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NEW DTT CHANNELS

Orders 11158/2018 and 11159/2018 concerning the launch by the government (Ministry of Culture) of two public consultations on the draft regulations of public tenders for the licensing of two new nationwide telematic

TV programme services for sports and news, both with free access, were published last 28 November in the official gazette (Diário da República, 2nd series, no. 229).

LOWER DTT PRICES

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) resolved on 22 November that MEO Serviços de Comunicações e Multimédia (MEO) must apply an annual price of 885,100 euros per Mbps for the service of transporting and broadcasting digital terrestrial television (DTT) signal, a 15.16 percent

reduction of the annual prices per Mbps that MEO charges the television operators (RTP, SIC and TVI) for provision of DTT service. This decrease in prices was decided after the prior hearing of interested parties and public consultation. (+)

REGISTRATION OF POSTAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Regulation no. 851 on the registration of postal service providers was approved on 21 December, considered indispensable with a view to guaranteeing the updating, simplification and modernisation of the associated procedures,

promoting consolidation of information transparency with respect to agents in the market and ensuring equal access to the market and freedom of postal service provision, as set out in the Postal Law. (+)

PRICES OF UNRESERVED POSTAL SERVICES

ANACOM approved last 5 November the methodology for forecasting traffic of the unreserved postal services basket (correspondence, parcels and periodicals) for the 2018-2020 three-year period and consequent maximum price variation of that basket in 2019 and

2020. Prices will evolve below inflation, as the variation cannot be above the figure for inflation minus 0.25 percentage points. Any change in the price of a stamp for normal postage up to 20g is henceforth also limited by that maximum variation. (+)

DECISION

PORTABILITY - DRAFT MODIFICATION

The public consultation launched by ANACOM decision dated 30 November, concerning the draft regulation to modify Regulation no. 257/2018 of 8 May, which

amended Regulation no. 58/2005 of 18 August (Portability Regulation), establishing the principles and rules applicable to portability in public communication networks, ran until 27 December. (+)

COMMUNICATIONS IN PORTUGAL

NEWS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) has applied the following sanctions for administrative offences committed in the area of electronic communication services:

- NOWO Communications - a warning; (+)
- Iridium Italia - a fine of 4,000 euros. (+)

OPERATORS ACTIVE IN SECOND QUARTER

Information on operators and providers of electronic communication services and postal services active in the second quarter is now available. (+)

MONTHLY FIGURES FOR PORTED NUMBERS

ANACOM published on 4 December the monthly information on ported numbers with respect to November, indicating totals of: (+)

- 4,543,037 ported numbers;
- 1,907,551 numbers from fixed telephone service;
- 2,630,830 numbers from mobile telephone service;
- 4,656 numbers from other non-geographic services.

NUMBER USAGE RIGHTS

The allocation of number usage rights for the '92' numbering range held by Vectone Mobile (Portugal) Limited (Vectone) to the companies MEO Serviços de Comunicações e Multimédia, NOS Comunicações and Vodafone Portugal Comunicações Pessoais was approved on 8 December, following the end of services provided by Vectone. Also approved was the recovery of other numbering resources primarily allocated to Vectone. (+)

SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE LICENSING

By decision dated 22 November, ANACOM approved the launch of the public tender for acquisition of software licensing maintenance services, which was published in the official gazette (2nd series, Diário da República of 23 November). The deadline for submitting bids was 5 December. (+)

ANACOM CHAIR IN COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE

The interview of ANACOM Chair João Cadete de Matos in the September issue of the magazine Comunicações, published by the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC), is now available. (+)

ANACOM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The chair of the ANACOM Board of Directors, João Cadete de Matos, took part in the following meetings:

- 19-20 November - high-level summit of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the Latin American Forum of Telecommunications Regulatory Authorities (Regutel) in Lima, Peru, with presentations on "Connectivity improvement to support digital transformation" and "Challenges and opportunities for BEREC and REGULATEL cooperation"; (+)
- 13 November - in the opening session of the 22nd conference of the Communications Business Association of Portugal (ACIST) in Lisbon, with a presentation on the subject of high-speed networks and low latency; (+)
- 2 November - at the 20th Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Dubai (United Arab Emirates), in an interview on the role of information and communication technologies in social and economic development of remote areas, particularly island territories and regions far from major cities. (+)

The vice-chair of the Board, João Miguel Coelho, spoke at the conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Communications Regulation Commission (CRC), in the panel focusing on "The difficult balance: consumer protection in the dynamic environment of innovations and convergence of networks and services", held last 22 November in Sofia, Bulgaria. (+)

Board member Sandro Mendonça participated in the "Open Innovation Portugal" conference held on 30 November in Porto, in the panel on "Open innovation and business competitiveness". He gave a speech on the subject of "Competition policy and open innovation". (+)

ANACOM's director for monitoring and control, António Vassalo, took part in ACIST's 22nd National Meeting of Telecom Sector SMEs, in the panel on telecommunication infrastructures and DTT. (+)

The head of ANACOM's Madeira office, José Nelson Melim, participated in the Madeira Viva programme of RTP Madeira last 12 November, focusing on the cancellation of electronic communication contracts. (+)

The director of markets regulation, Luis Manica, and the head of the European Union section of the External Relations Department, Pedro Ferreira, took part in the workshop on the "New European electronic communications code" held on 30 November in Lisbon. (+)

OPERATORS/PROVIDERS OF COMMUNICATION NETWORKS AND SERVICES

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SERVICE PROVIDERS

	No. of registered entities (a) (b)	No. of operational entities (a) (c)
TV signal distribution service ^(d)	18	12
Mobile telephone service		
Mobile network operators (MNO)	3	3
Mobile virtual network operators (MVNO)	6	5
Telephone service at a fixed location	19	14
Internet access service		
Fixed broadband	51	42
Mobile broadband	8	8
Nomad use voice over internet service - (Nomad VoIP) ^(e)	27	18
Public payphone service	4	2
Virtual calling card service	12	7

POSTAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

	No. of authorised entities (a) (f)	No. of operational entities (a) (g)
Postal services outside the scope of universal service	85	63
Postal services covered by universal service	17	13

a) Situation on 30 September 2018.

b) Number of companies enrolled in the registry of companies offering electronic communication networks and services.

c) Includes operational providers with retail and/or wholesale activity.

d) Includes service provided in the scope of CDNs (8 operational providers) and via other platforms (4 operational providers).

e) Service provided with recourse to the '30' numbering range.

f) Number of companies enrolled in the registry of postal service providers.

g) Includes 23 companies providing the service under the MRW brand on a franchising basis (the company Ibercourier owns the MRW brand), 19 companies providing the service under the Nacex brand on a franchising basis (the company Logista owns the Nacex brand) and 1 company providing the service under the Enviália brand on a franchising basis.

QUALITY OF FIXED TELEPHONE SERVICE

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) published last 3 December updated information about the quality of the service of access to the public telephone

network at a fixed location and of telephone service accessible to the public at a fixed location for the first and second quarters of 2018. (+)

SIIA REGISTRY LIST

ANACOM approved on 14 November the final decision concerning the update of the list of cadastral items and

respective descriptions to be provided in the System for Information on Suitable Infrastructures (SIIA). (+)

NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

Notice no. 17346/2018 (D.R. 2nd Series-E, 28 November) - on the declaration of conformity of the cost accounting system of MEO Serviços de Comunicações e Multimédia, referring to financial year 2016. (+)

COMMUNICATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

UNIÃO EUROPEIA

eGovernment 2018

The European Commission (EC) published a study on eGovernment 2018, showing that the availability and quality of online public services has improved in the European Union (EU). Much progress has been made overall, namely regarding efficient use of online public services and information, transparency of operations by government authorities, personal data control by users and cross-border mobility. (+)

EUROPEAN BROADBAND AWARDS 2018

The winners of the European Broadband Awards 2018 were announced in a ceremony held on 20 November in Brussels. The winning projects for each of the five categories presented innovative approaches and cooperative solutions for the introduction of broadband in Europe. (+)

WiFi4EU - SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The WiFi4EU initiative was launched on 7 November. All municipal councils seeking to benefit from the respective

financing had the opportunity to register in its portal and submit their applications by 9 November. The WiFi4EU initiative awarded vouchers to 127 municipal councils. This first phase counted the participation of more than 13,000 European municipalities, awarding 2,800 vouchers worth 15,000 euros each. The initiative aims to ensure provision of high-quality internet access to local residents and visitors in the main centres of local community life. (+)

EU PRESIDENCY - 1ST HALF OF 2019

Romania heads the EU Council's rotating six-month presidency from 1 January to 30 June 2019, thereby beginning the presidential troika that also includes Finland (second half of 2019) and Croatia (first half of 2020).

The main priorities announced for the next six months are: (+)

- Convergence of Europe: growth, cohesion, competitiveness, connectivity;
- Security of Europe;
- Europe, a global player;
- Europe of common values.

ENISA

CYBERSECURITY INTERDEPENDENCE

The European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) published on 30 November a report on good practices for identifying and evaluating cybersecurity interdependencies, the aim being to support providers of essential and digital services as well as national regulatory authorities (NRAs) in their efforts to deal with the rising number of cybersecurity incidents amid a situation marked by increasing interdependence among those players. (+)

NIS DIRECTIVE TOOL

ENISA has announced an interactive NIS (network and information security) Directive electronic tool, which shows

the most significant national regulations and legislation as well as the NRAs in charge of overseeing the respective implementation by providers of essential services and digital services. (+)

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECURITY IN THE EU

ENISA hosted last 14-15 November in Athens the 26th meeting of the group of experts on Article 13, attended by more than 30 experts from the NRAs of 19 EU countries and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) as well as the EC and ENISA, who discussed matters regarding telecommunications security. (+)

CROSS-BORDER PARCEL SERVICES

The European Commission (EC) has developed a web-based application for use by providers of intra-EU cross-border parcel delivery services subject to the obligation to annually report the public list of rates as indicated in the annex of Regulation (EU) 2018/644 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 April. The EC is also preparing the translation of that application into all official languages of the European Union (EU) as well as a respective usage manual (which will also be translated into all official languages). The public list of rates applicable on 1 January 2019 must be reported to ANACOM by the cross-border intra-EU parcel delivery service providers by this 31 January. (+)

BREXIT AGREEMENT

The proposed text of the agreement governing the United Kingdom's exit from the EU, determining the legal framework that will become applicable when EU treaties and legislation are no longer in force in the UK, was agreed on 14 November. Brexit is set to take force on 29 March 2019, with a transition period that will end on 31 December 2020.

In parallel, the EU and UK published the outlines of a joint political declaration setting the basis for future cooperation between the two sides, specifically in the areas of economy and finance, defence and security and transportation and energy. At economic level, the importance of common rules to facilitate electronic commerce and the flow of cross-border data is mentioned, with a view to dealing with unjustified blockage of electronic commerce and to ensure an open, safe and trustworthy online environment, safeguarding the data protection rules of both sides. (+)

5G ACTION PLAN

The European 5G Observatory has reported major progress

by the member-states with respect to 5G's launch in Europe in 2020, as agreed in Tallinn in late 2017. Noteworthy is the fact that 13 member-states have already introduced national 5G strategies as an integral part of their national broadband plans, specifically: the auctions in Finland and Italy; the publication by BNetzA of rules for the auction to begin in 2019; the launch of the Autorité de Régulation des Communications Électroniques et des Postes (ARCEP) public consultation on the planned mid-2019 auction of spectrum for 5G networks; and disclosure of the respective plans of Spain and Belgium. (+)

DIGITAL INNOVATION CENTRES

Information has been released about the digital information centres, a key pillar of the EC's Digitising European Industry initiative, specifically regarding the results obtained since 2016 and future goals. These centres are meant to help businesses and organisations take maximum advantage of digital technologies, especially high-performance computing, the internet of things, big data, blockchain, robotics and artificial intelligence.

The respective figures show that the low level of company use of such technologies places at risk the EU's ability to compete in the global economy. (+)

CONNECTED AND AUTOMATED MOBILITY

Three experimental projects meant to help make connected and automated mobility a reality in Europe were presented at ICT 2018, held last 4-6 December in Vienna, organised by the EC and the Austrian presidency of the EU Council. The projects consist of creating 5G networks along four cross-border corridors (Metz-Merzig-Luxembourg, Munich-Bologna via the Brenner Pass, and Porto-Vigo and Évora-Mérida between Spain and Portugal). (+)

BEREC

37TH PLENARY MEETING

The 37th plenary meeting of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) took place last 6-7 December in Prague, hosted by the Czech Telecommunication Office (CTU), the national regulatory authority of the Czech Republic. The gathering served to elect the chair for 2020 and the vice-chairs for 2019, and also to consider issues associated to the following: (i) 5G - report on spectrum authorisation and coverage obligations, as well as a common position on mobile infrastructure sharing - in public consultation until this 18 January; (ii) end users - preliminary report on contract termination and provider switching for public consultation

and a report on contract simplification - in public consultation until 18 January; (iii) net neutrality - evaluation of the Net Neutrality Regulation and Guidelines; and (iv) BEREC work programme for 2019. (+)

NEW BEREC CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

In 2019 BEREC will be chaired by Jeremy Godfrey (ComReg, Ireland), assisted by three vice-chairs (Tanja Muha (AKOS, Slovenia), Marcin Cichy (UKE, Poland) and Konstantinos Masselos (EETT, Greece), and by the former 2018 chair, Johannes Gungl (RTR, Austria) and the chair for 2020, Dan Sjöblom (PTS, Sweden). (+)

ANACOM INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

As national representative of the communications sector before relevant international organisations, the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) took part in recent meetings in the scope of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), the European Union (EU), the European Space Agency (ESA), the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP).

CEPT

- ECO Council - 21-22 November in Copenhagen; (+)
- ECC - 23-26 October in Bordeaux; (+)
- CPG PTC - 16-18 October in Shannon, Ireland. (+)

EU

- Radio Spectrum Committee - 17 October in Brussels; (+)

ESA

- Joint Board on Communication Satellite Programme - 12-13 November in Toulouse, France. (+)

BEREC

- High-level BEREC-Regulatel summit - 19-20 November in Lima, Peru; (+)
- Contact Network - 16 November in Luxembourg; (+)
- Mobile EWG - 23 October in Brussels. (+)

ERGP

- Plenary meeting - 29 November in Belgrade. (+)

ANACOM CHAIRS ERGP IN 2019

The president of ANACOM assumed on 1 January the ERGP chair, after being unanimously elected to the position by the group's members in 2018. ANACOM takes on this responsibility at a time when the sector is facing major

Europe-wide challenges, especially the review of the regulatory framework and harmonised integration of the recommendation on postal parcels. (+)

INCODE.2030 FORUM

The second conference of the Permanent Forum for Digital Competencies was held on 12 December at the Lisbon Congress Centre. The Forum aims to stimulate and coordinate a wide range of players and ensure widespread mobilisation for the National Digital Competencies Initiative e.2030 - Portugal INCoDe.2030. Its main goal is to train and (re)qualify young people so they can meet the requirements of typical job offerings in modern societies, promoting a new framework for digital skills. ANACOM participated in the exhibition held parallel to the

conference, which publicised various internet-accessible platforms and services, specifically the Consumer Portal, COM.escolha and NET.mede. Information was also provided about matters associated to radio spectrum management, planning and control. There were also demonstrations of respective functions hosted on the ANACOM website, namely radio licensing, the eNTFA and access to data on quality of digital terrestrial TV (DTT) service gathered by the network of ANACOM monitors. (+)

20TH ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

The 20th Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) took place from 29 October to 16 November in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The election process ran from 1 to 6 November; highlights include the elections to fill the following major positions: secretary-general - Houlin Zhao, China (second term); deputy secretary-general - Malcolm Johnson, United Kingdom (second term); director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) - Mario Maniewicz, Uruguay; director of the Telecommunications

Standardisation Bureau (TSB) - Chaesub Lee, South Korea (second term); director of the Telecommunications Development Bureau (BDT) - Doreen Bogdan-Martin, United States of America. The PP also focused on debating new resolutions and proposals to revise current resolutions, the Union's strategy and finance plan and subjects such as regulation and internet security, the need for regulatory mechanisms for over-the-top operators and the development of cybersecurity policies. (+)

NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

GERMANY - Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- The conditions and rules applicable to the 5G spectrum auction in the 2 GHz and 3.6 GHz bands have been announced. They include obligations to improve coverage in urban and rural areas and measures to encourage competition. Companies aiming to take part in the auction should submit their bids by 25 January 2019. Plans call for the auction to be held this coming spring. (+)

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

- A decision on analysis of the fixed termination market has been approved. BIPT has imposed on fixed telephony operators a maximum termination rate of 0.116 cents per minute, as well as an access obligation based on internet protocol (IP) interconnection. This decision takes force on 1 January 2019. (+)

BRAZIL - Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- ANATEL has released figures on fixed telephony service which highlight the existence of 38,716,536 fixed lines in October, indicating 229,700 fewer lines (-0.59 percent) than in the previous month and 1,990,488 less year-on-year (-4.89 percent). The concessionaires have recorded a reduction of 1,696,230 fixed lines in 12 months (-7.14 percent). (+)

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

- A record was achieved for ported numbers in September, with over 900,000 operator switches, 700,707 of which corresponded to mobile numbers (up 17.4 percent year-on-year) and 217,139 to fixed numbers (up 24.7 percent year-on-year). Fibre-to-the home (FTTH) surpassed 8 million lines, adding nearly 200,000 new lines in one month. (+)

FINLAND - Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority (FICORA)

- The incorporation of FICORA and the Transport Safety Agency in a new transport and communications agency to be called the Transport Infrastructure Agency has been announced. The reorganisation will take place in early 2019. (+)
- The obligation to present an identification document to banks and telecom operators when requesting electronic ID devices, starting in January 2019, has been announced. Such devices encompass online banking codes, certificates issued by telecom operators and citizenship certificates

used for ID cards. (+)

- The 5GKIRI project has been launched. Its aim is to ensure support for cities' efforts to build 5G networks by means of more agile processes throughout national territory. The participating cities are Espoo, Helsinki, Jyväskylä, Kuopio, Lahti, Oulu, Turku and Vantaa. 5GKIRI is part of the 5G Momentum project, which promotes innovative experiments using 5G technology. (+)

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

- The deadline for the public consultation on analysis of the wholesale market for digital terrestrial TV broadcasting services was 12 December. (+)

- The ARCEP decisions approving results of the process to allocate frequencies and frequency usage rights in the 900 MHz, 1800 MHz and 2.1 GHz bands to the four current mobile operators were approved on 15 November. (+)

The NETHERLANDS - Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM)

- A so-called Fake Store has been set up with a view to warning consumers about risks associated to purchases made via social media. The ACM aims to show that offerings publicised in such media often direct users to false online stores. (+)

IRELAND - Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

- The public consultation on revision of the universal postal service specification, particularly with respect to bulk mail, ran until 7 January 2019. (+)

UNITED KINGDOM - Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- A price ceiling for calls to the 118 directory assistance number has been announced. In recent years prices had increased significantly, despite lower use. This limit will take effect on 1 April 2019, thereby giving service providers time to change their prices and adjust their billing systems. It will make prices more affordable and protect consumers, who should no longer be billed for high and unexpected amounts. (+)

- Spectrum has been made available in the 60 GHz band with no need for a licence. The aim is to make it easier for mobile telephony companies and wireless broadband providers to launch new technologies, including 5G services. This measure is part of Ofcom's commitment to help make the United Kingdom a leader in 5G. (+)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS CODE

The new European Electronic Communications Code took force on 20 December and consists of a revision of European Union (EU) regulations in the area of telecommunications. The aim is to promote new initiatives to meet rising demand for connectivity among European citizens and to enhance competitiveness in Europe, and also to boost investment in very high capacity networks and speed up Europeans'

public access to wi-fi networks. The new legislative package approved by the European Parliament on 14 November and by the European Council on 4 December was published on 17 December in the Official Journal of the European Union. The member-states will have two years to transpose the new Code into national legislation. (+)

COMPLAINT LODGED BY CTT - CORREIOS DE PORTUGAL

The Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) has made public on its website and by means of a notice in the official gazette (Diário da República) and the newspaper Público a complaint lodged by CTT Correios de Portugal (Portuguese postal service) regarding this Authority's decision to set

the criteria governing price-setting in the universal postal service supplied by CTT, to be in force in the 2018-2020 three-year period. Interested parties may submit comments about CTT's request and its grounds to the email address reclamacao-CTT-precos@anacom.pt until 14 January. (+)

PORTO MONITORING CENTRE

ANACOM maintains an ongoing plan for investment in the Porto Spectrum Monitoring and Control Centre, the aim being to endow it with more modern technologies, creating conditions for more and different manners to ensure supervision, monitoring and remote control of spectrum and other activities associated to the oversight function

pursued by this Authority. Part of that investment will be used in information systems, specifically for disaster recovery, in order to safeguard/mitigate the risk of losing data and systems. This investment is part of a broader plan meant to modernise all the other ANACOM monitoring centres (in Barcarena, Funchal and Ponta Delgada). (+)

MEO COST ACCOUNTING SYSTEM - 2016

Following the respective audit, ANACOM approved by decision dated 8 November the declaration of conformity of the cost accounting system of MEO Serviços de Comunicações e Multimédia (MEO) referring to financial year 2016, with

the applicable legal and regulatory provisions. Also approved was a set of determinations and recommendations meant to perfect that system, as well as the report from the corresponding public hearing. (+)

FREQUENCY USAGE RIGHTS

ANACOM has disclosed that it received from the Media Regulatory Board (ERC - Entidade Reguladora para a Comunicação Social) a request for a decision on the manifest intention of Radioeste Cooperativa de Radiodifusão Local

to transfer to Narrativas e Ficções the frequency usage right it was awarded for the purpose of exercising audio broadcasting activity. (+)

URSI CONGRESS - PRESENTATIONS

The presentations given at the 12th congress of the Portuguese URSI Committee held last 14 December at the Portuguese Foundation for Communications in Lisbon are available for consultation. The congress focused on

the topic of 'Artificial intelligence and radio sciences'. The opening session included the participation of ANACOM Chair João Cadete de Matos, with Arlindo Oliveira of the Instituto Superior Técnico as guest speaker. (+)