

P 2 : NEWS

P 3 : PORTED NUMBERS

P 4 : EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF UNBUNDLED ACCESSES

P 4 : WHOLESALE OFFERS – QoS LEVELS

P 5 : EUROPEAN UNION

P 8 : ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS – 2007 SURVEY

□ QUALITY OF SMS AND MMS SERVICES – NEW REPORT

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) recently released its most recent report assessing the service quality of text message (SMS) and multimedia message (MMS) services provided by the operators Sonaecom (Optimus), TMN and Vodafone Portugal, by analysing the technical parameters that indicate quality perception from the user standpoint. The evaluation revealed that these services perform very well, with message delivery rates above 98% and average delivery times of less than nine seconds for SMS and 54 seconds for MMS. Specifically regarding text message service, the results

show no major differences between operators, except for the service provided by Sonaecom (Optimus) during the period between 9 p.m. and 12 midnight. There were likewise no major differences between operators in the MMS records, except for the parameter for “average message delivery times”, where it was observed that Sonaecom (Optimus) and Vodafone Portugal recorded times on the order of 35 seconds, while the average for TMN was 53.4 seconds. A total of 15,117 test messages were sent, corresponding to approximately 72 measurement hours. (+info)

□ NEW PRICE TABLE FOR UNIVERSAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

By determination dated 29 October, ANACOM decided not to oppose the proposed price table for residential telephone service at a fixed location under universal service, as presented by PT *Comunicações* on 20 October and reworked on

the 28th of that same month, without jeopardising compliance with the appropriate transparency obligations; same has been presented to this Authority's Advisory Council. (+info)

■ PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

REVISION OF THE NATIONAL FREQUENCY ALLOCATION PLAN

By determination dated 15 October, ANACOM decided to launch a consultation on the draft revision of the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP). Interested parties are asked to submit their comments, preferably by electronic mail, to the address consulta.qnaf@anacom.pt by 19 November. Besides some editorial corrections, the new NFAP version updates the allocations table to reflect results of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), frequency band use with respect to April 2008, and licence-exempt equipment. It also includes a set of military management bands, detection systems, follow-up and acquisition of data, and wireless systems for medical applications, besides providing spectrum for various services. A new autonomous annex has also been included, for “equipment/systems using ultra wide band (UWB) technology”. (+info)

MODIFICATION OF THE PORTABILITY REGULATION

ANACOM decided, also on 15 October, to launch a public consultation on modifying the portability regulation (Regulation no. 58/2005 of 18 August). Interested parties may submit comments until 2 December, preferably by electronic mail, to regportabilidade@anacom.pt. This draft regulation change emphasises the receiving provider's responsibility throughout the portability process, setting rules for efficiency between providers and enhancing subscriber protection, with monetary compensation envisaged in cases of problems or negligence either between providers or vis-à-vis the subscriber. It also advocates a solution that will enable number portability for subscribers and former subscribers of companies that cancel the service and for whom that function should be guaranteed. (+info)

E112 DRAFT REGULATION

On 15 October, ANACOM launched yet another consultation, concerning the E112 draft regulation, which involves the emergency services' submission to the respective authorities of information on locating the person who makes a call to the European single emergency number (112). The deadline for receiving comments is 2 December; same should be sent, preferably by electronic mail, to projreg112L@anacom.pt. The aim of this draft regulation is to include in the current regulatory framework specifications that support location-finding solutions for calls made, the principles and rules to be followed by companies that offer public telephone services and networks, the rules set out in Recommendation 2003/558/EC of 25 July, or others also deemed necessary for E112 development. (+info)

NEWS

POSTAL RECORDS AFFECTED BY STRIKE

By determination dated 1 October, the *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) granted the request by the CTT – *Correios de Portugal* (Portuguese postal service) to deduct the entries for priority mail (Correio Azul) and parcel post affected by the national work stoppage by freight transporters from 9 to 12 June 2008, in all national flows, except for the internal services in each of the Azores and Madeira autonomous island regions, for effects of calculating the quality of service indicators (QSIs) set out in the Convention on Universal Postal Service Quality dated 10 July 2008. This Authority also decided that when calculating the annual QSI values for 2008 per the same Convention (article 10), the CTT should report the values obtained without deducting the said entries.

(+info)

CTT – QUALITY INDICATORS AND COMPLAINT SYSTEM

ANACOM decided last 17 September to receive the CTT – *Correios de Portugal* in a prior hearing concerning the reports to be issued by this Authority that refer to results of the control carried out by the PriceWaterhouseCoopers firm during the audit of the quality of service indicators for financial years 2006 and 2007. The CTT will also be heard regarding the determinations and recommendations to be issued by ANACOM which aim to streamline the system for monitoring the quality of service indicators and the system for handling complaints. (+info)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE CASES

As it was verified that as a provider of data transmission service KPN Euro-rings B.V. failed to comply with the obligation to send to ANACOM the response to the 2006 and 2007 annual questionnaires, and the statistical information concerning its activity in the first and second quarters of 2007, same was fined 10,000 euros, which it voluntarily paid on 21 July. (+info, Portuguese only)

Likewise for failing to promptly respond to the annual questionnaire on electronic communications Report 2007 or for failing to comply with the obligation to submit statistical information, the Association of Almancil Coast Residents was fined 10,000 euros; ENTRÓNICA – *Serviços na Área de Telecomunicações, Lda.*, 15,000 euros; and MEGACALL – *Empresa de Telecomunicações, Unipessoal, Lda.*, 5,000 euros. As said companies did not voluntarily pay those fines before the legal deadline, same were remitted for execution on 16 October (for the first one) and 14 October (for the last two). (+info, Portuguese only)

INFRASTRUCTURES IN BUILDINGS – DEVELOPMENTS

ANACOM has approved registration of the following entities for certifying telecommunications infrastructures in buildings (ITED – *infraestruturas para telecomunicações em edifícios*): Fxdomo Unipessoal, Lda. (order of 19 August), Certiquadros – *Quadros Eléctricos, Lda.* (order of 15 September) and Domotrilho Unipessoal, Lda. (order of 2 October). (+info, Portuguese only)

ANACOM also decided last 1 October to provisionally suspend registration of the certifier Siprosel – *Sistemas Globais, Manutenção e Segurança, Lda.*, for a three-month period counting from the respective notification, which occurred on 20 October. Last 8 October this authority decided to cancel the registration of the company *Monticanalizações e Instalações Eléctricas, Lda.*, under the terms of article 49 of Decree-Law no. 59/2000 of 19 April. (+info, Portuguese only)

DISCLOSURE OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

A decision has been made to suspend publication of the statistical supplements that accompany the paper edition of this information bulletin each quarter. Besides generating savings, specifically by reducing paper consumption, this option will prevent the circulation of versions of the statistics that may not

coincide with the versions fully available online, which are updated or corrected whenever necessary. Also, the data in question can be sent on any support (including paper) at any time to whomever so requests, besides being easily accessible in the statistics section at www.anacom.pt. (+info)

ADHESION CONTRACTS

By order dated 9 October, ANACOM approved the adhesion contract of UNITEL-DATA – *Telecomunicações, SA*, for the offer of electronic communications products and services. (+info, Portuguese only)

BRAGA CYBER CENTRE – REGIONAL TV PROJECT

The Bragança Cyber Centre and Localvisão TV signed last 9 October a protocol envisaging an IPTV channel with regional content. The Bragança Cyber Centre will be in charge of producing local content in partnership with some regional media outlets (a radio and a newspaper), and is meant to stimulate the dissemination of local information both nationally and internationally (emigrant communities) over the internet. The partnership between the Bragança Cyber Centre and Localvisão TV involves the activation of 12 channels for the 12 counties in this Trás-os-Montes district of northeast Portugal. Like the other cyber centres whose installation has been backed by ANACOM and the Foundation for the Disclosure of Information Technologies (FDTI), the Bragança Cyber Centre aims to enhance awareness among the young people and economic agents in each region about information, multimedia and communication technologies. (+info)

BLACKLIST FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEBTS

The National Data Protection Commission (CNPD) has authorised the three mobile communications operators, Optimus (Sonaecom), TMN and Vodafone to create a list of debtors on which customers with debts may remain for up to 10 years, a period during which the companies may refuse to provide service to those consumers. The list will be shared by the three operators, thus preventing customers (individual or corporate) from changing service providers and continuing to accumulate debts. (+info, Portuguese only)

ERC CONFERENCE – CONCLUSIONS

The conclusive summary of the annual conference on “For One Regulation Culture”, organised by the Media Regulatory Board ERC (*Entidade Reguladora para a Comunicação Social*) and held on 16–17 October in Lisbon, is now available. This year’s theme topic was “Regulation as an Asset in a Changing World”; the conference also served as venue for presentation of the study on reception of the news media, commissioned by the ERC in 2007 to the Instituto Superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa (ISCTE). (+info, Portuguese only)

“A SMILE WITH ICTS” PROJECT

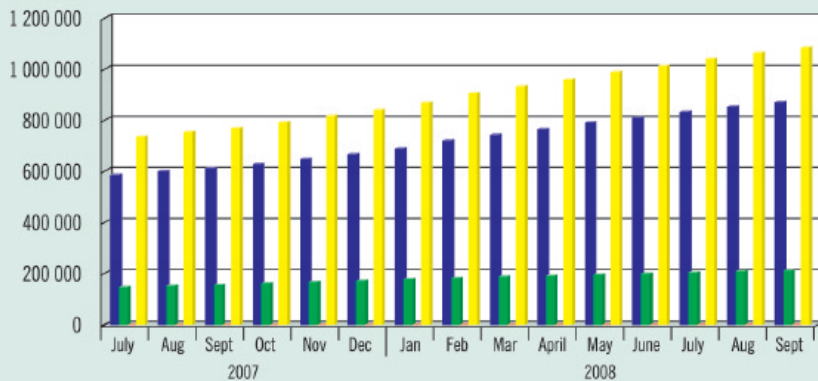
The “A Smile with ICTs” project recently landed in the Garcia da Orta Hospital, making that hospital in Almada across from Lisbon the most recent one to enter the third phase of the initiative promoted by the Foundation for the Dissemination of Information Technologies, which has been sponsored by ANACOM since it began in December 2005. Plans also call for the Barlavento Algarvio Hospital Centre to join the project on 8 November, thus raising to 17 the number of paediatric units participating in the project. (+info, Portuguese only)

ACEP LANÇA DIRECTÓRIO DO COMÉRCIO ELECTRÓNICO

The Portuguese Electronic Commerce Association (ACEP) recently launched an electronic commerce directory, a project whose “mission is to reference and organise information from all companies that carry out commercial and e-business activities by means of the internet”. (+info, Portuguese only)

PORTED NUMBERS

	2007						2008								
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
FTS	585 147	599 021	609 907	626 721	646 358	664 684	686 915	718 491	740 597	762 153	788 388	807 578	830 621	850 459	868 029
MTS	148 347	153 496	156 490	162 791	167 806	172 214	178 331	183 233	188 603	191 838	196 583	200 708	205 443	209 774	212 406
NGS*	683	692	693	719	729	739	754	768	767	773	779	803	816	823	852
TOTAL	734 177	753 209	767 090	790 231	814 893	837 637	866 000	902 492	929 967	954 764	985 750	1 009 089	1 036 880	1 061 056	1 081 287



■ FTS - Fixed Telephone Service
■ MTS - Mobile Telephone Service
■ NGS - Non-Geographic Services *
■ Total

* The Non-Geographic Services whose numbers can be ported are the following:
 Free Call for the User Service (800),
 Shared Cost Call Service (808, 809)
 and Universal Access Service (707).

DTT – ANACOM AND ERC ENDORSE COMMISSION PROPOSALS

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) has endorsed the proposals from the commission analysing the public digital terrestrial television (DTT) tenders, which award to PT *Comunicações* (PTC) the frequency usage rights associated to multiplexers A and B through F. Regarding Multiplexers B through F, besides the ANACOM decision dated 16 October, on the same date the Media Regulatory Board (ERC) endorsed the proposed awarding a distribution operator's licence to PTC, which had 10 working days to raise the bond to the amount of 2.5 million euros, as stipulated in article 16 of the Tender Regulation. ANACOM and ERC in turn have 25 working days to issue the respective titles

awarding the frequency usage rights and the authorisation regarding the quality of the distribution operator. As for Multiplexer A, the commission approved last 20 October the respective final report on analysis and appreciation of the bid which, after being submitted to ANACOM, was endorsed on the same date. PTC was likewise given 10 working days to raise the bond to 2 million euros (article 17 of the Tender Regulation); the corresponding title awarding the frequency usage right should be issued by ANACOM within 15 working days counting from that increase. (+info)

NEW TELEVISION SERVICE LICENSING

The public tender will meanwhile get under way on 21 November to award a licence to practice television activity consisting of the organisation of a nationwide broad-ranging programming service, with unconditioned free access and

on the air 24 hours a day, using radio spectrum assigned to DTT broadcasting, as duly approved by ANACOM (see previous news item). The deadline to submit bids is 16 January 2009. (+info, Portuguese only)

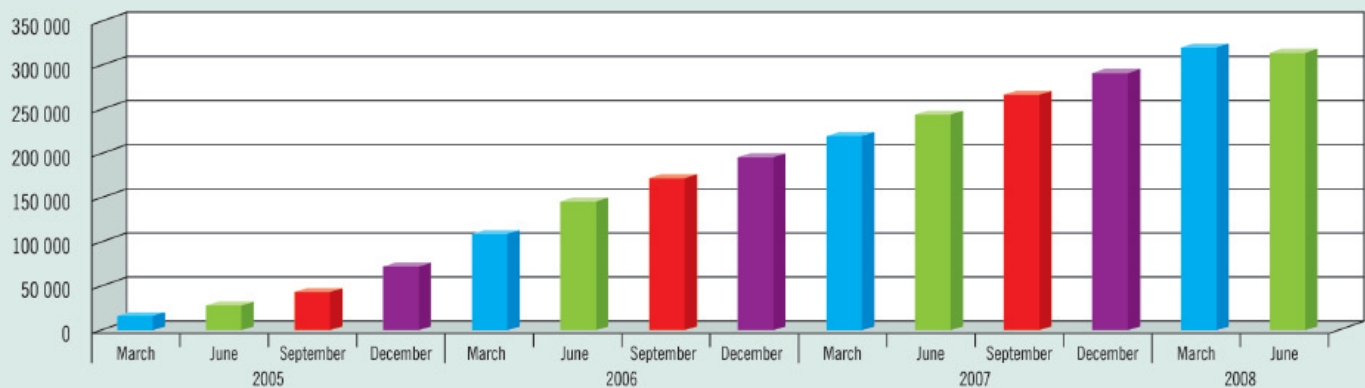
NEWLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

- **Administrative Rule no. 1239/2008** (Series I – *Diário da República* of 31 October) – Proceeds to open the public tender for the award of a licence to practice television activity that consists of organising a nationwide broad-ranging programming service, with unconditioned free access and on the air 24 hours a day, using radio spectrum meant for digital terrestrial television broadcasting. Also approved were the tender regulations and respective specifications.
- **Council of Ministers Resolution no. 165/2008** (Series I – D.R. of 27 October) – Approves for the current year the distribution of compensatory indemnities by the different public service providing companies.
- **Decree-Law no. 200/2008** (Series I – D.R. of 9 October) – Establishes the legal regime applicable to the constitution, organic framework and functioning of the procurement centres, per the terms of section 3 of article 260 of the Public Contracts Code.

Meeting in Council of Ministers (CM) on 23 October, the government approved a proposed resolution to confirm the Agreement between the Portuguese Republic and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) concerning the holding, organisation and financing of the 4th ITU World Telecommunications Policy Forum (WTPF) and associated meetings, signed in Geneva last 17 October. Previously, the CM had on 2 October put forward a proposed law approving the general system governing assets in the public domain.

■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF UNBUNDLED ACCESSES

2005				2006				2007				2008	
Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar	Jun
15 916	27 987	43 127	72 019	108 794	145 614	172 082	195 754	219 653	244 068	266 536	291 175	319 908	314 034



□ ROAMING – ANACOM REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN REGULATION

The *Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações* (ANACOM) report on implementation of the regulation on international roaming in the European Union's public mobile telephone networks (EC Regulation no. 717/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2007) is now available. The report contains the results for Portugal with reference to overall EU results between April 2007 and March 2008, indicating, for example, that in the first quarter of 2008 the average price was 0.38 euros/minute for calls made and 0.11 euros/minute for calls

received (considering all price tables applicable to intra-EU/European Economic Area (EEA) voice calls. In the same quarter the average wholesale price for intra-EU/EEA voice calls was 0.20 euros/minute. Regarding the Euro-tariff, in Portugal its average price has only been slightly below the price ceilings set in the regulation. On the other hand, only two of the operators also provide Euro-tariff price alternatives. (+info)

□ WHOLESALE OFFERS – PUBLICATION OF SERVICE QUALITY LEVELS

ANACOM determined on 15 October that it would subject to the prior hearing by interested parties, for a period of 30 working days, the draft decision on publication of the quality of service (QoS) performance levels regarding wholesale offers – the reference unbundling offer (RUO), leased lines reference offer (LLRO), reference conduits access offer (RCAO), PT ADSL Network and the subscriber line resale offer (SLRO). The information associated to the quality of wholesale services supplied by the PT Group, as well as the quantities/ranges supplied (when not related to the quality of wholesale services rendered), should be provided on a quarterly basis. The information addressed to end users should

be posted on the PT Group's website, with a very visible and easily identifiable indication. The information addressed to beneficiaries of the offers must be provided by means of extranet or, in case of duly grounded impediment, by e-mail. The PT Group must also make uniform the information broken down by area, presenting information by attendance point, identified by a code and unequivocal designation. Should new quality of service indicators or premium levels be introduced, the information provided to end users, offer beneficiaries and ANACOM must immediately reflect those changes. (+info)

□ ANACOM CO-OPERATION – ITU EXCELLENCE CENTRE AND CPLP REGULATORS ASSOCIATION

ANACOM signed last 9 October an agreement with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) concerning the creation and implementation of a Centre for Excellence in Africa for the Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries. Also signed was a memorandum of understanding to create the Association of CPLP (Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries) Communications and Telecommunications Regulators (ARCT-CPLP). Both ceremonies were held on the sidelines of the 32nd Assembly of Parties of ITSO (International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation), held last 6-10 October in Estoril. The Mozambique-based Excellence Centre is addressed to the Portuguese-speaking African countries (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe) and Spanish-speaking Equatorial Guinea. Plans call for the creation of

an e-learning platform that will allow extension of training actions to other places such as East Timor. The Centre is scheduled to open before the end of 2008. For its part, ARCT-CPLP is planning to strengthen the historic ties of friendship and co-operation binding the CPLP countries, by means of their national regulatory authorities. (+info)

The speeches by ANACOM vice president Alberto Souto de Miranda given last 9 October, one at the Portuguese Foundation for Communications during the commemorations of World Post Day, and the other at the Estoril Congress Centre during the ceremony formalising the agreement to set up the ITU Excellence Centre and the memorandum and statutes establishing the ARCT-CPLP, are now available for consultation. (+info)

□ EUROPEAN UNION

REVISION OF EC NOTIFICATION PROCESS

The European Commission (EC) adopted last 15 October a revised version of its recommendation dated 23 July 2003, concerning notifications, deadlines and consultations envisaged in article 7 of the Framework Directive (Directive 2002/21/EC on the common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services). This revised versions aims for a more simple and efficient administrative notification process, so as to reduce the administrative burden borne by the national regulatory authorities (NRAs) and the Commission itself. To thus simplify and streamline the process of notifying the Commission, the NRAs should start using standardised formats for the notifications in question (annexes I and II of the recommendation). The NRAs are likewise asked to include in the notifications to transmit to the Commission, along with the market analyses, the proposed remedies to correct the problems identified, and if necessary, the proposals to lift obligations. The recommendation also envisages the use of a shortened notification form for certain categories of draft measures. The EC will monitor the practical consequences of this shortened notification procedure, in order to adjust or extend it to other categories of draft measures that should be subject to notification. (+info)

ELECTRONIC MONEY – NEW DIRECTIVE PRESENTED

The European Commission presented last 13 October its proposal for a new directive on electronic money, which aims to modernise the provisions of Directive 2000/46/EC, concerning access to the business of electronic money institutions and to its practice, as well as its prudential oversight (“Electronic Money Directive”). According to the proposal, the aim of this new directive is to enhance the development of new innovative and secure services, enable access by new market agents and encourage real and effective competition among all players. It also seeks to establish a harmonisation with the system applicable to the payment institutions encompassed by Directive 2007/64/EC concerning payment services in the internal market (“Payment Services Directive”). The directive shall not, however, be applicable to the mobile operators if the latter, by offering payment facilities for the acquisition of goods or services, do not just act as intermediaries between the user of the payment service and the supplier of goods and services.. (+info)

EUROPEANA PROTOTYPE IN NOVEMBER 2008

The prototype Europeana website will be launched on 20 November as a single online means to access nearly 2 million digital documents, including manuscripts, books, newspapers, periodicals, photos, films, paintings and sound recordings, chosen from the digital collections available at museums, libraries, archives and audiovisual collections throughout Europe. Europeana corresponds

to a thematic network founded by the European Commission under the eContentplus programme, as part of i2010 (Digital Libraries Initiative), and counts the participation of 90 representatives led by the National Library of the Netherlands. It is supervised by the European Digital Library Foundation. (+info)

NETWORK NEUTRALITY AND THE INTERNET’S FUTURE

The presentations given at the conference on “Network Neutrality – Implications for Innovation and Business Online”, organised by the Danish regulator, NITA, and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, and held last 30 September in Copenhagen, are now available for consultation. Among others, the speakers included the European Commissioner for the Information Society and Media, Viviane Reding, and the chairman of the United States’ regulator (FCC), Kevin Martin. (+info)

EP APPROVES NEW SAFER INTERNET PROGRAMME

The European Parliament has approved a report urging the launch of a new Safer Internet programme. The five-year programme (2009-2013) proposed by the European Commission in February will have a 55 million euro budget to combat illegal content along with illicit behaviour such as the intimidation and enticement of minors. Projects meant to teach children, parents and teachers how to be safe online will be supported, along with those that provide the public with general national contact points to denounce illegal content and conduct, stimulate self-regulation in these areas and establish databases on the use of new technologies and associated risks. (+info)

SEMINAR ON ONLINE CONTENT – CONCLUSIONS

The main conclusions drawn at the seminar on creative online content organised by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication and held last 18-19 September, under the French European Union presidency, are now available for consultation. The event was divided into five workshops: European management of author’s rights, interoperability, online circulation of creative work, financial models for creative online content and evolution of consumer behaviour, and use of online content and offers. (+info)

UNIVERSAL SERVICE – FRENCH CASE SHELVED

The EC has shelved the infringement proceedings against France with respect to the designation of universal service providers, given the changed rules in that member State, which now guarantees that no telecommunications operator interested in providing universal service only in certain parts of the country will be excluded in advance from a designation process. (+info)

■ OJEU

- **Regulation (EC) no. 1007/2008** – Of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 2008, which modifies Regulation (EC) no. 460/2004, which establishes the European Network and Information Security Agency, with respect to the agency’s duration. Published on 31 October.
- **Opinion (2008/C270/01)** – Of the European Data Protection Authority concerning the Commission Decision of 12 December 2007 on personal data protection in the scope of the Internal Market Information System (IMI). Published on 25 October.
- **Information from member States (2008/C265/08)** – Member States intending to postpone application of Directive 2008/6/EC until 31 December 2012 so that they can continue to reserve services for one or more universal postal service providers. Published on 18 October.
- **Opinion (2008/C257/10)** – Of the Committee of the Regions concerning the “Telecommunications Reform Package”. Published on 9 October.

(+info)

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

ECC – PLENARY MEETING

The Spanish city of Cordoba hosted last 27-31 October the 21st meeting of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC), attended by 87 participants.

(+info)

ECC PT SE 42

Geneva served as venue last 20-22 October for the 16th meeting of project team 42 (PT 42) of the ECC Spectrum Engineering working group (WG SE). (+info)

ECC WG NNA

The 12th meeting of the ECC working group on Numbering, Names and Addressing (WG NNA) was held last 7-8 October in the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana.

(+info)

ECC TG3

The 24th and last meeting of the working group ECC TG3 – UWB (Ultra Wide Band) was held last 30 September-1 October in Stockholm, at the invitation of the Swedish regulator, PTS. (+info)

ECC CPG PTD

The second meeting of CPG PTD, a group preparing European positions for the 2011 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-11), was held in the French city of Maisons-Alfort last 23-25 September. (+info)

ECC CPG PTC

The third meeting of CPG PTC, a group preparing European positions for WRC-11, was held in the Portuguese city of Estoril last 29 September-3 October. (+info)

ECC SG THINK TANK

The ECC Steering Group Think Tank (SG TT) met last 15-16 October in Berlin.

(+info)

CERP – PLENARY MEETING

The European Committee for Postal Regulation (CERP) held a plenary meeting in Athens last 9-10 October. The evening before that meeting Athens also hosted the first meeting of the Commission on Good Regulatory Practices. (+info)

□ INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dublin hosted last 9-10 October the IRG General Assembly. (+info)

PT CONVERGENCE

The subgroup of the Convergence project team met last 22 October in Barcelona. (+info)

PT PMS

The project team (PT) on Significant Market Power (SMP) met last 24 October in Athens. (+info)

PT NGN

Bonn hosted last 30-31 October a meeting of the project team for Next Generation Networks (NGNs). (+info)

□ EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

ERG – PLENARY MEETING

Dublin hosted last 9-10 October the plenary meeting of the European Regulators Group (ERG). (+info)

SUBGROUP ON STREAMLINING SPECTRUM USE FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR

The fourth meeting of the subgroup of the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) dedicated to streamlining spectrum use for the public sector was held on 30 September in Brussels. (+info)

COCOM

The 32nd meeting of the Communications Committee (COCOM) was held on 15 October in Brussels. (+info)

SEMINAR ON POSTAL SERVICES

The European Commission held last 17 October in Brussels a seminar to present conclusions of the study on “Main Postal Sector Developments during the 2006-2008 Period”. (+info)

□ SATELLITE ORGANISATIONS

IMSO – ASSEMBLY

The 20th Assembly of the International Mobile Satellite Organisation (IMSO) was held from 29 September to October 3 in La Valetta, Malta, chaired by William Azuh of Nigeria. (+info)

EUTELSAT IGO – ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The 22nd meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC) of the European Telecommunication Satellite Organisation (Eutelsat IGO) took place last 23 October in Paris. (+info)

□ TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

WITH HUNGARY

The second phase of the annual technical co-operation between the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) and its Hungarian counterpart, the National Communications Authority (NHH), was held in Portugal from 13 to

17 October. The Hungarian delegation took part in the daily work scheduled by the national teams for Spectrum Monitoring and Control (SMC) from the SMC Centres in Barcarena and Oporto.

□ ITU COUNCIL – 2008 SESSION

The 2008 session of the Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is scheduled for 12-21 November in Geneva. On the 12th and 13th, the High Level Segment (HLS) will count the presence of ministerial representatives; the aim is to encourage discussion about cyber-security issues and the contribution of information and communication technologies (ICTs) towards reducing the impact of climate changes. The main points of the Council agenda include approval of the Operational Plan for the three ITU Sectors for the 2009-2012 period and presentation of the activities carried out by the Union to implement results of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), and concerning cyber-security and reducing the impact of climate changes.

NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

GERMANY – Bundesnetzagentur (BNetzA)

- The Münster court has confirmed 31 December 2007 as the cut-off date for spectrum allocations in the 2.6 GHz band, thus opposing the intentions of the operator Airdata AG and backing the position defended by BNetzA. **(+info)**
- The regulator has approved the postal rates for items weighing up to 1,000 grams to be applied by Deutsche Telekom in 2009, maintaining the prices for domestic mail and increasing by 0.1 percent the rates for international traffic. **(+info)**

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

- After analysing the fixed telephony market, the regulator concluded that incumbent operator Belgacom holds significant market power and is thus subject to a number of measures, specifically transparency obligations (the IBPT must be notified of any price changes) and price control (rapid and integral repercussion of lower termination rates applied to other operators, whether fixed or mobile). **(+info, French only)**

BRAZIL – Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (ANATEL)

- The regulator has placed in public consultation until 5 January 2009 a proposal to allocate to mobile telephone service, on a primary basis, the 3400-3600 MHz radio frequency band and to change the regulation on channels and conditions for using said band. **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- Portability has been available for the 2.78 million fixed and mobile telephony users who live in places served by national codes 28 (Espírito Santo), 32 (Minas Gerais) and 68 (Acre). **(+info, Portuguese only)**
- With 2,367,663 new subscriptions in September 2008, mobile telephony reached 140.78 million users, of whom 114.15 million (81.09 percent) pertain to prepaid modes and 26.62 million (18.91 percent) to postpaid services. In the last nine months the number of customers grew by 16.37 percent, representing the admission of 19,808,459 new users. In the same period of 2007 that figure was 12,834,643. **(+info, Portuguese only)**

CAPE VERDE – Agência Nacional das Comunicações (ANAC)

- The regulator has granted new authorisations to provide internet access services, thus raising to five the number of nationwide suppliers of those services (CV Multimédia, CWWiFi, CABOCOM, MB Investimentos and TELMAX). **(+info, Portuguese only)**

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

- The regulator has published the new broadcasting sector policies, thus seeking to prepare businesses for an entirely digital environment. Most changes will take force on 31 August 2011, the date marking the end of analogue emissions. **(+info)**

SPAIN – Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT)

- The regulator has fined Telefónica 20 million euros for a “very serious” infringement, due to its failure to comply with the regulation on the local loop offer, which led to a complaint from France Telecom. **(+info, Spanish only)**
- With 248,000 new subscriptions in September, mobile telephony service reached a total of 50.3 million users, for growth of 4.9 percent over the same month in 2007. As for broadband, it attained a total of 8.79 million connections in September, 15 percent more compared to the same period in 2007. **(+info, Spanish only)**
- The CMT has proposed that the first operator to install a fibre optic network

inside a building should share that infrastructure with other operators who later wish to use same and offer fibre to the home (FTTH) services to their customers. This CMT proposal will be subject to public consultation, specifically before the European Commission. **(+info, Spanish only)**

- Data on broadband price offers in Spain during the first quarter of 2008 have been released. The most popular mode is the package of voice and data with internet access speeds of between 2 Mbps and 10 Mbps, whose price is around 30.3 euros. **(+info, Spanish only)**
- The proposed regulation to apply to wholesale broadband services and physical telecommunication networks, which include copper-wire networks and fibre optic networks (next generation networks), has been approved. **(+info, Spanish only)**

- Electronic commerce achieved a turnover of 1.19 million euros in the first quarter of 2008, for growth of 52.6 percent over the same quarter of 2007. **(+info, Spanish only)**

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

- The mobile telephone service (MTS) indicators for the third quarter of 2008 have been published. They reveal the existence of 56.4 million subscribers, for an MTS penetration rate of 88.7 percent. **(+info)**
- According to second quarter 2008 data, fixed telephone service attained nearly 40 million lines, of which 12.5 million are used for broadband connections. Including other access modes, internet service counted 17.8 million accesses, of which 16.6 million are high speed connections. **(+info)**
- ARCEP has placed in public consultation until 24 November the proposed price table to apply to the termination of voice calls in individual mobile networks from 1 July 2009 to 31 December 2010. **(+info)**
- The summary of the public consultation on the quality of fixed telephone service has been published. **(+info)**

IRELAND – Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg)

- ComReg and the Excellence Ireland Quality Association (EIQA) launched on 6 November a quality standard for telecommunication service bill presentation. **(+info)**
- The third provisional report from the programme to measure non-ionising radiation has been published. It concludes that the tests conducted at 16 sites over the course of September and early October indicate that the radiation in question is below the limits set by the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). **(+info)**

MOROCCO – Agence Nationale de Réglementation des Télécommunications (ANRT)

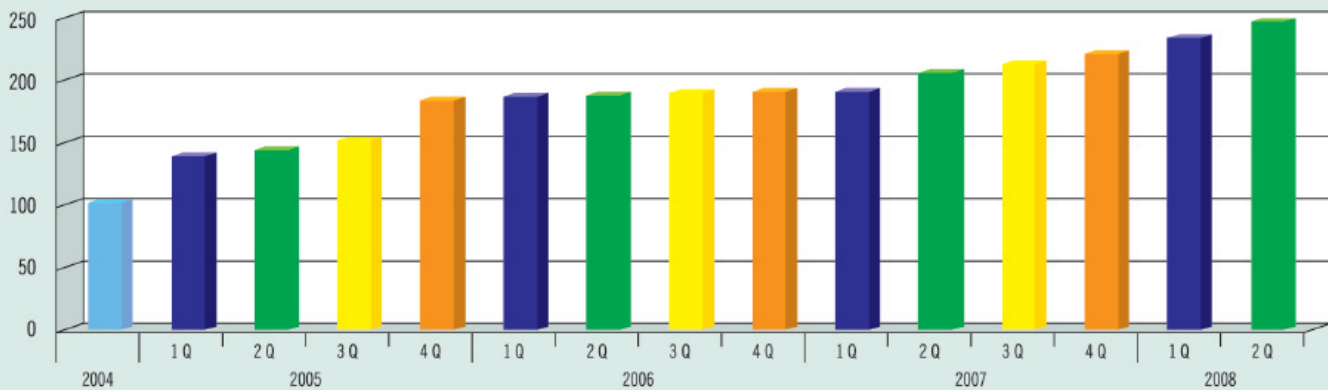
- The regulator has opened a tender to award a third licence for the operation of a second generation public mobile telecommunications network. **(+info, French only)**

UNITED KINGDOM – Office of Communications (Ofcom)

- The regulator has announced the award of licences to transmit high definition (HD) programmes on digital terrestrial television service to the Channel 4 and S4C television channels, together, and to Channel 3 (ITV pl, Channel TV, stv and UTV). **(+info)**
- The second phase of revision of the regulation applied to television advertising has been placed in public consultation until 11 December. **(+info)**

■ EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES WITH CO-MINGLED OPERATORS – 2ND QUARTER 2008

2004	2005				2006				2007				2008	
	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q
102	139	144	152	184	187	188	190	191	191	206	213	221	234	247



□ LETTER-WRITING COMPETITION – SUBMISSIONS UNTIL 27 FEBRUARY 2009

“Explain how decent working conditions can lead to a better life” is the theme topic of the 2009 Letter-Writing Competition organised by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and promoted in Portugal by joint initiative of the Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) and the CTT – Correios de Portugal (Portuguese postal service).

The competition is addressed to children between 9 and 15 years old resident in Portugal. One of the winning letters will represent Portugal in the 2009 International Letter-Writing Competition for Young People. The deadline for receiving the letters is 27 February 2009 (postmark date). (+info)

□ ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS CONSUMPTION – 2007 SURVEYS AVAILABLE

The reports with main results of the most recent surveys on electronic communications consumption, referring to December 2007, are now available. They particularly focus on the consumption of fixed telephone service (FTS), mobile telephone service (MTS), internet access service and subscription TV service.

The surveys were conducted by ANACOM and the companies GfK Metris, Marktest, Tns Euroteste and Qmetrics, respectively, between 1 November 2007 and 15 January 2008, and follow on the 2006 surveys. (+info)

□ PUBLIC TENDER – STUDY ON VERTICAL FUNCTIONAL SEPARATION

ANACOM decided last 15 October to launch a public consultation to acquire a study on vertical functional separation in the electronic communications sector. Interested parties are asked to submit their bids by 4 p.m. on 19 November to the Public Attendance Service of ANACOM, located at Av. José Malhoa no. 12

in Lisbon. The public act of opening the bids will take place on the following day, 20 November, at 10 a.m. at the same place. The tender programme and specifications are available for consultation on this Authority’s website.

(+info, Portuguese only)

2º CONGRESSO DO COMITÉ PORTUGUÊS DA URSI

Compatibilidade Electromagnética e os Novos Serviços de Radiocomunicações

20 e 21 de Novembro de 2008, Fundação Portuguesa das Comunicações

Inscrições em www.anacom.pt

Participação gratuita limitada à capacidade da sala.

