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Message of the President



Dear readers,

EETT passes into a new maturing phase as an organization. The first phase that has been already completed, relates to the creation, organization and direct promotion of the "liberalization of the market". The second phase, which is the current phase, relates to the creation of a larger and at the same time more flexible organization.

EETT is not just an independent authority. It is also the National Regulator of the electronic communication and the broadband Internet market. The aspiration of the

new administration for EETT is not only to play an effective administrative role that simply fulfils its regulatory and supervising obligations in a satisfactory way. Having established the appropriate relations and directness, both with the Greek market and with the respective foreign bodies, and having all necessary resources as well as the indispensable know-how, we are in a position to see the market from a strategic point of view and effectively contribute to its development. With the "arsenal" possessed by EETT, the latter can, and must, constitute EETT as the Strategic Associate of the State for establishing the national strategy of electronic communications, broadband Internet and its applications.

We have already initiated the auctioning procedure for the issuance of the fourth licence for WiMAX wireless networks, which essentially are networks constituting the appropriate solution for broadband networking to reach even the most remote citizen in Greece. At the same time, an effort is being made for the roll-out obligations of WiMAX licence to cover the same geographical regions that the Information Society's operational program "Development of local access networks" will finance, in order to increase the possibilities of its success.

The analysis of the 18 markets (including markets 11,12 and 16, on which you can find further information in the respective articles of the present issue) defined by the European Union on Electronic Communications, are in progress or at the stage of completion. More specifically, the analysis of market 18 (market pertaining to radio and television broadcast services and networks for the distribution of radio and television content to end users) is conducted in cooperation with the National Council for Radio and Television. The next step is the identification of regulatory obligations where needed, for organizations that hold a dominating position in the market, aiming at creating the necessary regulating stipulations that come under the secondary legislation as provided by the new Law 3431/2006 "On Electronic Communications and other provisions."

Within the frame of handling issues pertaining to the co-location and the Local Loop Unbundling (LLU), the amount of local loops in operation, though fairly low, has presented at the end of June 2006 an increase of 55% and 23% compared to December 2005 and March 2006 respectively. Until the end of the year, OTE shall provide unbundled access to the local loop for a large number of urban centers, which shall be implemented by assignment of the necessary constructing tasks to a global contractor.

At an international level, EETT held successfully in May the conference entitled "The prospects of Broadband in the Mediterranean: A means to International Cooperation for the Benefit of the Market and the Consumer". Within the frame of this international conference, the importance of broadband networking for the development of the country has been underlined, as well as the central role that Greece can, and must, play in the wider Mediterranean region.

Finally, I invite you, if you haven't done it already, to visit the new and improved web site of ours at www.eett.gr. Our constant objective is to provide information to the market, as well as to the consumers, on issues pertaining to the electronic communications and postal services. At the same time we are in the process of further enriching our web site with new interactive services in order to constantly provide the best possible service for the citizen.

Maroussi, July 2006

Professor Nikitas Alexandridis
President