Spectru

☐ ANACOM SEMINAR – "HANDSET SUBSIDIES – AN EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION"

The second seminar in a series organised by the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) will be held in Lisbon this coming 22 November. The initiative was recently launched to encourage knowledge, reflection and discussion about matters relevant to the communications sector. This next seminar includes presentation of the work on "Handset Subsidies – an Empirical Investigation", by Pedro Pita Barros, a professor at Lisbon's Universidade Nova. Participation in the seminar is free, though subject to prior application by means of seminarios@anacom.pt . **(+info)**

In the wake of recent press reports, this Authority has made clear that the study on "Prices and Price-cost Margins of Mobile Services", released in the first ANACOM seminar, does not cover any element of the merger operation between *Sonaecom* and *Portugal Telecom* (PT), specifically the joining of OPTIMUS and TMN. No conclusion about this operation can be made using the said study, in which it is in any case explicitly stated that the model developed is not related to the real situation in Portugal; any extrapolation of its results with respect to the operation in question thus lacks technical grounds. **(+info)**

☐ NEW STATISTICAL INDICATORS APPROVED

By determination dated 23 October 2006, ANACOM approved the set of statistical information for services based on the universal mobile telecommunication system (UMTS) and data services to be submitted by the mobile telephone service (MTS) providers. The corresponding form includes a set of indicators, specifically encompassing the number of UMTS service users, the number of mobile broadband internet access service users, and video-call traffic indicators, among others. The service providers have a period of three months to implement these indicators, after which they should begin the regular submission of that information to ANACOM. **(+info)**

ANACOM had previously on 28 September reworked the set of statistical

information for trunking mobile service (TMS) to be submitted by the respective providers. Now included are the indicator for the number of customers, three sub-indicators concerning the number of networks/fleets and a set of new traffic indicators for PTT (push to talk) communications. As for the outgoing traffic indicators, the average call length indicator has been replaced by the number of calls indicator. It was likewise necessary to update the respective form to consider SMS traffic and to introduce indicators on data services and on specific solutions, the offer of which is associated to the new SMRP support technologies. A three month period was also set to implement these indicators, after which the regular submission of information will begin. **(+info)**

☐ FLAT RATE – RIO CHANGES

ANACOM approved by determination dated last 23 October the draft decision concerning the modifications *PT Comunicações* (PTC) must introduce in the reference interconnection offer (RIO) for the offer of capacity interconnection

(flat rate). The interested parties were notified so that they might comment on this determination. **(+info)**

■ PUBLIC CONSULTATION – ISP QUALITY PARAMETERS

The draft Regulation that sets the quality parameters applicable to companies that provide internet access service (ISP) is in public consultation until 23 November 2006. Interested parties are asked to send comments, preferably by electronic mail to regqserv@anacom.pt . The quality parameters that the ISPs should monitor and release are: the time to supply internet access, the rate of problems per customer, the time to repair those problems, the response time by customer support services and the time taken to respond to customer claims or information requests. This ANACOM draft decision, approved by determination dated 4 October 2006, follows on the growth of internet access service and the need to improve the information provided to users. It modifies the service quality regulation currently in force (Regulation no. 46/2005 of 14 June) applicable to the companies which provide the service of access to the public telephone network at a fixed site, and to public telephone service at a fixed site. **(+info)**

■ CURRENT EVENTS

VODAFONE "HOMEPHONE" – FINAL DECISION

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved by determination dated 23 October 2006 the final decision concerning the "Homephone" offer of *Vodafone Portugal* (Vodafone), authorising use of the GSM and UMTS frequencies of that operator's land mobile service in the local access network for the provision of fixed site telephone service, with the typical features of the presented service, as long as certain conditions are compulsorily obeyed. Parallel to this it is recognised that Vodafone has the right to use the "2" numbering range of the National Numbering Plan for said service, also subject to the fulfilment of the set conditions. **(+info)**

SONAE BID FOR PT – ANACOM OPINION

ANACOM approved last 19 October, in a meeting of the Board of Directors, the opinion on the Competition Authority (AdC – *Autoridade da Concorrência*) draft decision concerning the merger process involving *Sonaecom* and *Portugal Telecom* (PT). The said opinion, given under article 39 of the Competition Law (Law 18/2003 of 11 June), has been forwarded to the AdC. **(+info)**

RCAO CHANGES APPROVED

By determination dated 23 October 2006, ANACOM approved the changes *PT Comunicações* must introduce in its reference conduits access offer (RCAO), which must be amended and published within 10 working days. Likewise approved were clarifications and the correction of material lapses with respect to the ANACOM determination dated 26 May 2006. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

SLRO CLARIFICATION

The clarification communicated to *PT Comunicações* (PTC) on 4 October 2006 has been published, concerning suspension of the subscriber line resale offer (SLRO) due to the subscriber's failure to pay and temporary suspension of the service. PTC was urged to modify the SLRO to bring it into compliance, specifically to make the temporary suspension of the service available at wholesale level under the conditions practiced in the retail offer. **(+info)**

PT UPDATES REFERENCE OFFERS

PT Comunicações published the most recent version of the reference offer for access to the ADSL broadband network last 13 October, and of the subscriber line resale offer (SLRO) on 18 October. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

NATIONAL NUMBERING PLAN

Information concerning the national numbering plan (NNP) has been updated with respect to universal access private voice services of a utilitarian nature with increased cost, single tariff per call and inter-operator routing numbers, to short numbers (emergency numbers and social interest services) and to telephone services available to the public at a fixed site (Lisbon geographic area). **(+info)**

ANACOM PRESENT AT SITIC

ANACOM participated in the first edition of the International Information and Communication Technologies Salon (SITIC), an initiative of the Portuguese Industrial Association held from 2 to 5 November at the Lisbon Industrial Fairground (FIL). The Authority's presence was part of the space pertaining to the Administrative Modernisation Co-ordination Unit (UCMA) in the "Citizens" area, with the Tariff Monitor which simulates mobile communication prices. **(+info)**

CANCELLATION OF CERTIFYING BODIES' REGISTRATION

By determination dated 4 October 2006, ANACOM revoked the registrations of the certifying entities for telecommunications infrastructures in buildings GENCO – *Gabinete de Engenheiros Consultores*, Lda, for not having practiced activity for a period of 12 months, and *Linhas Múltiplas – Projectos de Telecomunicações*, Lda, upon request by the certifying entity itself. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

As part of its oversight and sanctioning duties, ANACOM decided on two administrative offence cases, one in the area of electronic communications and other concerning postal services. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS – AMATEUR SERVICE

Information on the call codes for amateur stations has been updated in the respective section of the ANACOM website. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

PORTED NUMBERS

There were 524,924 ported numbers at the end of October, of which 414,078 pertain to telephone service at a fixed site (FTS), 110,302 to mobile telephone service (MTS) and 544 to non-geographic services (NGS). **(+info)**

GOVERNMENT CREATES UMTS WORKING GROUP

By Council of Ministers Resolution no. 143/2006, published on 30 October in the *Diário da República* (1st Series), the Government established the UMTS working group (WG UMTS), whose mission is to monitor compliance with the obligations assumed by the operators of third generation international mobile telecommunication systems based on the UMTS standard. This measure is meant to give a new boost to projects for the information society, in the context of the public tender to assign UMTS licences, adjusting the mode of co-ordination between the various bodies involved. WG UMTS will be composed of representatives from ANACOM, UMIC-Agency for the Knowledge Society and the UMTS operators, and will co-ordinate work with a Validation Committee which will be responsible for examining and validating the projects taken on by the operators, and for assessing the possibilities of setting up a fund to finance projects the Government deems to be priorities. **(+info)**

PORTUGUESE COMMUNICATIONS FOUNDATION PRIZE

Candidacies for the 2006/2007 Portuguese Communications Foundation Prize may be submitted until 31 December. The prize is annually awarded to the best research work in the area of communications carried out by employees of member organisations of the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators of the Portuguese-speaking Countries (AICEP) and is worth 7,700 euros, with eventual honorary mentions worth 1,250 euros. **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

ELECTRONIC COMMERCE INCREASING

The volume of sales by electronic commerce businesses in Portugal grew in the second quarter of 2006, indicates the "Quarterly Barometer of Electronic Commerce in Portugal – 2nd quarter 2006", recently released by the Portuguese Electronic Commerce Association (ACEP) and by the Netsonda company. About 75% of respondents said they had seen an increase in sales made over the internet in the second quarter of 2006. The number of customers making purchases online also rose. **(+info)**

■ OPERATORS/PROVIDERS OF COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS AND SERVICES

Operators/Providers of Electronic Communications Networks and Services

	No. of authorised entities (a)	Operational entities (b)
Operators of Electronic Communications Networks (ECN)		
Cable Distribution Networks (CDN)	11	11
- Networks accessible to the public	9	9
- Networks not accessible to the public	2	2
Other Electronic Communication Networks (c)	29	21
Providers of Electronic Communication Services (ECS)		
Television Signal Distribution Service (d)	11	11
Mobile Telephone Service (GSM and UMTS)	3	3
Fixed Telephone Service (FTS)	21	12
Trunking Mobile Service (TMS)	2	2
Data Transmission Services (DTS)		
- Internet access service (ISP)	38	28
- Internet voice service	20	12
- Other data services (e)	34	18
Public Payphone Service	17	12
Virtual Calling Card Service	32	18

Postal Service Providers

	No. of authorised entities (a)	Operational entities (b)
Express Mail Services	44	41 (f)
Services Not Covered by the Express Mail Category	7	6

Audiotext Service Providers

	No. of authorised entities (a)	Operational entities (b)
Audiotext Services	9	2 (g)

(a) Situation at 30 September 2006
(b) Situation at 30 June 2006
(c) Other Electronic Communication Networks (except CDN)
(d) Includes service provided under CDN and via other platforms
(e) Other data services (except internet)

(f) Includes 30 companies providing the service under the MRW trademark. The company IBERCOURIER owns the MRW trademark; various companies are providing services under this trademark on a franchising basis.
(g) Source: PT Comunicações, SA

☐ CTT's COST ACCOUNTING SYSTEM APPROVED

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved last 23 October the statement of conformity of the cost accounting system of the CTT - - *Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service) with respect to the year 2004, with the applicable regulatory provisions. Likewise approved were recommendations and determinations addressed to the CTT with a view to perfecting said system. **(+info)**

☐ "PT FREE NIGHT" TARIFF PLAN SUSPENDED

ANACOM ruled in a determination dated 12 October the immediate suspension of the "PT Free Nights" tariff plan launched by *PT Comunicações* (PTC) on 4 October. Besides the fact that ANACOM had always made it clear that the offer of free fixed telephone service provided by PTC, regardless of the distinct formats chosen, raised serious reservations with respect to competition, there are also doubts as to consumers' perception about the coherence between a universal service price table that increases the price of a subscription associated to free traffic during the "Nights" period (proposal PTC submitted to ANACOM in August 2006 and currently in the consultation phase). **(+info)**

☐ PERSONAL RADIO SERVICE – VALIDITY AND LICENCES

In compliance with the provisions of section 1 of article 16 of Decree-Law no. 47/ 2000 of 24 March, which establishes the legal regime applicable to the use of Personal Radio Service – Citizens Band (PRS-CB), ANACOM reiterates that as of 1 January 2007 the use of CB stations comprising equipment authorised per Recommendation T/R 20-02 of CEPT will no longer be allowed.

■ CO-OPERATION

AICEP SEMINAR FOR UPPER MANAGEMENT
Lisbon hosted on 23-26 October a seminar for upper management from the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators from the Portuguese--speaking Countries and Territories (AICEP), with the theme topic of "Mergers, Acquisitions and Alliances – the day after". The seminar was attended by representatives of operators and regulators from Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe, and the special administrative region of Macau, besides Brazil and Portugal. **(+info)**

CPLP – 4TH TECHNICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS MEETING
The fourth technical telecommunications meeting of members of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) was held in Maputo, Mozambique, with this year's theme topic being "Development of Regulation in the CPLP Countries". Among other topics, discussion centred on universal access, the regulation of satellite networks in developing countries, extension of the respective services to rural areas and broadband. The next Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) was also covered, from a standpoint of desired co-ordination. **(+info)**

GUINEA-BISSAU
A high level delegation from the board of directors of the *Instituto das Comuni-cações da Guiné-Bissau* (ICGB), including its president, was received last 26 October by the board of directors of the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM). The meeting resulted in a commitment to maintain the bilateral sectorial relationship and the ongoing co-operation actions and technical assistance. **(+info)**

SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE
Last 10 October the president of the *Autoridade Geral de Regulação* (AGER) of São Tomé and Príncipe, who recently took office, also visited ANACOM for a meeting per the relations of institutional co-operation binding the two authorities. The meeting enabled a resumption of institutional and technical co-operation between ANACOM and those responsible for sectorial regulation in São Tomé and Príncipe. **(+info)**

PALOPS AND EAST TIMOR – ANACOM TRAINING
As part of ANACOM's co-operation plan with its counterparts in the Portuguese--speaking African countries (the Portuguese acronym is PALOP) and East Timor, two training sessions were organised in October, one on public attendance and the other on financial management and human resources, involving about 18 representatives from the PALOPs and East Timor.

□ GOVERNMENT APPROVES NEW ORGANIC LAW FOR THE MOPTC

The new Organic Law for the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications (MOPTC) was approved with the publication in the *Diário da República* (official gazette) last 27 October of Decree-Law no. 210/2006. Noteworthy is the creation of the Advisory Council for Public Works, Transport and Communications, of the Office for Strategic Planning and International Relations (GPERI) and the Inspectorate General of Public Works, Transport and Communications (IGOPTC). As an independent administrative entity, the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) remains in the sphere of action of MOPTC, which determines the orientations of bodies with responsibilities involving postal service and electronic communications. **(+info)**

The date 27 October also saw the publication of Decree-Law no. 201/2006, which modified the Organic Law of the 17th Constitutional Government, basically to reflect implementation of the Plan to Reorganise the Central State Administration (PRACE). **(+info)**

□ ANACOM AUTHORISES DVB-T AND DVB-H TRIALS...

ANACOM has authorised Media Capital, temporarily and with dispensed licence, to use channels 64 (814-822 MHz and 30 (542-550 MHz) to conduct technical trials of digital terrestrial television (DVB-T) and digital television for reception in mobile terminals (DVB-H) technologies. This authorisation is not in any way binding, nor does it oblige or condition the future action of this Authority. **(+info)**

□ ... AND EXTENDS T-DMB TESTING

ANACOM has extended until the end of 2006 the temporary authorisation with licence dispensed granted to Portuguese Radio and Television (RTP) to use bloc 12C (226.592-228.128 MHz) to conduct technical trials of T-DMB (terrestrial digital multi-media broadcasting) technology. This authorisation, initially granted in July 2006 (at RTP's request), is not binding, nor does it oblige or condition future ANACOM decisions. **(+info)**

■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Council of Ministers Resolution no. 143/2006** (I Series – *Diário da República* of 30 October) – Creates the UMTS Working Group (WG UMTS).
- **Decree-Law no. 210/2006** (I Series – D.R. of 27 October) – Approves the Organic Law of the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications.
- **Decree-Law no. 201/2006** (I Series – D.R. of 27 October) – Fourth modification of the Organic Law of the 17th Constitutional Government, approved by Decree-Law no. 79/2005 of 15 April, and amended by Decrees-Law nos. 11/2006 of 19 January, 16/2006 of 26 January and 135/2006 of 26 July.
- **Order no. 20791/2006** (II Series – Part C, D.R. of 13 October) – Creates conditions for the rapid localisation of people who use the European single emergency number 112.
- **Notice** (II Series – Special Part, D.R. of 28 September) – Price of the service of voice call termination in the TMN network.

The Government, meeting in Council of Ministers on 26 October, approved the Decree-Law that approves the effort to boost the reading of periodical publications.

(+info, *Portuguese only*)

☐ EUROPEAN UNION

PROPOSED LIBERALISATION OF POSTAL SERVICES BY 2009

The European Commission (EC) presented on 18 October a proposed directive on the total opening to competition by 2009 of the markets for postal services in the European Union (EU), as envisaged in the 1997 Postal Services Directive (Directive 97/67/EC of 15 December), currently in force. Based on recent studies, the Commission thus considers that the liberalisation of postal services is the best way to maintain universal postal service, at the same time contributing to the quality and diversity of the services placed at users' disposal. It is expected that the directive will be approved by the Council in December 2006. **(+info)**

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS: NEW SERIES OF CASES

The European Commission (EC) has announced the filing of nine new cases against member States, for infringing community telecommunication rules. The cases mainly concern the non-inclusion of market analyses, which allow assessment of the degree of competition in national telecommunication markets, and also the non-provision to the authorities responsible for emergency services of information on the location of people who make emergency calls. In eight other cases the EC will move on to the second stage of the infringement proceedings, sending a grounded opinion. **(+info)**

FRENCH POSTAL SERVICE EXAMINED BY THE EC

The European Commission (EC) has sent a recommendation to the French State asking it to withdraw by the end of 2008 the unlimited guarantee it granted the public postal service company, La Poste, given its status as a public organisation. Said guarantee implies that in the last instance the state assumes all financial responsibilities of the French postal service. According to the EC, the fact that the guarantee is unlimited allows La Poste to obtain more favourable financing conditions, thus obtaining advantages over the competition and distorting competition in a market that is being liberalised. **(+info)**

EC HAS DOUBTS ABOUT MARKET 13 IN GERMANY

The European Commission (EC) has informed the German regulator, Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA), that it has serious doubts about the compatibility with community rules of the proposed measures to regulate the wholesale market for leased line terminal segments (market 13) in Germany. The EC holds that the data presented to date by BNetzA is insufficient. In the next two months the Commission will request more information from the regulator and the existing operators. **(+info)**

GOLDEN SHARES – COURT CONDEMNS THE NETHERLANDS

The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has condemned the Netherlands in the case of the golden shares held by the companies KPN NV (telecommunications) and TPG NV (postal). The ECJ holds that as the statutes of KPN NV and TPG NV maintained certain provisions envisaging that the capital of those companies includes a privileged share from the Dutch state, the Kingdom of the Netherlands thus did not comply with its incumbent obligations as per article 56 of the EC Treaty, which forbids restrictions on the free movement of capital. **(+info)**

EU SUPPORTS PRIVATE INTERNET MANAGEMENT

The European Commission (EC) has welcomed the decision by the United States to grant more autonomy to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the body in charge of global management of the system of internet domain names. The note of understanding on current management of the internet, signed by the US Department of Commerce and ICANN, expired on 30 September 2006, and has been replaced by a set of agreements envisaging that the task will be handed over to the private sector by 2009. **(+info)**

ACCESS AND USE OF ICTS IN EUROPEAN SCHOOLS

Nearly 96 percent of EU teaching establishments are equipped with internet access service, and 67 percent have broadband internet access, according to the European Commission (EC), which recently published a report on "Benchmarking Access and Use of ICTs in European Schools 2006". It sets out the main results of a study carried out in the 25 member States of the Union, as well as in Norway and Iceland. As for Portugal, the study indicates that 97 percent of teaching establishments are equipped with internet access service, and that 73 percent have broadband access; Portugal thus ranks 16th among the 27 European countries examined. **(+info)**

■ OJEU

- **Decision no. 06/EC/2006 (2006/L 291/42)** – Of the Joint Committee established by the Mutual Recognition Agreement signed by the European Community and Japan on 12 June 2006, concerning the registration of a conformity assessment body under the sectorial annex on telecommunications terminal equipment and radio equipment. Published on 21 October.
- **Decision no. 2006/700/EC (2006/L 288/30)** – Of the Council of 1 September 2006, concerning the signing on behalf of the Community of the Co-operation Agreement for a global civil satellite navigation system (GNSS) by the EC and its member States, on the one hand, and the Republic of Korea on the other. Published on 19 October.
- **Opinion (2006/C 229/07)** – Of the Committee of the Regions, on the communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the i2010 Regions: digital libraries. Published on 22 September.
- **Decision no. 2006/621/EC (2006/L 257/11)** – Of the Commission of 2 August 2004, concerning France's grant of state aid to France Télécom (notified with the number C(2004)3060). Published on 20 September.

(+info)

☐ CEPT (EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATIONS) MEETINGS

ECC TG3
Copenhagen hosted last 18-20 October the 16th meeting of the ECC TG3 UWB (ultra wide band) working group. **(+info)**

ECC WG RA
The ninth meeting of the Regulatory Affairs working group (WG RA) was held last 17-20 October in the French city of Maisons Alfort. **(+info)**

ECC WG RRC06
The seventh and last meeting of the WG RRC-06 group, which prepared the ITU's 2006 Regional Radiocommunications Conference (RRC-06), was held last 18-19 October in the Spanish city of Seville. **(+info)**

ECC WG SE
The 45th meeting of the Spectrum Engineering group (WG SE) was held last 18-20 September in the German city of Lubeck. **(+info)**

WG ITU AFFAIRS (WG ITU)
Stockholm hosted on 10-11 October a meeting of the CEPT working group in charge of basically policy and strategy issues involving the ITU. **(+info)**

13TH CEPT SEMINAR
The 13th CEPT seminar was held in Berlin on 11-12 October, with the theme topic of "Regulations under Challenge". **(+info)**

CPG PT2 AND PT3
Vilnius hosted on 2-6 October the meetings of groups PT1 and PT3 of the Conference Preparatory Group (CPG). **(+info)**

CERP – WG ECONOMIC ISSUES
The Economic Issues working group of the European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP) met on 26 October, also in Vilnius. **(+info)**

ERO – EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL
An extraordinary meeting of the ERO council of administration was held in Copenhagen on 13 October. **(+info)**

☐ EUROPEAN REGULATORS GROUP (ERG)

The 18th meeting of the ERG was held on 5-6 October on the Portuguese island of Madeira, resulting in initiatives for a more harmonised approach to regulation of the electronic communications markets in the EU. **(+info)**

☐ INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)

PT NGN
The project team for next generation networks (NGN) of the IRG's Fixed Networks working group (WG FN) met on 24 October in Brussels. **(+info)**

WG IRG SMP
Barcelona hosted a 23 October meeting of the IRG's Significant Market Power (SMP) working group. **(+info)**

PLENARY SESSION
The IRG plenary meeting was held on 4 October on the Portuguese island of Madeira. Noteworthy was discussion of the response to the Commission's public consultation on revision of the current regulatory framework (2006 Review). **(+info)**

SEMINAR
In the wake of the last IRG plenary meeting, where a decision was made to evaluate ways to improve the ERG's working methods in order to achieve better efficiency with a view to harmonising the regulatory approach, the IRG presidency – OFCOM – organised a seminar on Development of the ERG. It analysed the work carried out by the ERG and the results obtained. The participants also debated possible ways to make the group more efficient and to ensure a more efficient application of the regulatory framework.

☐ INTERNATIONAL MOBILE SATELLITE ORGANISATION (IMSO)

ASSEMBLY
London hosted last 25-29 September the 18th IMSO Assembly – the organisation's top body – which gathers the Parties to the IMSO Convention. **(+info)**

☐ EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

WORKSHOP ON 2006 REVIEW
A public workshop on revising the current regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (2006 Review) and the Recommendation on relevant markets was held last 10 October in Brussels. **(+info)**

COCOM
The 23rd meeting of the Communications Committee was held last 25 October in Brussels. **(+info)**

☐ INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

STUDY GROUP – SG1 (SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT)
Munich hosted on 9-13 October a meeting of the working group on Spectrum Engineering Techniques (WP1A). **(+info)**

☐ UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION
The annual session of the UPU Council of Administration (CA) was held last

4-20 October in Berne, chaired by Romania, with meetings of the various project groups and commissions. **(+info)**

☐ ITU LAUNCHES ICT eye

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has launched the ITU ICT eye, a service created by the Telecommunications Development Sector (ITU-D),

which provides online a set of diversified information, by country, in the area of information and communication technologies (ICTs). **(+info)**

■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

GERMANY – *Bundesnetzagentur* **(BNetzA)**
• The German regulator has announced a new set of measures to combat telephone spam, fraudulent calls that cause users to inadvertently make calls to premium-rate numbers or services which, for example, promise monetary prizes. In a new round of cases, BNetzA forbid 80 telephone operators from invoicing amounts to telephone numbers gathered illegally. **(+info)**
• Registration is open for the auction of frequencies (3400-3600 MHz) for broadband wireless access (BWA), with plans calling for realisation in December 2006. **(+info)**

BELGIUM – **Belgian Institute for Postal services and Telecommunications (BIPT)**
• The regulator has released the price control mechanism for voice call termination in individual mobile networks (market 16). **(+info,** *French only***)**

BRAZIL – *Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações* **(ANATEL)**
• ANATEL has extended to 17 November the deadline to submit documentation concerning the bid for rights to operate the Brazilian satellite to convey telecommunication signals. **(+info,** *Portuguese only***)**

SPAIN – *Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones* **(CMT)**
• The CMT has decided that the operators Euskaltel and Orange should obey and continue to comply with the agreement signed in December 1998, maintaining the conditions to supply the service to customers, specifically with respect to quality. Neither of the companies can attempt to commercially capture the customers covered or promote porting to other networks. **(+info,** *Spanish only***)**
• The number of broadband internet connections reached 6.01 million lines, about 4.7 million of them via ADSL technology and 1.32 by cable connection. **(+info,** *Spanish only***)**

FRANCE – *Autorité de Régulation des Communications Électroniques et des Postes* **(ARCEP)**
• The regulator has launched a public consultation to gather the views of interested parties in the market for fixed satellite service; contributions may be submitted until 1 December. **(+info,** *French only***)**
• Statistics for the telecommunication services market for the second quarter of 2006 have been published. The three main markets (fixed telephony, mobile communications and internet) represent 7.9 billion euros, i.e., 80 percent of overall invoicing, which stood at 10.1 billion euros. **(+info,** *French only***)**

• Results have been released of the survey assessing the quality of mobile telephone service in France. **(+info,** *French only***)**
• As part of the analysis of relevant markets, the regulator notified the European Commission of its draft decision on the obligations for separate cost accounting of France Télécom, a document which will be under public consultation until 17 November. **(+info,** *French only***)**
• The approach taken by ARCEP to regulate the retail market for fixed telephony has been released. **(+info,** *French only***)**
• Following on the approval by the European Commission, the regulator adopted its decision on the wholesale and retail markets for leased lines; noteworthy in the latter case is the elimination of the price approval mechanism. **(+info,** *French only***)**

IRELAND – **Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)**
• The regulator extended until 17 November the deadline to receive responses to the consultation on the obligations of universal postal service, held by the incumbent operator, An Post. **(+info)**
• According to a poll conducted by Amárach Consulting, at ComReg's request, 39 percent of internet users use broadband connections, with DSL-Digital Subscriber Line being the dominant technology. The study also reveals other data, such as the fact that nearly one third of fixed telephony customers (29 percent) pay a single value for service packages. **(+info)**

UNITED KINGDOM – **Office of Communications (Ofcom)**
• The regulator has published results of the public consultation on the introduction of mobile communication services on board aircraft. **(+info)**
• A report has been published on the impact of the strategic review of the telecommunications market (Telecoms Review), which concerns the market for fixed telephony. The study mainly covers the impact of the Telecoms Review on industry, although plans call for the publication of a document on consumer experience resulting from the measure. **(+info)**
• The calendar and scope of the revised conditions to operate wholesale platforms for digital television broadcasting have been published – a process which began in July 2006. This revision involves, where justified, an analysis of the relevant markets and assessment of market power. **(+info)**
• Ofcom has published a study on consumers' receptiveness to the potential limits to be introduced in the way food and drink advertising targeting children is presented on television. **(+info)**

□ 2006 WORLD STANDARDS DAY

World Standards Day was commemorated last 14 October, an initiative undertaken by the following international standardisation organisations: the IEC (International Electro-technical Commission), ITU (International Telecommunication Union) and ISO (International Standardisation Organisation). This year the theme topic was "Standards: big benefits for small business". Standing out in the message from the representatives of those organisations is the benefits of standardising electronic communications and the development of next generation communication networks. **(+info)**
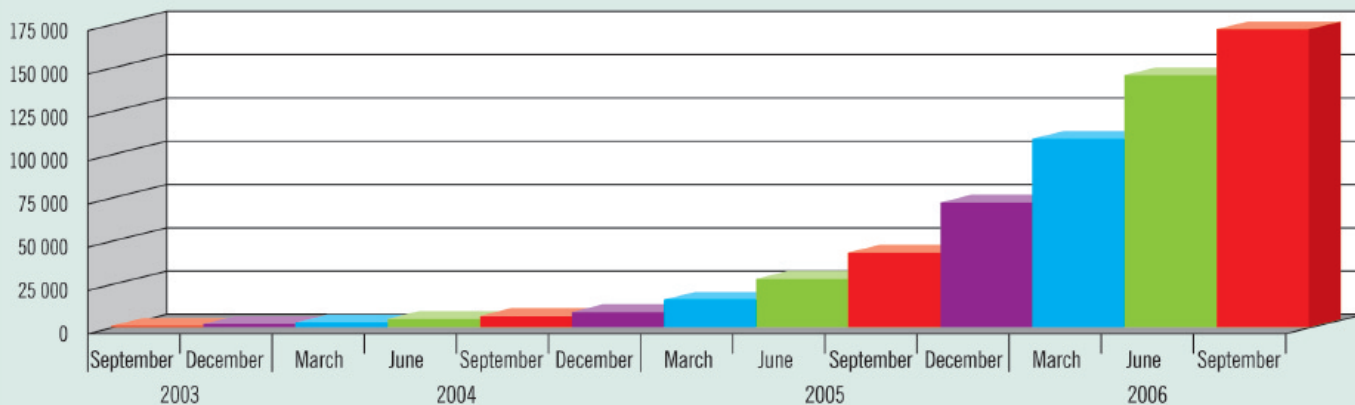
□ ITU JOB VACANCIES

The ITU, based in the Swiss city of Geneva, is recruiting new employees. Interested parties may submit by this 27 November applications for the post of engineer-editor (English/French) in the text editing and publication (EDP) division of the computer, administration and publications department (IAP) of the ITU. **(+info)**

One week beforehand, on 21 November, is the deadline to submit applications for the post of head of the division of logistical administrative supports for the Space Services division (SAS) in the Union's department of computers, administration and publications (IAP). **(+info)**

■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF UNBUNDLED ACCESSES*

2003		2004				2005				2006		
September	December	March	June	September	December	March	June	September	December	March	June	September
842	1 867	2 759	4 845	6 515	8 780	15 916	27 987	43 127	72 019	108 794	145 614	172 082

* Complete/shared broadband accesses and complete narrowband accesses

☐ ITU – 2006 PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

The 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-07), the top body of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is under way in the Turkish city of Antalya until 24 November. Currently facing a serious financial and budget crisis, for the Union this event is a vital moment to examine the current and future management of the ITU. Likewise standing out are the elections to the Council and various elected positions. Portugal's main goals are its re-election to the ITU Council and defence of the European common proposals (ECPs) underwritten in the framework of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), particularly the three proposals to be co-ordinated by Portugal. **(+info)**

☐ OECD RELEASES BROADBAND STATISTICS

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recently published the report Broadband Statistics June 2006, which presents a set of statistical data characterising the situation of broadband internet accesses in the Organisation's countries at the end of the first half of 2006. Portugal ranks 21st of the 30 countries examined, with 12.9 subscriptions for each 100 inhabitants, whereas in June 2005 it had recorded 9.9 subscribers for each 100 inhabitants. **(+info)**

☐ APDC – 16TH COMMUNICATIONS CONGRESS

The Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications (APDC) organises in Lisbon on 14-16 November the 16th Communications Congress, with the theme topic of "In the Future Everything will be New". The president of the ANACOM board of directors, José Amado da Silva, will be one of the speakers in the panel on "The Role of Regulation: competition, telecommunications and content". **(+info, *Portuguese only*)**

■ IN NOVEMBER 2006

MEETINGS

CEPT
ECC (27-1/12)
- CPG/PT4 (7-9)
- PT1 (8-9)
- PT9 (14-15)
- PT SE19 (21-22)
- JPT BWA (22-23)
CERP
- Plenary session (28-29)

ETNO
Conference (7)

ETSI
General Assembly (21-22)

IRG
ERG Public Hearing (7)
Contact Network (16-17)

NATO
NC3B (8)

EU
Telecoms Group (9)
Postal Group (15-16)
Group of Experts COCOM/RSC 2GHz (21)

ITU
Council (4)
PP-06 (6-24)

UPU
Strategy Conference (14-16)

EVENTS

- *Cyber-crime,* Lisbon, 29-30 (ANACOM sponsorship)
- *"Enterprise Content Management",* Lisbon, 28
- *12th Portuguese Workshops on Protection against Radiation – IST,* Lisbon, 27-28 (ANACOM sponsorship)
- *Seminar "Handset Subsidies – an Empirical Investigation"* Lisbon, 22
- *IST 2006 Conference, Helsinki,* 21-23
- *9th Ibercom Congress,* Seville, 15-18
- *7th ECTA Regulatory Conference 2006,* Brussels, 15-17
- *16th Communications Congress – APDC* Lisbon, 14-16 (ANACOM sponsorship)
- *Mobile TV "Capturing Competitive Advantage and Maximising Revenue from Mobile Video & TV Services"* New York, 14-16
- *28th IDATE International Conference,* Montpellier (France), 14-16
- *31st National Quality Colloquium "Conquering the Future: paths and practices"* Oporto, 9-10 (ANACOM sponsorship)

(+info, Portuguese only)