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## Introduction



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ICP-ANACOM's statutes, approved by Decree-Law no. 309/2001 of 7 December, establish that it is up to ICP - Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ICP-ANACOM), since January 2002, to put together an annual report on its regulation activities, and to produce a report on the state of communications and its regulation and supervision activity.

In 2008 the mentioned documents continued to be released. They were grouped, up to the 2006 edition, in three distinctive blocs: regulation, state of communications and ICP-ANACOM's activities. This document is the report on the state of communications for 2007.

This document, of a descriptive nature, aims to characterize the state of communications and its evolution during the year under analysis. It also mentions relevant facts that occurred outside (before or after) 2007, in order to achieve a complete framework of the presented facts, the trends identified or the innovations occurred, aiming to establish a logical and sequential connection with past occurrences, and launching the bridge towards future facts and developments.

This document is structured into two different main areas: Electronic Communications and Postal Services. As in the previous edition, this report also includes a Statistical Annex containing a relevant set of historical statistical data on the sector regarding 2007 and the 4 previous years. Until 2005 this data was included in the Statistical Yearbook, which was reformulated in the meanwhile. This was made in order to enable an easier consultation of the document's supporting data.

Recognizing the importance for this report's information and its annex to be released to the industry and the general public as soon as possible, after the end of the period it refers to - December 31, each year - ICP-ANACOM aims to release this document's future editions during each year's second quarter.