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□ UNIVERSAL SERVICE – EVALUATION OF NET COSTS

By determination dated 5 December 2007, the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) considered in a draft decision that the conditions did not exist to accept the evaluation of the net costs of universal service (NCUS) for 2003 and revision of the estimates for 2001 and 2002 submitted by PT Comunicações (PTC). This determination also initiates the detailed specification process concerning the methodology to apply when calculating the NCUS and definition of

the conditions whereby its provision may be deemed an excessive burden for the respective provider, thus justifying the imposition of a compensation mechanism. Among other aspects, said process will take into consideration available information on this subject, specifically vis-à-vis benchmarking, as well as the specific characteristics of the Portuguese fixed telephone service (FTS) market and the process of designating the universal service provider. **(+info)**

□ QUALITY OF POSTAL SERVICE IN 2006 – USER COMPENSATION

ANACOM decided last 13 December that it would not oppose the proposal for complementary actions to be implemented by the Portuguese postal service (CTT-Correios de Portugal) until the end of 2007, with a view to compensating users in general for the failure to comply with postal service quality indicators in 2006. However, the calculation of benefits should not include any costs associa-

ted to implementation of the proposed actions. On the other hand, this Authority reiterated the need to accomplish the set objectives and the submission by 31 January 2008 of the report with overall results of the actions implemented by the CTT, for ANACOM to monitor and evaluate. **(+info)**

□ INTERNET ACCESS AT A FIXED LOCATION – STATISTICAL INFORMATION

ANACOM approved last 19 December the set of statistical information the providers of internet access at a fixed location must submit to this Authority, covering the following indicators: number of customers and number of unbundled accesses per bandwidth, access technology type and customer segment (residential/non-residential); and traffic volume and internet access service revenues.

The providers in question have been given 60 days to implement those indicators. When that period is over, they should thereafter regularly submit said information by the 30th day of the month after the end of each quarter, to dee.stats@anacom.pt or physically to the ANACOM headquarters. Same may be published by this Authority. **(+info)**

□ ANACOM ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT AUCTION

Under the National Electronic Procurement Programme, the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) held last 6 December, for the fourth time, an electronic procurement auction for office material (stationery items). The chosen auction type was “reverse English”, in which the lowest bid wins. Five previously

selected specialty companies took part, with bids on 111 articles for consumption in 2008. The opening price was 33,171.95 euros and the value of the last bid was 19,961.95 euros, which for ANACOM meant savings of 13,200 euros or 39.8 percent. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

■ REVISION OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK – ANACOM WORKSHOPS

To encourage discussion and knowledge about the proposals to revise the regulatory framework for electronic communications presented by the European Commission, ANACOM will in January 2008 conduct three workshops on specific subjects concerning the revision. These events will be taken into account when preparing the Authority's position on the matter. The first workshop will be held on 15 January, with the theme topic of “The Authority (ECCMA) and New Powers of the European Commission” and include the participation of representatives of the Energy Services Regulatory Board (ERSE), the European Regulators Group (ERG) and the European Commission. The second workshop is scheduled for 25 January and will debate “The New Radio Spectrum Regulation”, while the third has been set for 31 January, dedicated to “Functional Separation”. The workshops will be held in Lisbon; participation is open to the interested public by means of prior registration at workshopsrevisao@anacom.pt. **(+info)**

■ CURRENT EVENTS

ANACOM SEMINARS

The study on "Evidence on the Effect of Liberalisation and Competition on Innovation in the Postal Sector" by Cátia Felisberto and its respective presentation are now available, released at yet another gathering in the seminar series organised by the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM), held last 14 December in Lisbon. **(+info)**

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

ANACOM decided last 19 December to end the administrative dispute settlement process involving Tele2 and PT Comunicações (PTC) regarding the provision of pre-selection activations service, as the dispute between the parties no longer existed. The case began following a request submitted by Tele2 on 7 September 2007 under article 10 of the Electronic Communications Law. **(+info)**

Following the request by TV Cabo, ANACOM also decided to extend for 60 days the period set in its determination dated 10 August 2007 for the cable television operators involved in the dispute with the company to establish among themselves procedures able to guarantee the integrity of cable distribution networks and protect consumer interests. **(+info)**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

As part of its inspection and sanction activities, ANACOM filed an administrative offence case against PT Comunicações that resulted in the latter being fined 50,000 euros for failing to comply with legitimate ANACOM orders set out in its determinations dated 18 March 2004 and 14 April 2004. However, the offender did not agree and has filed an appeal contesting the ruling. **(+info, Portuguese only)** Cabovisão was similarly fined 15,000 euros on 18 April 2007. The offender did not judicially appeal the ruling, nor has it voluntarily paid the imposed fine. The case was thus passed on to the Lisbon Commercial Court last 27 November for execution. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURES**– CANCELLATION AND SUSPENSION OF CERTIFIERS**

ANACOM approved in an order dated 7 December 2007 the draft decision to cancel the registration of the certifier Ribatel – Equipamento de Telecomunicações, Lda., as per the administrative process aiming to cancel that registration. Also approved was maintenance of the provisional registration suspension measure filed on 31 August 2007, which was extended for 60 more days counting from notification of that decision, to 18 December 2007.

(+info, Portuguese only)

By order dated 27 November 2007 ANACOM also approved maintaining the provisional measure to suspend the ITED (Portuguese acronym for telecommunication infrastructures in buildings) registration of the certifier Monticanalizações e Instalações Eléctricas, Lda., by extending the period for 30 days – the estimated time needed to conclude the process. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

GRANTING OF AUTHORISATIONS

ANACOM approved by order dated 30 November 2007 granting the company IPTV TELECOM – Telecomunicações, Lda., an authorisation allowing it to offer a public network for communications and leased line services, line resale, data transmission, internet access, private virtual networks (PVNs) and television signal distribution. Authorisation was also granted for the company VOXBONE, S.A., to provide nomad voice internet service (VoIP). An order dated last 11 December likewise authorised the company AMPTEL – Telecomunicações & Informática, Lda., to resell voice telephone traffic. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

Subsequently, on 27 December 2007, ANACOM granted authorisations to provide non-reserved postal services not covered by the scope of universal service to the following companies: Start Job – Recolhas e Entregas, Unipessoal, Lda., and José Manuel Araújo Silva – Serviço de Transporte Urgente, Unipessoal, Lda. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

2006 REGULATION REPORT

The paper version of the ANACOM Regulation Report concerning its regulatory activities in 2006 is now available. **(+info)**

COMMUNICATION SECTOR YEARBOOK

The electronic version of the Yearbook on the Communications Sector in Portugal (electronic communications and postal services) is now available. This publication contains information whose report period depends on the nature of the various kinds of data and includes, in its first chapter, some of the information previously set out in the Statistical Yearbook, which is no longer an autonomous ANACOM publication. **(+info)**

STATISTICS – UMTS AND DATA SERVICES

The statistics on UMTS and data services corresponding to the third quarter of 2007 were recently released. **(+info)**

APDC CONGRESS – CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions of the 17th Communications Congress held last 4-6 December in Estoril are now available. The event was organised by the Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC). **(+info, Portuguese only)**

INFORMATION RELEASED BY THE INE AND UMIC

More than seven of every ten companies with ten or more employees have broadband internet access. This is one of the conclusions drawn from the Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Enterprises in 2007 conducted by the National Statistics Institute (INE) together with the UMIC – Knowledge Society Agency. The results also indicate a computer usage rate of 95.1 percent in companies with ten or more staff and that 90 percent use electronic mail. **(+info)**

■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Order no. 28721/2007** (Series II – *Diário da República* of 19 December 2007) – Delegation of ANACOM powers;
- **Determination no. 2418/2007** (Series II – D.R. of 18 December) – Delegation of ANACOM powers;
- **Order no. 27710/2007** (Series II – D.R. of 10 December) – Renewal of mandate of the chairman of the ANACOM Advisory Council;
- **Notice no. 23535/2007** (Series II – D.R. of 5 December) – Report on the quality system for universal postal service of the CTT – Correios de Portugal for the year 2004.

(+info, Portuguese only)

■ DETERMINATIONS ADOPTED BY ANACOM – 4TH QUARTER 2007

Date	Decision
27.12.2007	Authorisation for José Manuel Araújo Silva – Serviço de Transporte Urgente, Unipessoal, Lda., to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
27.12.2007	Authorisation for Startjob – Recolhas e Entregas, Unipessoal, Lda., to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
19.12.2007	Settlement of dispute between Tele2 and PTC concerning suspension of the provision of pre-selection activation service (+info)
19.12.2007	Statistical information to be submitted quarterly by providers of internet access services at a fixed location (+info)
13.12.2007	CTT actions to compensate users for non-compliance with the quality of service indicators in 2006 (+info)
11.12.2007	Authorisation to resell AMPTEL voice telephone traffic (+info, Portuguese only)
07.12.2007	Cancellation of registration of the certifier Ribatel – Equipamentos de Telecomunicações – (draft decision) (+info, Portuguese only)
05.12.2007	Evaluation of the net costs deriving from the provision of universal service (draft decision) (+info)
30.11.2007	Authorisation for VOXBONE to provide nomad VoIP service (+info, Portuguese only)
30.11.2007	Authorisation for IPTV TELECOM to provide services (+info, Portuguese only)
28.11.2007	Disclosure of the FTS providers' shares (+info)
28.11.2007	Dispute between TV Cabo and other operators (extension of deadline) (+info)
27.11.2007	ITED – Maintenance of provisional suspension of the certifier Monticanalizações e Instalações Eléctricas (+info, Portuguese only)
27.11.2007	Designation of O SÁBIO DE LAGO as an ITED training entity (+info, Portuguese only)
23.11.2007	Authorisation for Atlântilégua – Serviços Postais, Lda., to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
23.11.2007	Authorisation for Mendes & Pereira Sousa, Lda., to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
23.11.2007	Authorisation for Joaquim Luiz Martha, Lda., to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
16.11.2007	ITED – Maintenance of the provisional suspension of the certifier PONTAL (+info, Portuguese only)
14.11.2007	Quality policy of accredited laboratories of ANACOM (+info)
07.11.2007	Modifications of the RIO 2007 and the LLRO (final decision) (+info)
07.11.2007	Audit of the systems for monitoring QSI and complaints of the CTT (2004) (+info)
06.11.2007	Declaration to the ACP for the provision of electronic communication services (+info)
31.10.2007	Cancellation of registration of the certifier Odiphone – Serviços e Equipamentos de Comunicação (+info, Portuguese only)
31.10.2007	Limitation of frequency usage rights reserved for BWA (consultation) (+info)
31.10.2007	RUO – settlement of dispute between PTC and Tele2 on energy consumption (+info)
31.10.2007	Margin squeezing in Grupo PT broadband offers (rectification) (+info)
24.10.2007	Transmission of frequency usage rights and numbers from OPTIMUS to NOVIS (+info)
24.10.2007	Voice call termination in individual mobile networks – market 16 (consultation) (+info)
19.10.2007	Limited consultation for study on business consumption of postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
19.10.2007	Limited consultation for audit of indicators of quality of services provided by PT Comunicações (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Abastfrota – Transportes to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Transalcaíça – Transportes to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Servexcelso – Actividades postais e transportes to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Parmilhar Trilhos – Transportes, Unipessoal to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for António Moreira Unipessoal to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Obik Express – Serviço de transportes, Unipessoal to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for J. Farinha – Transportes urgentes, Unipessoal to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Vasta selecção – Comércio e serviços to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Overspeed – Transportes de correio expresso to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Urbexpress – Transportes expresso to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Masterpost, Unipessoal to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
12.10.2007	Authorisation for Meia Curva – Transporte de Correio Expresso to provide postal services (+info, Portuguese only)
10.10.2007	Consultation for study on next generation networks (NGN) (+info, Portuguese only)
04.10.2007	Frequency usage rights in the 450-470 MHz band (consultation) (+info)
04.10.2007	Maintenance of registration of the certifier Rudistel – Telecomunicações e Tecnologias de Informação (+info, Portuguese only)
03.10.2007	Margin squeezing in Grupo PT broadband offers (contention 1:50) (+info)
03.10.2007	Maintenance of registration of the certifier PT Comunicações – núcleo do Funchal (+info, Portuguese only)
01.10.2007	Declaration to the CTT for provision of mobile telephone service (MVNO) (+info)

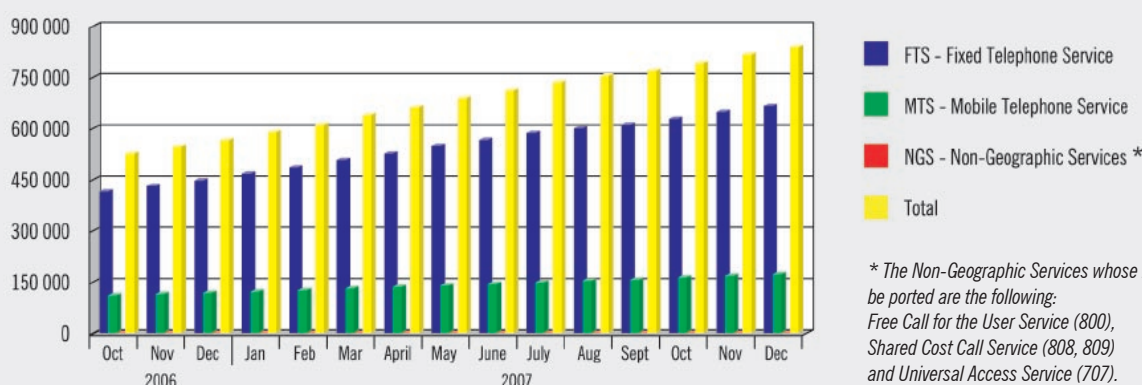
□ ANACOM ONLINE LIBRARY

ANACOM has posted a new "ANACOM Library" section on its website, which provides access to information from the Authority's Information and Documentation Centre (CDI). The CDI has been in existence for more than a decade (since

1990) and is open to the general public, providing specialised information on electronic communications, radiocommunication, digital television, postal services and electronic commerce, among others. (+info)

PORTED NUMBERS

	2006			2007											
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
FTS	414 078	430 484	446 371	466 357	483 978	506 734	524 953	547 550	565 420	585 147	599 021	609 907	626 721	646 358	664 684
MTS	110 302	114 260	117 597	121 043	125 134	130 442	134 882	139 132	143 432	148 347	153 496	156 490	162 791	167 806	172 214
NGS*	544	549	571	585	596	610	624	644	653	683	692	693	719	729	739
TOTAL	524 924	545 293	564 539	587 985	609 708	637 786	660 459	687 326	709 505	734 177	753 209	767 090	790 231	814 893	837 637



EUROPEAN UNION

COMMUNICATIONS

– BALANCE OF THE PORTUGUESE EU PRESIDENCY

The Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications, Mário Lino, considers that the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union (EU) entirely fulfilled its proposed programme for the area of communications, giving the example of the agreement reached by the 27 member States on the Galileo project – an essential infrastructure to ensure the Union's autonomy in navigation and satellite positioning technologies. Mário Lino highlighted the start at technical level of analysis of proposals to revise the regulatory framework for electronic communications, whose negotiations will continue under the next presidency. He also cited the adoption at Council level of the conclusions on mobile television, the general approach to the GSM directive (the proposed directive will allow use of the 890-915 MHz and 935-960 MHz bands by other electronic communication systems besides GSM) and co-ordination of the community position for the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07). Lastly, with respect to the postal sector, Mário Lino stressed the importance of the common position on postal services. (+info)

RELEVANT MARKETS – NEW EC RECOMMENDATION

The Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) published last 28 December the Recommendation 2007/879/EC of 17 December of the European Commission (EC), concerning relevant markets for products and services in the electronic communications sector subject to ex ante regulation, which replaces Recommendation 2003/311/EC of 11 February. Seven markets are now envisaged, one retail (access to the public telephone network at a fixed location for residential and non-residential customers) and the other six wholesale (call origination in the public telephone network at a fixed location, call termination in individual public telephone networks at a fixed location, wholesale supply of access to network infrastructure at a fixed location, wholesale supply of broadband access, wholesale supply of leased line terminal segments and voice call termination in individual mobile networks). The EC underscores that when identifying other markets not listed in the said annex, the national regulatory authorities (NRAs) should certify that they cumulatively meet three criteria: presence of

strong and not transitory barriers to entrance in that market; a market structure not tending to effective competition in a pertinent time period; and the inability of the right of competition to by itself adequately the market failures in question.

(+info)

Meanwhile, the opinion of the Independent Regulators Group (IRG) and European Regulators Group (ERG) on the proposed EC Recommendation on relevant markets is now available. This opinion covers the following subjects: flexibility, testing criteria, horizontal matters, comments on specific markets and transitory matters. Among other aspects, the IRG and ERG call the Commission's attention to the need for flexibility required by some national regulatory authorities, as there are still competition disparities among the various EU member States.

(+info)

ERG/IRG – PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

In the ambit of the plenary meeting of the European Regulators Group (ERG) and the Independent Regulators Group (IRG) held last 6-7 December, the ERG launched two public consultations, one on the proposal for a common position on symmetry for call termination rates in mobile and fixed networks, ongoing until 25 January 2008, and another concerning the report on best practices in systems regulating wholesale unbundled access and high bitspeed access, likewise until this 25 January. Also approved were the ERG programme for 2008 and a number of measures meant to improve the functioning of telecommunications markets, specifically an ERG common position for harmonised application of rules concerning voice over internet protocol (VoIP) services. (+info)

GALILEO – COUNCIL APPROVES FINANCING

The European Union Council approved last 11 December revision of the community budget for the 2007-2013 period so as to permit financing of the European satellite radionavigation system Galileo and the European Innovation and Technology Institute (EIT). The decision was made in the wake of the session of the Council of Ministers of Transport, Telecommunications and Energy held last 29-30 November and 3 December, which had agreed on the overall cost of the European satellite radionavigation programmes. (+info)

Continuation >

■ EUROPEAN UNION (CONTINUATION)

ECC LAUNCHES WAPECS CONSULTATION

The Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) has launched a public consultation open until 19 February on the proposal for minimal technical conditions to prevent interference in frequency bands under the wireless access policy for electronic communications services (WAPECS). (+info)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS REFORMED

The European Commission recently published a document covering main telecommunications sector developments in recent years and presents vital issues to be developed in the future. "Factsheet 64: why Europe's telecoms reform concerns you" specifically focuses on the following subjects: liberalisation, consumer protection, services for the disabled, broadband, market deregulation and creation of a European telecommunications authority. (+info)

EC DECISION ON THE ERG

The European Commission adopted last 6 December Decision 2007/804/EC, which amends Decision 2002/627 EC of 29 July instituting the European Regulators Group (ERG) for electronic communications networks and services. The modification is meant to update the list of national regulatory authorities (NRAs) to take into account the EU membership of Bulgaria and Romania and the changes made by some EU member States vis-à-vis the designations and/or responsibilities of the respective NRAs. (+info)

MEDIA LITERACY IN THE EU

A European Commission communication has been released, titled "A European Approach to Media Literacy in the Digital Environment", resulting from a Europe-wide public consultation on the subject conducted in 2006. The communication is the first policy document in this area at EU level and covers the following areas: media literacy in the context of commercial communication, encompassing advertising-related issues; media literacy in the context of audiovisual works, partly referring to European cinema awareness and the improvement of creative capacities; and media literacy in the online environment, which among other things will enable citizens to better apprehend how Google and other internet search engines work. (+info)

EDPS – OPINION ON RFID

The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) has published an opinion on the March 2007 European Commission communication on radio-frequency identification (RFID). The EDPS holds that the EC communication covers the main issues resulting from the use of RFID technology, while at the same time taking into account aspects associated with privacy and data protection.

It agrees with the EC on leaving room for self-regulation in a first phase, but estimates that it may become necessary to adopt additional legislative measures on privacy and data protection. (+info)

ENISA PUBLISHES RECOMMENDATION ON BOTNETS

The European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) recently published its third orientation document, titled "Botnets – the Silent Threat", about computer networks remotely controlled by a server (botnets), in which programmes are installed without user intervention (bots), with the aim of using the computers for fraudulent activities, specifically identity theft, scams and spamming. Besides stressing that the botnet threat is real and serious, the document makes a number of recommendations, which the European Union member States should implement to fight this phenomenon. (+info)

eTEN – ELECTION OF THE PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Online votes may be cast until this 21 January for the election of the 2007 eTEN Project of the Year. The aim is to distinguish the best project in the ambit of this community programme, whose goal is to encourage the development of public interest electronic services. Only interested parties duly registered on the ePractice portal may take part in the voting. (+info)

ECOFIN – AGREEMENT ON THE "VAT PACKAGE"

The European Union Council of Ministers for Economic and Financial Matters (ECOFIN) reached agreement at its meeting last 4 December on the so-called "VAT package". A compromise solution was reached on the system governing payment of the value added tax (VAT) in the provision of electronic communications services, broadcasting and electronic services. The new measures mean changing the site of VAT taxation from the site where the service provider is installed to the site of consumption. VAT revenue from the provision of these services will thus be transferred from the country where the supplier is established to the member State of the consumer. (+info)

EU-AFRICA SUMMIT

The "Joint Strategy and Action Plan" and "Lisbon Declaration" resulting from the EU-Africa Summit held last 7-9 December in Lisbon are now available. The event gathered representatives from the African countries and European member States and covered the common challenges facing the two continents. The "Joint Strategy and Action Plan" determines the priority actions for EU-Africa partnership in matters involving science, information society and space, with a view to overcoming digital divides and promoting the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) as vital elements for reducing poverty and achieving growth and socio-economic development. (+info)

■ OJEU

- **Recommendation 2007/879/EC** – Of the Commission of 17 December 2007, concerning relevant markets for products and services in the electronic communications sector subject to ex ante regulation as per Directive 2002/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on a common regulatory framework for electronic communication networks and services. Published on 28 December 2007;
- **Directive 2007/65/EC** – Of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2007, amending Directive 89/552/EEC of the Council concerning the co-ordination of certain legislative, regulatory and administrative provisions of the member States vis-à-vis the practice of television broadcasting activities. Published on 18 December 2007.

□ **CEPT (EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATIONS) MEETINGS**

ECC – PLENARY SESSION

Amsterdam hosted last 17-21 December the 18th meeting of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC). [\(+info\)](#)

ECC PT SE 42

The ninth meeting of project team 42 (PT 42) of the ECC Spectrum Engineering group (WG SE) was held last 27-28 November in Copenhagen. [\(+info\)](#)

ECC TG3

The 21st meeting of the working group ECC TG3 – UWB (Ultra Wide Band) was also held in Copenhagen, last 10-12 December. [\(+info\)](#)

ECC TG4

The Italian city of Bologna served as venue last 10-13 December for the sixth

meeting of ECC TG4. [\(+info\)](#)

CERP – PT UPU

Paris hosted last 13 December yet another meeting of the UPU project team (PT) of the Policy Issues working group (WG) of the European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP). [\(+info\)](#)

ERO/ETO – JOINT COUNCIL

The Administrative Councils of the European Radiocommunications Office (ERO) and the European Telecommunications Office (ETO) met jointly last 4-5 December in Copenhagen. [\(+info\)](#)

□ **INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)**

PLENARY MEETING

The IRG held a plenary meeting last 6 December in Rome. [\(+info\)](#)

PT INTERNATIONAL ROAMING

Rome also hosted last 5 December a meeting of the IRG project team (PT) on International Roaming. [\(+info\)](#)

PT MTR

The IRG project team on asymmetry in mobile termination rates also met in Rome, last 4 December. [\(+info\)](#)

□ **EUROPEAN UNION (EU)**

SEMINAR ON POSTAL SERVICES

The European Commission held last 11 December in Brussels a seminar to launch the study on "Main Postal Sector Developments in the 2006-2008 Period". [\(+info\)](#)

EUROPEAN REGULATORS GROUP (ERG)

The ERG met last 6-7 December in Rome. [\(+info\)](#)

□ **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ICT INDICATORS – WORLD MEETING

The sixth global meeting on information and communications technologies (ICT) and telecommunications indicators took place last 13-15 December in Geneva. [\(+info\)](#)

TSAG

The ITU Telecommunications Standardisation Advisory Group (TSAG) met last 3-7 December in Geneva. [\(+info\)](#)

□ **ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)**

WP CISP

The 39th meeting of the OECD working party on Communications Infrastructure and Service Policies (WP CISP) was held last 3-4 December in Paris. [\(+info\)](#)

□ **UPU RELEASES 2006 WORLD POSTAL STATISTICS**

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) recently released statistical information on worldwide postal service development in 2006, containing information based on data provided by 163 of the Union's 191 member countries on the provision of universal postal service by the respective designated operators. The main conclusions drawn by the UPU highlight the stabilisation of correspondence volume, the continual increase in package volume and the high level of postal revenues. [\(+info\)](#)

□ **ITU HIRING**

Applications for the vacant General Secretariat position of Head, General Accounts Service/Administration and Finance Department may be submitted to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) until 2 February 2008. [\(+info\)](#)

The same ITU service is also receiving applications until 13 February for the vacant position of Head, Marketing and Sales Division/Telecom Secretariat. [\(+info\)](#)

The Radiocommunication Department (BR) is accepting until 18 February applications for the position of Radiocommunication Engineer/Systems Analyst. [\(+info\)](#)

■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- The regulator has announced its decision on the contract model for the supply of local loop access by Deutsche Telecom, although revealing that a number of changes have been made to the contract that may not be voluntarily reflected by the operator until February 2009. **(+info)**
- The monopoly held by Deutsche Post on the mailing of correspondence weighing up to 50 grams ended on 31 December 2007. As of 1 January 2008 operators may offer all kinds of postal services in their licensed area and freely configure those same services. **(+info)**
- BNetzA released last 18 December its report on activity during the 2006/2007 period in the telecommunications and postal services market. **(+info)**

BELGIUM

– Institut Belge des Services Postaux et des Telecommunications (IBPT)

- The regulator has launched a public consultation, under way until this 25 January, to gather opinions on the impact of next generation networks (NGN) and next generation accesses (NGA) on the wholesale electronic communications market. **(+info)**

BRAZIL – Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- The regulator has revealed that the third generation mobile telephony licence auctions, which lasted three days, brought in 5.34 billion reais (2.05 billion euros) and that eight business groups (Brasil Telecom, Claro, CTBC, Nextel, Tele-mig, Tim, Oi and Vivo) disputed the 36 lots. **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- By October 2008 the number 2 will become the first digit of the dialling code for fixed telephone subscribers in São Paulo whose telephone numbers currently begin with 6. The switch begins this month (January) and will affect about 2.5 million telephones. **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- The regulator has approved replacement of the urban telecommunication service posts, as envisaged in the General Plan for Universal Targets of Fixed Switched Telephone Service, by backhaul (telecommunication service network infrastructure). **(+info, Portuguese only)**

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

- The regulator has approved, per certain conditions, the existence of a new agency for consumers called the Commissioner for Complaints for Telecommunications Services after an experimental trial period (four months) in which it successfully resolved most of the more than 1,000 complaints and information requests it received. **(+info)**

SPAIN – Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)

- The regulator has approved Telefónica's reference offer for leased line terminal segments, which means price cuts of between 13 and 47 percent, depending on line speed. **(+info, Spanish only)**

- A document has been approved whereby the CMT compares broadband prices in Spain with those practiced in the European Union. **(+info, Spanish only)**
- At the end of October 2007 there were 49.39 million active mobile telephone subscribers, for a service penetration rate of 110.49 percent, while the number of broadband accesses stood at 7.77 million. **(+info, Spanish only)**

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

- In its new year's message, the regulator announced the following priorities for 2008: competitive regulation, revision of the regulatory framework for electronic communications, development of fibre optic networks, mobile internet growth and digital dividend, postal regulation and consumers. **(+info, French only)**
- The regulator has a public consultation under way until 1 February on methods for assessing the cost of universal service in 2006. **(+info, French only)**
- A public consultation is also under way until 29 February on the creation of a mechanism for assessing fixed telephony service quality in residential markets. **(+info)**

IRELAND – Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

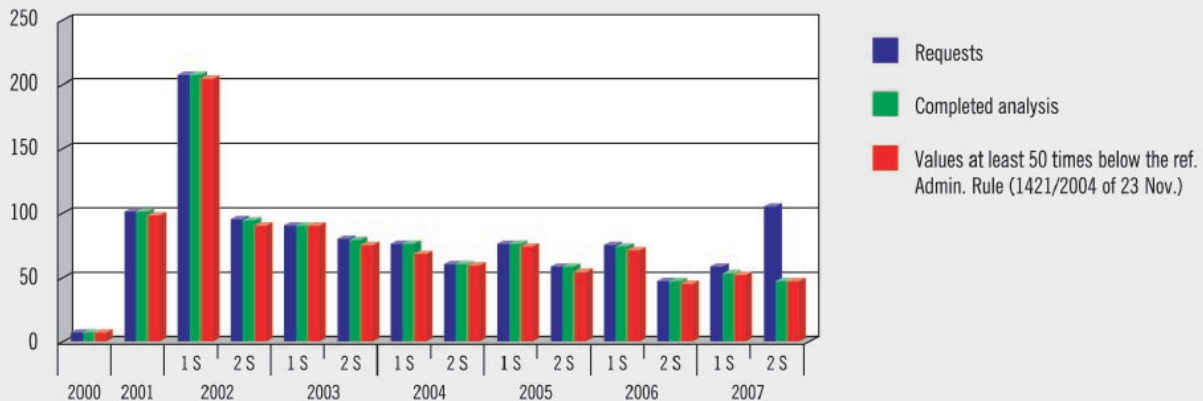
- The indicators on first quarter 2007 compliance by the incumbent operator, Eircom, with its universal service obligations have been published. **(+info)**
- The regulator has opened the frequencies in 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz for use by very high capacity point-to-point radio links. Tests have shown that such links can support information transmission speeds of between 1 Gbit/s and 10 Gbit/s. **(+info)**
- The third quarter 2007 relevant market monitoring report has been released. It highlights the take-up of broadband, which reaches 793,600 customers, for a penetration rate of 18.4 percent. **(+info)**
- The regulator has published its strategy statement for the 2008-2010 period. **(+info)**

UNITED KINGDOM – Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- The number of British homes endowed with digital television reached 21.7 million at the end of the third quarter of 2007, according to the latest report released by the regulator. Growth was mainly driven by digital terrestrial television (Freeview), which recorded its second biggest rise ever, with sales of 2.4 million access devices during the review period. **(+info)**
- The regulator has announced plans to free up spectrum in the 2010-2025 MHz and 2500-2690 MHz bands, which may namely be used by new services such as mobile broadband and wireless services using the latest technology. **(+info)**
- Ofcom has disclosed how the radio spectrum freed by the switchover from analogue to digital television will be used for new services to benefit citizens and consumers in the United Kingdom. **(+info)**
- The regulator's new guidelines on the protection of minors under 18 years old who take part in television programmes are now available. **(+info)**

EVALUATION OF NON-IONISING RADIATION

	2000	2001	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007	
			1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half	1st half	2nd half
Requests	7	101	207	95	90	80	76	60	76	58	75	47	58	105
Analyses completed	7	101	207	94	90	79	76	60	76	58	74	47	53	47
Values at least 50 times below the ref. Adm. Rule (1421/2004 of 23 Nov.)	7	98	204	90	90	75	68	59	74	54	71	45	52	47



PORTUGAL SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ITU

The Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications (MOPTC), Mário Lino, and the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Hamadoun Touré, signed last 8 December a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishing a co-operation programme in the area of telecommunications and information society. The MoU, signed in the scope of the Europe-Africa Summit, envisages co-ordination on various projects, specifically

the creation of a centre for excellence in Africa for the Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as the holding of forums and conferences on issues of strategic importance in the area of telecommunications, such as an eventual conference or major ITU assembly in Portugal. The MoU also covers an annual prize to be awarded to initiatives that foster information society development. (+info)

POSTAL NETWORK – 1ST HALF 2007 REPORT

The report on the existing network of CTT-Correios de Portugal post offices at the end of the first half of 2007 has been published. The report indicates that on 30 June 2007 2,856 post offices were operational, seven less than at the end of 2006. Of those post offices, 919 are fixed post offices, 12 are mobile post offices and 1,925 are mail stations (establishments that are the responsibility of third

parties, where postal services are provided per a contract signed with the CTT). Compared to the other European Union (EU) member States, and based on 2005 data provided by the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the figures for Portugal rank favourably vis-à-vis the EU average, both in terms of coverage and the density of fixed post offices. (+info)

IN JANUARY 2008

MEETINGS

CEPT

ECC
- PT1 (14-16)
- WG SE (28-1/2)
- WG RA (29-1/2)
WG ITU (15-16)

IRG

Mini Plenary meeting (29)
PT 2006 Review (16-18)

UPU

Terminal Charges Round Table (21-22)
Postal Operations Council (28 -1/2)

UPAEP

Preparation Round Table
UPU Terminal Charges (18-19)

EVENTS

- **DECT CAT-iq '08**, Amsterdam (the Netherlands), 30-31
- **Dinner-debate of the Association for the Promotion of Multimedia and Digital Society (APMP)**, Algés, 30
- **IT & Internet Security Conference**, Lisbon, 29-30
- **3rd ETSI Security Workshop, Sophia Antipolis (France)**, 15-16
- **Lunch-debate with the Minister for Public Works, Transport and Communications**, Lisbon, 14

(+info, Portuguese only)