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□ ANACOM CHANGES SELECTION AND PRE-SELECTION REGULATION

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) approved by determination dated 13 September an alteration of the Selection and Pre-selection Regulation (Regulation no. 1/2006, published on 9 January), with the specific aim of preventing subscriber doubts as to the procedure to follow when cancelling pre-selection. The following obligation for the direct access provider is thus specified: same cannot accept nor process requests to modify or cancel indirect access contracts, which must be presented directly to the pre-selected provider,

and should so inform the subscribers who address it to that end. It is therefore emphasised that the direct access provider may not deactivate pre-selection unless this follows a request from the pre-selected provider. More provider responsibility is sought at the same time, evidenced in the setting of monetary compensations, either between providers or to benefit subscribers, and in the establishment of obligations to provide information to subscribers. (+info)

□ SOCIAL VALUE SERVICES ASSIGNED TO THE '116' NUMBERING RANGE

By determination dated 5 September, ANACOM designated the '116' range of the national numbering plan (NNP) to receive harmonised social value service and the designation of each number '116xxx' of the NNP for the respective service, thus complying with the provisions of Decision 2007/116/EC of 15 February 2007. The procedures to assign the rights to use '116' range numbers were also approved, along with definition of the assignment and usage conditions associated with those numbers. A social value service is deemed to be "a service meeting a common description to be accessed by individuals via a

freephone number, which is potentially of value to visitors from other countries and which answers a specific social need, in particular which contributes to the well-being or safety of citizens, or particular groups of citizens, or helps citizens in difficulty". (+info)

In the wake of the Order from the Ministry of Internal Administration dated 21 August, and the request from the Child Support Institute, ANACOM assigned the right to use the number 116000 to the said institute for the service of "free calls for the caller number for cases of disappeared children".

■ PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TELEVISION (DTT)

ANACOM approved and launched last 31 August two public consultations included in the process of introducing digital terrestrial television (DTT) in Portugal, which concern limitation of the number of rights to use reserved frequencies to broadcast digital terrestrial television and definition of the respective allocation procedure (draft decision) and the draft Regulation and public tender announcement to assign a right to use nationwide frequencies for DTT service. At the same time, the draft regulation of the public tender to grant the right to use nationwide and partial frequencies and the licence of the distribution operator was placed in consultation, approved by joint order from the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. Interested parties should make their views known in writing, by means of electronic mail sent to televisaoterrestre@anacom.pt, specifically indicating in the replies which of the documents or questions are referred to in each comment. All these consultations are open until 15 October. (+info)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE RECORDS IN PORTUGAL

By determination dated 10 August, a public consultation was launched to gauge the need and scope of a system to register electronic communications infrastructures in Portugal, which runs until 16 October. This system should enable information associated with electronic communications infrastructures (including their geographic location) held and potentially used by various operators to be centralised, without jeopardising the specific powers of ANACOM to gather information deemed necessary and pertinent for the exercise of its duties. The aim is for the responses sent to cadastro@anacom.pt to contribute towards defining the scope, implementation format and respective system management criteria. (+info)

■ CURRENT EVENTS

TECHNICAL TRIALS WITH UMTS900 TECHNOLOGY

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has authorised TMN to conduct technical trials with UMTS900 technology in the GSM extension band during the period running from this 15 November to 15 February 2008. The authorisation granted is only for that purpose; the frequencies may not be used for the commercial exploitation of any services, and is based on the assumption that the tests will not cause interference with other operating radiocommunication services, a situation which would cause immediate cancellation of the said trials. (+info)

ANACOM also authorised the extension of its previous decision concerning technical trials with UMTS900 technology by Optimus, which can take place until 31 October. (+info)

REPLACEMENT OF DC SYSTEMS – CLARIFICATION

Under terms of the clarification dated 20 July, *PT Comunicações* (PTC) was informed that the division of the costs of replacing the DC (direct current) system in a given exchange should take into account the total space occupied by all the active equipment of all operators, including the PT Group, given that the total replacement of a DC system affects all the equipment/operators in that exchange. (+info)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

As part of its inspection and sanction duties, ANACOM has filed a number of administrative offence cases, which have resulted in the application of an admonishment penalty to Onitelem – *Infocomunicações* and a fine to Justlink – *Redes e Conteúdos de Internet*. (+info, Portuguese only)

A fine was also applied to *PT Comunicações*, for continual violation of the provisions in article 10 of section 1 of Regulation no. 1/2006 of 9 January.

(+info, Portuguese only)

TNT Express Worldwide (Portugal), *Transitários, Transporte e Serviços Complementares* was also subject to a fine, for a continual negligent illicit practice of a merely social order. (+info, Portuguese only)

AdC FINES PT COMUNICAÇÕES

The Competition Authority has ruled that *PT Comunicações* must pay a fine of 38 million euros for abuse of dominant position, given the refusal to provide access to its network of underground conduits to the competitors TVTEL and Cabovisão. (+info, Portuguese only)

RETURN OF SUM TO OPTIMUS

The operator Optimus had requested the return of a given amount that it demonstrated it had paid in excess during the period 1998-2001 as radio spectrum usage fees. ANACOM determined on 29 August to go ahead with that reimbursement, considering that to do otherwise would imply the enrichment without cause of this Authority, for which those fees constitute revenue. (+info)

INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS**– REGISTRATION SUSPENSION**

ANACOM has approved the provisional suspension from the registry of the following certifying entities for telecommunications infrastructures in buildings (ITED): *PT Comunicações* (Funchal agency), Rudistel – *Telecomunicações e Tecnologias de Informação*, and Pontal – *Comércio de Material Eléctrico e Derivados*. The measures in question were decreed for a three-month period counting from the respective filings, which occurred on 25 July, 8 August and 16 August, respectively. (+info, Portuguese only)

SECOND QUARTER 2007 STATISTICS RELEASED

ANACOM has disclosed statistical information for the second quarter of this year referring to the following services: fixed telephone, mobile telephone, subscription TV signal distribution, internet access and postal. (+info)

APPROVAL OF ADHESION CONTRACTS

By order dated 22 August, the adhesion contract of PT Prime – *Soluções Empresariais de Telecomunicações e Sistemas*, for the provision of internet access service, was approved. (+info, Portuguese only)

AMATEUR SERVICE

The available information on the call indicators for amateur stations and stations belonging to amateur associations have been updated on the ANACOM website.

(+info, Portuguese only)

LIMITED CONSULTATIONS LAUNCHED BY ANACOM

By determination dated 29 August, the opening of a limited consultation to conduct a hearing on the service quality indicators and the CTT complaints system, referring to 2006 and 2007, was authorised. A consultation for a hearing and to consult results of the company's cost accounting system for the 2005 and 2006 financial years was also authorised. Previously, ANACOM had on 16 August authorised the opening of a limited consultation to acquire four systems for spectral analysis up to 4 GHz for the ANACOM Spectrum Monitoring and Control Centres of Oporto (CMCEN) and Barcarena (CMCES).

ANACOM SEMINARS

Lisbon hosted last 26 September the ninth meeting of the "ANACOM Seminars" series, which saw presentation of the "Study on the Development of Competition in the Portuguese Postal Market", prepared by Accenture at the request of ANACOM. (+info)

ANACOM PUBLIC SPEECHES

The speech by ANACOM Vice Chairman Alberto Souto de Miranda at the National Preparatory Conference on Communications held in Brasília (Brazil) last 17-19 September is now available. The communication from this Authority focused on the Portuguese experience in matters involving broadcasting and telecommunications. (+info)

The presentation by ANACOM director José Ferrari Careto at the workshop on "Mobile WiMax – Towards Ubiquitous Internet" held last 27 September in Lisbon has also been posted online. (+info)

ANACOM STUDY – BROADBAND

The synthesis combining the main results of the international comparison of broadband prices conducted by ANACOM in June 2007 is now available. (+info)

2006 REPORT AND ACCOUNTS PUBLISHED

The ANACOM Report and Accounts for 2006 has been published. (+info)

LIVING LABS – WORKSHOP IN MADEIRA

Funchal (Madeira) hosted last 5 September a workshop on the European Living Labs Network, an initiative that seeks to build a network in which innovation processes are focused on real users who have played a crucial role in developing new products, services and social infrastructures. (+info)

MAJOR PLANNING OPTIONS FOR 2008

Law no. 31/2007, which approves the Major Planning Options for 2008, was approved last 10 August. It presents the status of governance action carried out in 2006-2007 and the actions to implement in 2008. (+info)

FPC MARKS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

The Portuguese Foundation for Communications commemorates in October its 10th anniversary, with various activities scheduled to mark the event, specifically free entrance to the Communications Museum throughout the month of October. The institutional session associated with the commemorations was held on 2 October. (+info, Portuguese only)

□ ANACOM RECEIVES MORE THAN 10,000 COMPLAINTS IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) received 10,259 complaints and 363 information requests in the first half of 2007, sent in by communications service users and the general public and concerning the relationship with the providers of those services and the respective use. It also provided 2,347 consultations by telephone and in person. Compared to the same period in 2006, the volume of complaints grew by 28 percent, mainly because the

stabilisation of the volume of entries in the complaints book pages only occurred in March 2006, three months after the respective legal regime took force.

(+info)

The Council of Ministers has meanwhile decided, among other measures in the area of consumer protection, to extend the scope of the complaints book.

(+info, Portuguese only)

□ CTT QUALITY OF SERVICE INDICATORS

ANACOM determined last 5 September that it would not oppose the price deduction proposal presented by the CTT-*Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service) to compensate users in general for the service quality downturn verified in 2006. The company must nevertheless respect a set of conditions aiming to implement mechanisms to assess the real impact of the proposed actions, which specifically allow, if necessary, the timely correction by the end of 2007

of any eventual negative value. (+info)

ANACOM had previously on 29 August decided to grant the CTT a prior hearing, for which the period of 15 working days was set, on the report deriving from the KPMG audit and concerning the quality of service indicators and complaints system of the CTT, referring to financial year 2004. (+info)

□ DECISION ON DISPUTE BETWEEN TV CABO AND COMPETING OPERATORS

By determination dated 10 August, ANACOM decided to reject the dispute settlement request presented by TV Cabo concerning the other cable distribution operators (Bragatel, Cabovisão, Pluricanal Leiria, Pluricanal Santarém and TVTEL), regarding prospecting actions by those companies with TV Cabo customers, and their intervention on TV Cabo infrastructures to disconnect the services of that operator. This Authority considered that compliance with the obligations deriving from Law no. 5/2004 is not at stake, given that circumstances involving

an effective dispute associated with the fulfilment of the obligations enshrined there were neither alleged nor demonstrated. It is thus recommended that TV Cabo and the other operators involved should inform customers of the need to respect contractual clauses to cancel contracts and to agree among themselves on suitable procedures for disconnecting and activating those services, and for dismantling existing infrastructures. (+info)

□ PORTUGUESE URSI COMMITTEE LAUNCHES CALL FOR PAPERS

The Portuguese Committee of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) launched last 17 August a call for papers for the seminar it will host on 28 November, with the theme topic of "Radiocommunications – new paradigms and impact on health". With this initiative the Portuguese URSI Committee aims to encourage the disclosure of scientific work in this area and stimulate the exchange of experience between researchers, manufacturers and service provi-

ders, among others. Summaries of the papers, in PDF format, may be sent in until 15 October, by electronic mail to ursi.por@anacom.pt. (+info)

Scientific Committee A - Electromagnetic Metrology (electromagnetic measures and standards) of the Portuguese URSI Committee has a new chairman – Nuno Borges Carvalho. (+info, Portuguese only)

■ NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Decree-Law no. 325/2007** (I Series – *Diário da República* of 28 September) – Transposes into the internal legal order Directive no. 2004/108/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December, concerning the approximation of member state legislation with respect to equipment electromagnetic compatibility.
- **Rectification Declaration no. 82/2007** (I Series – D.R. of 21 September) – Rectifies Law no. 27/2007 of 30 July (Television Law).
- **Administrative Rule no. 1199/2007** (I Series – D.R. of 19 September) – Establishes which documents should accompany the requirements for requests authorising the practice of television activity.
- **Decree-Law no. 312/2007** (I Series – D.R. of 17 September) – Defines the governance model of the National Strategic Reference Framework 2007-2013 and respective operational programmes.
- **Law no. 46/2007** – (I Series – D.R. of 24 August) – Regulates access to administrative documents and their reuse.
- **Order no. 18188/2007** (II Series – D.R. of 16 August) – Order to cancel the obligations of TMN, Vodafone and Optimus regarding the contribution to projects needed to develop the information society.
- **Rectification no. 1261/2007** (II Series – D.R. of 13 August) – Rectification of Regulation no. 86/2007, published on 22 May 2007, concerning the procedures to monitor and measure the intensity levels of electromagnetic fields originating in radiocommunication stations.
- ANACOM delegation of powers:
 - **Orders nos. 20381/2007, 20382/2007 and 20383/2007** (II Series – D.R. of 6 September)
 - **Orders nos. 20171/2007, 20172/2007 and 20173/2007** (II Series – D.R. of 4 September)
 - **Orders nos. 18116/2007 and 18117/2007** (II Series – D.R. of 14 August)

(+info, Portuguese only)

■ ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES – SITUATION AT 24.07.2007

Cases processed

		Cases Filed	Cases Decided	Voluntary Payment	Admonishment Decision	Total Fines
Electronic Communications Networks and Services	Start of activity without prior communication to the NRA – General Authorisation Regime (Art. 21/1).	1				
	Non-compliance with the non-discrimination obligation (article 66/1).	1				
	Suspension of electronic communication services provision without prior warning [article 39/2, par. a)].	2	1			1/ €10.000,00
	Suspension of telephone services provision without prior warning (article 52/1).	1				
	Non-compliance with the obligation to provide information to the NRA (article 108).	11	1			1/ €7.500,00
	Non-compliance with the conditions associated to the rights to use numbers (article 34/1).	1				
	Violation of the right of users to be provided, in a timely manner and before signing any contract, written information on the conditions for accessing and using the services [article 39/1, par. b)].	1				
	Modification of the conditions for offering services without informing subscribers beforehand (article 48/3).	1				
	Non-compliance with the obligation to ensure network integrity (article 49/1).	1				
	Non-compliance with orders or legitimate notices from the NRA [See Art. 113/1, par. vv) and section 2].	1				
	Non-compliance with the duty to respond to electronic portability requests within a maximum of two working days [article 12/7 of the Portability Regulation and Art. 54/5].	1				
	Illegitimate suspension of the provision of telephone services, in violation of the rules applicable to the portability process [article 13/2 of the Portability Regulation and Article 54/5].	1				
	Violation of the standards contained in the Selection and Pre-selection Regulation [Article 84/4].	3				2/ €75.000,00
Other Networks or Services	Postal Services	1	2			1/ €2.000,00
	Processing of personal data and privacy protection	1	1			
	Telecommunications Infrastructures in Buildings (ITED)	3	1		1	
	Terminal Equipment	1				
	Television Broadcasting Service	1				
	Audio Broadcasting	9	2		1	1/ €2.750,00
	Amateur Radiocommunication Service	1				
	Personal Radio Service – CB	1	1	1/ €99,76		
	Private Use Land Mobile Service	18	7		1	6/ €9.498,79
Total		62	16	1/ €99,76	3	12/ €97.250,00

Cases passed on from 2006

		Cases Decided	Decision to Shelf	Voluntary Payment	Admonishment Decision	Total Fines
Electronic Communications Networks and Services	Start of activity without prior communication to the NRA – General Authorisation Regime (Art. 21/1).	1				1/ €7.500,00
	Non-compliance with orders or legitimate notices from the NRA [See Art. 113/1, par. vv) and section 2].	6	1		3	2/ €10.000,00
	Violation of the right of portability subscribers (article 54/1).	1				1/ €10.000,00
	Use of adhesion contracts without prior NRA approval (article 39/4).	1				1/ €25.000,00
	Non-compliance with the obligation to provide information to the NRA (Art. 108).	1				1/ €15.000,00
	Violation of the regulatory obligations imposed under article 85.	1				1/ €60.000,00
Other Networks or Services	Postal Services	2	1			1/ €1.000,00
	Radio Terminal Equipment	2	2			
	Maritime Mobile Service	1				1/ €100,00
	Audio Broadcasting Activity	2	1			1/ €498,80
	Amateur Radiocommunication Service	1				1/ €899,39
	Personal Radio Service – CB	11	4		1	4/ €399,25
	Private Use Land Mobile Service	7	3	2/ €199,52		4/ €2.596,23
Total		37	12	2/ €199,52	4	19/ €132.993,67

□ EUROPEAN UNION

TELECOMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL – CONCLUSIONS

The European Union (EU) Council of Ministers on Transport, Telecommunications and Energy was held in Luxembourg on 1-2 October, with the discussion centring on sector-relevant issues such as postal services and the Galileo system, among others. The Council reached political agreement on the proposed Postal Directive that will replace the one currently in force, Directive 97/67/EC, and also confirmed the intention to make a decision on the European Galileo radionavigation system by the end of the year. (+info)

GALILEO – NEW FINANCING PROPOSAL

The European Commission (EC) presented last 20 September a modified proposed regulation on financing of the European satellite radionavigation systems (Galileo and EGNOS – European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service), which suggest that the Galileo implementation phase should be exclusively supported by the community budget. The EC also adopted a Communication which re-frames the programmes, bearing in mind their continuation and start of operations. (+info)

BROADBAND IN THE EU CATCHES UP TO USA AND JAPAN

Information released by the European Competition in Telecommunications Association (ECTA) in its latest ECTA Broadband Scorecard (referring to the last quarter of 2006 and the first quarter of 2007) indicates that the average broadband penetration rate in the EU 15 was at an all-time high, 19.9 percent, a figure comparable to the existing rate in the USA (19.6 percent) and Japan (20.2 percent). (+info)

EC STUDIES EUROPEAN RULES FOR MSS

The European Commission adopted last 22 August a proposed decision on the creation of European rules for the selection and authorisation of mobile satellite service (MSS) systems. The aim is to foster community-wide development of innovative services such as mobile telephony, broadband data transmission and emergency communications, and to ensure better coverage for those services in remote areas of the European Union (EU). Should this proposal be adopted by the European Parliament and by the Council, it will serve as the

basis for a singular comparative selection procedure organised by the EC in co-operation with the member states. The Commission also indicates that the possibility of introducing improvements in the revision of the community sector regulation is under consideration and will include provisions to establish a generic mechanism to handle similar cases on a pan-European scale. (+info)

R&TTE DIRECTIVE – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The European Commission has placed in public consultation until 30 December Directive 1999/5/EC of the European Parliament and of the council of 9 March 1999 – concerning radio and telecommunications terminal equipment and mutual recognition of their conformity (R&TTE Directive). The information gathered via an online questionnaire will be used to draw up the second report assessing implementation of the R&TTE Directive, a measure envisaged in its article 17, which refers to the need for a “periodical revision” of same. (+info)

DIGITAL TV – URUGUAY CHOOSES EUROPEAN STANDARD

The European Commission has welcomed the fact that Uruguay chose the DVB standards for its digital terrestrial and mobile television. The DVB standard for terrestrial television, DVB-T, has been adopted in Europe and by more than 100 countries around the world, while the DVB-H standard is the EC’s preference for mobile television. This decision strengthens the basis for an enduring partnership that the EU aims to establish with Uruguay and the other Latin American countries to exploit the potential of information and communication technologies. (+info)

STUDY ON A SAFER INTERNET FOR CHILDREN

The study on the “Safer Internet for Children” was published on 10 August, in which the EC evaluates how children aged 9-10 and 12-14 use online communications. Results of the survey, which covered the 27 European Union (EU) member states, Norway and Iceland, indicate that use of the internet and mobile phones is a banal practice for European children. They are generally aware of the risks of using such means of communication, though when they have a problem they only ask for adult help as a last resort. (+info)

■ ROAMING

EUROTARIFF REACHES 200 MILLION CONSUMERS

Since the new roaming regulation took force in the European Union (EU), the prices consumers are paying to use mobile phones in foreign countries have dropped in some cases by 60 percent, indicates a study conducted by the 27 national telecommunications regulators (gathered in the European Regulators Group (ERG)) in collaboration with the European Commission. The document also reveals that on 30 August nearly 200 million EU consumers were using the Eurotariff and that the mobile operators generally complied with the obligation to provide the Eurotariff (prices not above 0.49 euros per minute for calls made abroad and not more than 0.24 euros per minute for calls received abroad, without VAT) to all roaming customers from 30 July on. (+info)

ERG GUIDELINES

Also with regard to roaming, the European Regulators Group (ERG) published last 22 August the document titled “International Roaming Regulation – ERG Guidelines 2nd Release”, a set of guidelines for roaming, covering issues such as tariffs and welcome messages, among others. These guidelines complement the EC roaming Regulation and the guidelines released by the ERG in July 2007 and are not a legal interpretation of the Regulation. (+info)

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

ECC SE PT 42

Copenhagen hosted last 20-22 August the seventh meeting of project team 42 (PT 42) of the Spectrum Engineering working group (WG SE). [\(+info\)](#)

ECC WG FM PT22

The project team responsible for spectrum monitoring in the Frequency Management working group (WG FM PT22) met last 4-7 September in Riga, under the auspices of the Latvian administration (ECO). [\(+info\)](#)

ECC WG SE

The 48th meeting of the Spectrum Engineering working group (WG SE) was held last 3-7 September in Budapest. [\(+info\)](#)

ECC PT1

The 27th meeting of project team 1 of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC PT1), which covers all issues involving the future evolution of IMT-2000 and systems beyond, was held on 11-13 September in Athens. [\(+info\)](#)

ECC TG3

The French city of Brest hosted last 13-14 September, at the invitation of the Agence Nationale des Fréquences (ANFR), the 20th meeting of working group ECC TG3 – UWB (Ultra Wide Band). [\(+info\)](#)

ECC WG RA

Helsinki served as venue last 18-21 September for a meeting of the ECC working group on Regulatory Affairs (WG RA). [\(+info\)](#)

ERO/ETO – AD HOC AUDIT GROUP

The second meeting of the ad hoc Audit Group set up by the joint councils of the European Radiocommunications Office and the European Telecommunications Office (ERO/ETO) was held on 18-19 September in Copenhagen. [\(+info\)](#)

□ EUROPEAN REGULATORS GROUP (ERG)

PT INTERNATIONAL ROAMING

London and Brussels hosted on 7 and 25 September, respectively, two meetings of the ERG project team (PT) on International Roaming. [\(+info\)](#)

□ INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)

PT FTR

The IRG project team (PT) on the harmonisation of fixed termination rates (FTR) met in Lisbon on 31 August. [\(+info\)](#)

PT MTR

Lisbon also hosted, on 30 August, a meeting of the IRG project team on asymmetry in mobile termination rates (PT MTR). [\(+info\)](#)

CONTACT NETWORK

The third meeting of the Contact Network of the IRG and the European Regulators Group (ERG) was held on 20-21 September in the Dutch city of the Hague. [\(+info\)](#)

□ INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

COUNCIL – 2007 SESSION

The ITU Council met on 4-14 September in Geneva. [\(+info\)](#)

ITU-R/STUDY GROUP 8 – WP8A

Working party 8A, which covers issues involving land mobile service (excluding IMT-2000), amateur services and amateur-satellite services, met last 12-20

June in Geneva. [\(+info\)](#)

ITU-R/STUDY GROUP 8 – WP8B

Geneva hosted on 13-21 June a meeting of working party WP8B, which is in charge of issues concerning maritime mobile service, aeronautic mobile service and radiodetermination service. [\(+info\)](#)

□ UPU PUBLISHES STUDY ON POSTAL SECTOR EVOLUTION (2006-2012)

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) has published a study titled “The Evolution of the Postal Sector – Implications for Stakeholders (2006-2012)”, addressed to interested parties. Drawn up by the UPU International Secretariat, with the collaboration of various departments and working groups and via research conducted by consultancy firms, international organisations and sector companies, the document aims to provide a neutral and dynamic view of the current status and future developments affecting the global postal sector. [\(+info\)](#)

□ AICEP SEMINAR FOR HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS

Lisbon hosts on 15-17 October a seminar for high-ranking postal and telecommunications officials, organised by the Association of Postal and Telecommunications Operators from the Portuguese-speaking Countries and Territories (AICEP). The event includes various activities in the postal and telecommunications area and counts the presence of ANACOM.

■ OJEU

• **Opinion (2007/C197/07)** – Of the Committee of the Regions on “Community Postal Services”. Published on 24 August.

[\(+info\)](#)

■ NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- The regulator has provided additional frequencies in the 5.755-5.875 MHz band for operators to furnish broadband fixed access services via radio, with a view to achieving total national broadband internet access coverage. **(+info)**
- The new regulation meant to protect consumers from telephone number abuse, which specifically enhances the obligations on transparency and access to information on operator-applicable prices, has been presented. **(+info)**
- The proposed price cap to be applied by the incumbent postal operator, Deutsche Post AG, during the period 2008-2011 has been placed in public consultation. **(+info)**

BELGIUM – Institut Belge des Services Postaux et des Télécommunications (IBPT)

- The regulator has launched a survey on universal postal service, to gather information from private citizens and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) on their expectations regarding this service. **(+info, French only)**

BRAZIL – Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- Mobile telephone service reached 110.9 million subscribers at the end of August, for growth of 26.64 percent compared to the same period in 2006. Some 89.1 million (80.34 percent) of all subscribers use prepaid services, while 21.8 million (19.66 percent) use post-paid services (subscriptions).

(+info, Portuguese only)

- The regulator has announced that mobile and fixed telephone number portability will become available throughout the country as from 1 March 2009; the time needed to commercially activate portability has been estimated at seven months – from 29 August 2008 to 1 March 2009. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

SPAIN – Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)

- The number of broadband connections reached 7.5 million at the end of July, for a density of 16.8 lines for each 100 inhabitants. Of the 68,045 new accesses, 74.7 percent were contracted with Telefónica, while the remaining DSL and cable operators account for 19.6 percent and 5.7 percent, respectively.

(+info, Spanish only)

- Ignacio Redondo has been appointed the new secretary of the CMT, and will thus head and co-ordinate the regulator's services, including the Council secretariat and other departments. **(+info, Spanish only)**

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

- The regulator has added a fourth scenario to the public consultation on conduit access, launched on 26 July, and has extended the reply deadline for interested parties from 28 September to 5 October. The same deadline will also be applied to the consultation on shared access to fibre optic terminal segments, which was launched at the same time. **(+info, French only)**
- The European Commission has announced its support for the French regulator's proposal to lower the cost of call termination in mobile networks, stressing that it agrees with ARCEP's call for that cost to be defined commonly

at European level and applied as soon as possible. **(+info, French only)**

- In the wake of two public consultations, the regulator has decided on the obligations of France Télécom with respect to the market for inter-territorial transit services. **(+info, French only)**

- The regulator's decision redefining the obligations to impose on France Télécom (FT) in calls to value added services (VAS) has been published. It establishes detailed billing for all VAS calls on behalf of FT, instead of the current billing on behalf of third parties. **(+info, French only)**

- At the end of the second quarter, France counted 14.25 million broadband internet connections, of which 13.55 million used ADSL technology.

(+info, French only)

The NETHERLANDS – Onafhankelijke Post en Telecommunicatie Autoriteit (OPTA)

- The regulator has signed a protocol with the National Criminal Investigation Department to join forces in the effort to fight cyber-crime. **(+info)**

IRELAND – Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

- A tender has been launched to choose the company that will on behalf of ComReg conduct the biannual tests of quality in the second (GSM) and third (UMTS) generation mobile network. Interested parties may submit their bids until 17 October. **(+info)**

- The regulator has placed in public consultation until 12 October the proposed conditions to respect when granting multiplex licences to operate digital terrestrial television service. **(+info)**

- The regulator's position on regulatory impact assessment, following the previously launched public consultation on the approach to take on this subject, has been published. **(+info)**

- Sector statistics for the second quarter of 2007 have been released, which highlight the total of 4.8 million mobile telephone service subscribers (second and third generation), for a penetration rate of 114 percent. **(+info)**

UNITED KINGDOM – Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- Digital television now reaches 85 percent of homes (21.4 million) in the United Kingdom, according to the regulator's latest report, concerning the second quarter of 2007. Growth compared to the same period in 2006 was 13 percent, the highest ever annual increase. **(+info)**

- A set of proposals to open the radio spectrum used by the mobile operators to other services and technologies, thus stimulating innovation and competition, has been placed in public consultation until 29 November. **(+info)**

- In a market impact assessment published on 18 September, the regulator considers that the BBC's proposal to introduce a freely accessible digital television channel in high definition format, without advertising, will not negatively affect the television market. **(+info)**

- The public discussion on new ways to apply spectrum usage rights is under way until 15 November. **(+info)**

□ FINLAND DEBATES EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Helsinki hosted last 19 September a meeting of the Finnish National Emergency Supply Agency, in which Portugal participated via the presence of the chairwoman of the NATO Civil Communications Planning Committee (CCPC), Lúcia Ferreira. The encounter on emergency communications in Finland focused on issues concerning the role of the Finnish Ministry of Transport and

Communications in ensuring safe telecommunications, the development of security in energy, the security of critical infrastructures, the public-private partnership regarding contingency plans in the information society sector, contingency plans in postal services and CCPC activities.

□ ANACOM CONFERENCE ON REGULATION AND CONVERGENCE

Lisbon hosted last 28 September the ANACOM Conference on the "Regulation of Convergence – Convergence of Regulation", in the ambit of the Portuguese presidency of the European Union Council. The event was a unique opportunity to debate the regulatory challenges resulting from diverse current-day theme topics, especially those resulting from convergence. The presentations and summaries have been posted online. (+info)

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Also available are conclusions of the workshop on "Mobile Television: technology and information of the future", organised by ANACOM together with DigiTAG, and also under the Portuguese EU presidency. It was held last 9 July at the Aveiro Cultural and Congress Centre in northern Portugal. (+info)

□ NOVIS/OPTIMUS – TRANSMISSION OF RIGHTS

ANACOM approved last 19 September the draft decision concerning the authorisation to transmit the frequency usage rights and numbers assigned to Optimus over to the title of Novis Telecom, in the scope of an eventual merger operation

involving the two operators. Optimus will also be authorised, without affecting the duty to guarantee fulfilment of its effective use obligation, to transmit to Novis the usage rights for various numbers in the national numbering plan. (+info)

□ MOBILE OPERATORS' INFO SOCIETY OBLIGATIONS CANCELLED

The mobile operators TMN, Vodafone and Optimus have seen their obligations to contribute in proportional terms to the projects needed to foster the information society (IS) cancelled by order of the Ministries of Finances and Public Administration, Economy and Innovation, and Public Works, Transport and Communications, published on 16 August 2007. The instrument's contents are directly

derived from the signing last 5 June of a protocol by the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications and the three operators, which resulted in the establishment of an open fund, the Fund for the Information Society (FSI), with the goal of providing financial support to projects meant to develop and promote the information society. (+info)

□ MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON eGOVERNMENT

The main goals set out in the Ministerial Declaration on eGovernment unanimously approved last 20 September by the ministers of the European Union (EU) member states, EU candidate countries and members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), at the end of the meeting held in Lisbon during the Fourth Ministerial Conference on eGovernment, are to cut administrative red tape and encourage interoperability among the member states. In the scope of this meeting, the 2007 eGovernment Awards were also presented; the winners

were projects from Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, France and Germany. At the same time, a report was released which examines the member states' progress vis-à-vis electronic governance practices, "eGovernment Progress in EU27 + – reaping the benefits", along with an independent study conducted by the CapGemini consultancy on the same topic, titled "The User Challenge – benchmarking the supply of online public services – 7th measurement". (+info)

□ WORLD POST DAY

World Post Day was commemorated on 9 October. This year the theme topic was "Global Postal Network: stay connected". The ceremony was held at the Portuguese Foundation for Communications (FPC), with the event including various initiatives, such as the launch of the stamp emission on "School Post" and the book on the "Heritage of the Americas", as well as the opening of an exhibition

on "Art and Philately – a look at Portuguese stamps". The prizes for the 2007 letter-writing contest were also awarded and the 2008 competition launched, with the theme topic of "write a letter explaining why the world needs more tolerance". (+info)

■ IN OCTOBER 2007

MEETINGS

CEPT

ECC
- TG4 (2-5)
ERO/ETO
- Ad Hoc Audit Group (1-2)
ENISA
Directors (10)
High-level dialogue (11)

EUTELSAT

Advisory Committee (17)

IRG

Plenary session (11-12)

OECD

ICCP (4-5)

EU

ERG-EPRA Seminar (18-19)

ITU

Radiocommunication Assembly (15-19)
World Radiocommunication Conference (22 – 16/11)

UPU

Council of Administration (29 – 9/11)
Post-Expo 2007 (2-4)

CO-OPERATION

11th ANACOM/ANATEL Co-ordination Commission (8-10)

EVENTS

- *Conference on "The Challenge of Digital TV"*, Lisbon, 30-31
- *8th Annual Telecoms Regulation & Competition Law* Brussels, 30-31
- *3rd International Conference on "Contact Centres Portugal 2007"*, Oeiras, 23-24
- *"aLANtejo 2007" Conference* Évora, 19-21 (ANACOM sponsorship)
- *3rd Congress on Document Management, Content Management, Workflow and Digital Archives*, Lisbon, 18-19
- *E-GRH – The Management of Human Capital in the 21st Century*, Lisbon, 17-18 (ANACOM sponsorship)
- *International Conference on the "Evolution of Public Television Service"*, Lisbon, 17-18

(+info, Portuguese only)