

**Introductory Speech by EETT's President, Professor Nikitas Alexandridis
during the Press Conference under the topic:**

"Review of EETT's work for the period 2005-2009"

15 July 2009

It has been four years now from the day the State had honoured me by appointing me President of EETT. The changes that the market underwent during that period, from the transition to the current regulatory framework to the forthcoming convergence of Telecommunications and Media, were enormous. Of course, the foremost was the revolution that was brought about in the broadband market through the effective local loop unbundling.

However, despite the big changes and considerable progress, there is still a long distance that separates us from the advanced European markets. Covering this distance should be the permanent vision and objective of both the National Regulator and the State, but also of all those involved in this particular industry.

EETT can contribute decisively to the achievement of this difficult and crucial goal, since it has the know-how, the infrastructure and the specialized staff that are required in order to accomplish the work it has undertaken, but also to assume further responsibilities for the development of the market. However, this presupposes that the State reinforces EETT by according it the appropriate powers and regulatory and legal tools.

Besides, this has been proven by our experience gained in the past four years. Where EETT had full control and competence (e.g. LLU), we proceeded with significant interventions that brought about spectacular results. But also in sectors over which EETT had no control whatsoever or had limited or no competence at all, we have tried, and we believe that through our interventions we have contributed to achieving certain positive results.

In total, we may say with certainty that EETT has carried out significant work, the consequences of which are by now obvious to the consumers and the market. It would be unrealistic to say that there were no mistakes, which have been, however, identified and we are working in order to address them in the near future. At the end of the day, it is the consumers and the market that will best evaluate whether this four-year term has been successful. What matters right now is to look ahead and work for the next-day vision, which could be summarized as follows:

a) For the Electronic Communications:

If our vision for the expiring (four-year) term was "**the establishment of Broadband**" by opening OTE's Centers to the alternative operators and the unbundling of the local loop (which has allowed companies to provide to the market new broadband products with higher speeds, lower prices and additional services), our vision for the next four years should be "**the network infrastructures for the new digital environment**", for both Fixed Networks (broadband access optical fiber networks & terrestrial digital television networks) and Wireless Networks (mobile networks for broadband, multimedia and Internet), which will encourage both infrastructure-based as well as service-based competition.

b) For the Postal Services:

If our vision for the past four years was to **“reinforce competition and rationalize the market”**, our vision for the next four years is **“the full liberalization of the postal market”** through the proper incorporation of the New European Regulatory Framework.

The results and accomplishments of EETT during the 4 years 2005-2009 are summarized in the magazine «Ev Tόχει» (Issue No 21 - July 2009) at <http://www.eett.gr/opencms/opencms/admin/downloads/ContactENTAXEI/part21.html>.