of things. The consultation document indicates the intention to allocate nearly 6,000 licences in two auctions, with the first to begin in November. (+)

FINLAND - Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority (FICORA)

- Permission has been granted to the operator Elisa to apply surcharges to roaming consumption, effective starting on 15 June. The aim of the authorisation is to ensure that the new

roaming rules do not harm sustainability of the domestic collection model and do not give rise to a higher level of domestic prices or changes in the supply of unlimited data packages. (+)

- New licences have been awarded to Discovery Networks Finland Oy and Eurosport SAS Oy for TV programmes. The new licenses are valid until 10 January 2027 and should improve the offering of high-definition channels in Finland. (+)

FRANCE - Autorité de régulation des communications électroniques et des postes (ARCEP)

- The decision on modes for publishing coverage maps of fixed services and networks, as well as the modes for transmitting subjacent information, has been published. This measure aims to provide consumers and companies with more information about current networks and newly implemented networks. (+)

IRELAND - Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

- A public consultation running until 28 May concerns the settlement of disputes concerning electronic communications networks and services. One of ComReg's objectives is to guarantee that current procedures are efficient, fair, simple, cost-free and transparent. (+)

UNITED KINGDOM - Office of Communications (OFCOM)

- The results of the main phase of the auction to free up spectrum in the 2.3 GHz and 3.4 GHz frequency bands for 4G mobile services and future 5G services have been published. The winners were EE Limited, Hutchison 3G UK Limited, Telefónica UK Limited and Vodafone Limited. The results surpassed a billion pounds sterling. (+)

SWEDEN - Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS)

- A report on the postal market in Sweden in 2017 has been published. It concludes that the market is a changing one, characterised by less correspondence and more parcels, and that postal operators are finding it hard to maintain high-quality service. Postnord continues to be the biggest postal operator, handling nearly 79 percent of all mail sent. (+)

SWITZERLAND - Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM)

- A public consultation has been launched to carry out a campaign to publicise the migration of frequency modulation (FM) broadcasting services to digital audio broadcasting (DAB+). The campaign should begin in 2019 and last until 2023. (+)

4TH QUARTER 2017 STATISTICS RELEASED

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PACKAGES

The number of subscribers to package offers reached 3.74 million at the end of 2017, up 222,000, i.e. 6.3 percent more year-on-year. In recent years the growth of the number of package subscribers has been slowing, partly due to the high penetration rate achieved. (+)

FIXED TELEPHONE SERVICE

In 2017 the penetration rate of fixed telephone service (FTS) in Portugal stood at 46.9 accesses per 100 inhabitants, 0.4 percent more than in the previous year. This is the highest penetration rate recorded since the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) began compiling such information. (+)

MOBILE SERVICES

At the end of 2017 95.9 percent of residents in Portugal were customers of mobile telephone service (mobile service penetration reached 169.3 per 100 inhabitants). If only mobile

stations actually used were considered, the penetration rate in Portugal would be 127.8. (+)

SUBSCRIPTION TV SERVICE

The number of subscribers to subscription TV service reached 3.79 million at the end of 2017, 119,000 more than in the previous year. The growth rate of the number of subscribers in 2017 was 3.2 percent, less than the average recorded in the last four years (4.5 percent). The service's growth was mainly due to offerings supported by fibre-to-the-home (FTTH), which recorded 268,000 more subscribers than in the previous year. (+)

POSTAL SERVICES

In 2017 some 781 million postal objects were sent, 5.1 percent less than in 2016. Postal traffic has fallen by 15.9 percent since 2013, recording an average of 4.2 percent per year. The lower traffic is above all explained by the decline in non-express correspondence traffic. (+)

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS DAY

As part of the commemorations of World Telecommunications and Information Society Day, ANACOM held a roundtable conference on "The use of artificial intelligence for the common good" last 17 May at the Portuguese Foundation for

Communications in Lisbon, attended by representatives of key sector entities. The topic indicated by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for this year's Day was 'Enabling the positive use of artificial intelligence for all'. (+)

WINNERS OF THE BEST LETTER CONTEST

The winners of the 2018 Best Letter Contest jointly promoted in Portugal by ANACOM, as Portugal's representative before the Universal Postal Union (UPU), and CTT - Correios de Portugal

(Portuguese postal service), as designated operator in that international organisation, have been selected. (+)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES CONCLUDED IN 2017

ANACOM concluded 243 administrative offence cases either open or lodged, based on reports of infringement that came to its knowledge. Of those cases, 71 led to condemnation

of the respective offenders; a total of 1.716 million euros in fines were imposed, with voluntary fine payments amounting to 12,424 euros. (+)

VIDEO ON RADIO SPECTRUM

ANACOM has issued a video on radio spectrum monitoring that provides information about activity of the ANACOM monitoring centres, essential for fulfilment of its spectrum management

responsibilities, including the planning and distribution of frequencies and supervision of their use. (+)

SPECTRU

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