Newsletter

VdA's telecoms web

Connecting Portuguese speaking countries with & around the world

"*Language is the archive of History*"
Ralph Waldo Emerson

"*Somewhere, something incredible is about to be known*"
Carl Sagan

Kenya
@ Luis Viseu - IT VdA

Introduction

Welcome to the first issue of VdA's telecoms web newsletter.

This newsletter aims to provide our clients with a roundup of the recent regulatory and business news and events in the telecom sector around the world, particularly in Portuguese speaking countries.

Our experience throughout the years has shown us that Portuguese speaking countries are united through more than just one common language. In fact, these countries seem to share not only the advantage of similar legal and regulatory systems, but also a potential for economic, financial and business growth.

We trust this newsletter will prove to be a useful tool for our clients in Portuguese speaking countries, as well as for other clients with an international DNA.

To this effect, we have selected the most relevant telecoms news from international and local publications and also included some of our most recent international projects in this sector.

Whilst this initial issue seeks to provide a general snapshot of current news in the telecom sector in Portuguese speaking countries and in neighbouring countries, eight future issues should follow, each focused on the regulatory, business and economic features of one of those countries (i.e. Portugal, Brazil, Mozambique, Angola, Cabo Verde, Timor-Leste, Guiné-Bissau and São Tomé e Príncipe).

Should you wish to know more about VdA and our projects and practice areas, click **here**.

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Our Team | Contact Us

- **Magda Cocco** | Partner (TMT)
- **Ricardo Bordalo Junqueiro** | Managing Associate (Competition)
- **Tiago Bessa** | Associate (TMT)
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www.vda.pt

What's on

Our greatest asset: The Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries

With a community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) of around 250 million people, the potential is enormous and the challenge attractive. Let us take a look at the steps taken in the path for digital and regulatory integration in the CPLP:

- CPLP Total Population (2010): 252 Million

- CPLP mobile users (2010): 237 Million

- CPLP mobile penetration rate 2000 (avg): 12,8%

- CPLP mobile penetration rate 2010 (avg): 84,4%

- CPLP internet users (2010): 23,7 Million

- CPLP internet penetration rate 2000 (avg): 1,7%

- CPLP internet penetration rate 2010 (avg): 14,8%

- CPLP fixed telephone subscriptions (2010): 47,2 Million

The integrated view of CPLP's telecoms market and business opportunities above is part of the crucial path to success. At VdA we are proud of having regular contacts with the relevant stakeholders of this community, both at the corporate and regulatory levels which lay the foundations for more developed markets and we are participating on an ongoing basis in innovative projects in these countries.

Timor-Leste
@ Nádia Costa – Associate VdA

Regulatory & Markets

Angola: Huawei plans to install latest generation mobile telephone system in Angola

Huawei plans to install the first 100G WDM network in Africa, for Angolan company Unitel. The new network will help Unitel meet growing demand for broadband and high definition services, such as HD video, high speed Internet access, cloud computing and advanced business applications.

Source: http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/

Angola: Angola Cables picks crack SACS, WACS team

Angola Cables has selected Alcatel-Lucent as technology provider for its 100Gbps terrestrial fibre-optic link with the West African Cable System (WACS) submarine system, supporting high speed internet services for customers of communications providers in Angola as well as in neighbouring countries.

Source: http://www.telegeography.com/

Brazil: Anatel green-lights new competition rules for telecoms industry

Brazil's national regulator Anatel has approved a new plan aimed at encouraging and promoting free competition in the country's telecoms industry, as well as improving sector regulation, RCRWireless reports. The General Plan of Competition Goals (Plano Geral de Metas de Competicao, or PGMC) is designed to establish rules for network sharing, interconnection fees and roaming and also pinpoints companies that have significant market power (SMP) and thus, must be forced to provide network access and transmission with smaller rivals. Operators identified to have SMP in the fixed line market are Telefonica (Vivo), Oi SA, America Movil group (Embratel, Net Servicos), Algar Telecom (CTBC) and Sercomtel. The SMP providers in the mobile sector are Oi, Telecom Americas (Claro), TIM Brasil and Vivo Participacoes. For more information click here.

Source: http://www.anatel.gov.br

Cape Verde: Scope of Universal Service

A legislative authorization was enacted by Cape Verde National Parliament entitling the Government to amend the legal scope of the Universal Service. This authorization allows the Government to include broadband and mobile services within the Universal Service concept. At the same time, between October 29 and November 2, a workshop on "Universal Service and Funding" took place in Cape Verde. This workshop was promoted by ITU Centre of Excellence for Portuguese and Spanish speaking African countries. For more information click here.

Source: http://www.anac.cv/

Cape Verde: New regulations on quality of service and portability

ANAC (the Cape Verde communications regulator) has approved new regulations for the electronic communications market. One concerns the rules to be taken into account by mobile operators, covering all matters pertaining to mobile services (including provision of service, prices and contract termination). The other sets forth the rules for fixed and mobile number portability, including the process to be respected and the entity responsible for ensuring the portability solution. For more information on the legislation in Cape Verde, click here.

Source: http://www.anac.cv/

Mozambique: Second workshop on the new telecoms strategy plan

The second workshop on the new telecoms strategy plan was held on November 2, 2012. This workshop debated several crucial questions for the development of the sector, such as competition and convergence, sector governance, reorganization of public-owned companies, universal service and broadband. The revision of the current strategy plan for the telecoms sector is being carried out together with a legislative reform of the current legal statutes, dating from 2004. It is expected that the new strategy and the legislative reform come into force during 2013. For more information click here.

Source: www.incm.gov.mz/

Mozambique: TDM profits increased in 2011

The public company TDM – Telecomunicações de Moçambique, S.A. grew 12% in 2011, with an annual turnover of Meticais 3.768,6 million. In 2011, the annual turnover was Meticais 3.352,5 million.

São Tomé e Príncipe: CST launches 3G network

Portugal Telecom's subsidiary in São Tomé e Príncipe, Companhia Santomense de Telecomunicações (CST), announced the commercial launch of its third-generation network on the two islands. The launch follows a six-week test period of the 3G service, which began in February, and forms part of an initial investment of USD3 million. For more information click here.

Source: http://www.telegeography.com/

Timor-Leste: Telecommunications licences awarded to Viettel and Telin

As announced by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste on 11 July 2012, Viettel Global Investment JSC (Viettel) from Vietnam and PT Telekomunikasi Indonesia International (Telin) shall receive the first new telecommunications licences to be issued in the course of the liberalisation process for Timor-Leste's telecommunications sector.

The Government initially announced that the first two new telecommunications licences would be issued to Digicel Pacific Limited (Digicel) and Telin. However, Digicel withdrew its application. According to the tender rules included in the Request for Applications (RFA), in such circumstances the licence shall be issued to the applicant which received the next highest score in the selection process. Viettel being such entity. For more information click here.

Source: www.telecomsliberalisation.tl/

Angola: Government approves Angola Telecom's business plan, including USD300m injection

The Angolan Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technologies, José Carvalho da Rocha, has announced that the government has given its approval to Angola Telecom's new business plan which includes an injection of approximately USD300 million in investment, while restructuring measures at the telco are ready to be submitted for consideration by employees. For more information click here.

Source: http://www.telegeography.com/

Mozambique: Public tender for deployment of network infrastructure

INCM (the telecommunications regulator) has launched a public tender for the deployment of network infrastructure and for the provision of access to the telecommunications universal services (voice, data and internet) in rural areas of Mozambique. The deadline for submission of proposals is January 28, 2013. More information can be found here.

Source: www.telecompapers.com

São Tomé e Príncipe: Public tender for second 2G, 3G and fixed telephone operator

The Government of São Tomé e Príncipe has launched a public tender procedure for a second operator regarding the provision of 2G, 3G and fixed telephony services (including participation in the company which holds the rights to the ACE submarine cable). Offers must be submitted by February 8, 2013.

The winning bidder may participate in the company holding rights to the ACE submarine cable. More information can be found here.

Source: www.oje.pt/

Investment Opportunities

Other countries | Emerging markets

Kenya: Internet access and usage increases in the country

The number of mobile subscribers in Kenya grew by 1.7 % between March 30 and June 30 this year to stand at 29.7million, thereby increasing the penetration of mobile telephony services to 75.4%. The full sector quarterly report is available here.

Source: www.cck.go.ke/

Tunisia: Regulation of Tunisian Telecom submarine cables / local loop unbundling

INTT (Instance Nationale des Télécommunications) recently issued decision nr. 67 approving the access to the earth station for Tunisian Telecom submarine cables. This decision sets out the technical and pricing conditions relating to the connection to the landing station of the submarine cable, collocation and backhaul. The document is available here.

Following a request by Orange Tunisia, INTT also issued decision nr. 66, regarding the conditions for the unbundling of the local loop. The decision is available here.

Source: http://www.intt.tn/

Congo: The ARPCE ensures the procedure for mobile subscribers' identification

The Congo ARPCE (Agence de Régulation des Postes et des Communication Electroniques) made a series of audits in order to assess the effectiveness of the procedure used by mobile operators to identify subscribers. The main purpose was to ensure that the methods used for identifying subscribers are in accordance with Decree n°11221/MPTNTC/MJDH/MPDN/MID du 31 décembre 2010 which establishes the procedures for data retention of subscribers of fixed and mobile telecommunications services. For more information click here.

Source: http://www.arpce.cg/

São Tomé e Príncipe
@ Paulo Barros Baptista – Partner VdA

News and events

Africacom Awards – 2012

The winners of the AfricaCom Awards 2012 were announced on November 14, in a ceremony held in Cape Town, South Africa. The Africacom Awards acknowledge the growth of the telecommunication and digital sectors across Africa, in categories such as "Best Network Improvement", "Best Backhaul Solution for Africa" and "Rural Telecoms Award". The full list of winners is available here.

Source: http://www.africacomawards.com/

Magda Cocco to speak at ABDTIT's 26th International Seminar

Magda Cocco, VdA partner who is co-head of the firm's TMT practice, is a guest speaker at the Brazilian Association for IT and Telecoms Law (ABDTIT)'s 26th International Seminar, which will take place in Brazil on December 3-4. The Seminar is supported by the Brazilian Ministry for Communications and by the main entities operating in the telecommunications sector in Brazil.

Mozambique
@ Maria Corrêa Nunes - Associate VdA

Quality | One Team | Focus on the Client | Independence | Innovation