

Hotel Avala, Budva
27-28 September 2016-09-30

Dr Šaleta Đurović, President of the Council of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services

Ladies and gentleman,

It is my pleasure and honour to welcome you to this year's Conference on behalf of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services and on my own behalf.

As you know, the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services was established in 2001 and it has been organizing the International Conferences for 15 years now. This is 14th time in a row that the Conference in the area of electronic communications is organized here in Budva.

This year's Conference is organized together with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and is held under the title "Regulatory activity in the electronic communications sector", that is, under the working title "Regulating the Electronic Communications Market", whose programme activities are connected with the Regional Development Forum for Europe within the Festival of ICT Achievements - INFOFEST 2016.

The successfulness of the previous 13 Conferences was contributed by the participation of the regulatory Agencies, Ministries, telecommunication operators and universities from the Region as well as the representatives of the International Telecommunication Union, European Commission, and regulatory experts from the region and the EU countries.

The Conference is the possibility for all participants to be informed about the situation in the market of electronic communications in individual countries and exchange experiences when it comes to challenges in the area of regulation of electronic communications.

This year's Conference is a continuation of the activities in the area of the regulation of the electronic communications sector and includes the updates on the Regional initiative for the development of broadband access and adoption of broadband services for Europe, adopted at the World Conference on Telecommunications Development held in 2014.

The Regional Development Forum for Europe represents another possibility for a dialogue between the ITU experts - the sector for the development of telecommunications and decision makers, governments and regulators of the ITU member states, sectoral members and academies in terms of five regional initiatives for Europe, adopted at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14). Special attention will be dedicated to the implementation of the ITU Strategic plan for the period 2016-2019 at the regional level, the activities of the ITU-D of the study groups and ITU centres of excellence as well as the topics which include membership and activities of the academy.

The organizers expect that the trend of further development will continue, and that the Conference and the Regional Forum will be the key events to enable a highly qualified dialogue between the key stakeholders at the level of the Central and South-Eastern Europe: regulators, operators, users and electronic communications policy makers. Discussions, guidelines and conclusions produced during a three-day Conference will contribute to the accelerated development of the broadband access and broadband services in the Region.

The most actual topics will be discussed at the Conference and the Regional Forum within separate programme sessions as follows:

- Market analysis and regulatory measures prescribed to the operators with significant market power,
- Unique digital market,
- Mapping broadband infrastructure and service,
- Network neutrality,
- Roaming,
- Service quality,
- Use of limited resources,
- User protection,
- Future development plans.

The Conference will be organized within Infofest 2016 – the Festival of ICT achievements in hotel Avala in Budva.

In addition to the official part of the Conference, the organizers will provide other contents which will contribute to a relaxing working atmosphere in order to achieve best possible effects of the mutual communication of participants (cocktail and the Bay of Kotor cruise).

We expect that the representatives of the representatives of the European regulatory agencies, Ministers, operators of electronic communications, as well as the representatives and experts from international organizations and institutions responsible for policy development and regulation of electronic communications will take part in the Conference and the Regional Forum and thereby contribute to their success and quality.

Bearing in mind the previously mentioned, we are inviting you to take part in the work of the Conference and the Forum and give contribution to their work.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I believe that our work during the Conference will be inspiring and useful and that this event will provide the answers to some of the questions that we come across every day in our work and help us to see the current business processes in another way and improve and think of the those that are ahead of us.

In the end, I wish you successful work and pleasant stay in the hotel Avala in Budva in Montenegro. I hope that our intensive work and good cooperation in the following three days

will be of great use to us all, us working for the regulatory agencies and Ministries and those employed by the operators of electronic communications and representatives and experts of international organizations and institutions.

Thank You.