

## ***CEPT Looks Forward With New Structure***

The CEPT has concluded its March 2009 Extraordinary Assembly with a decision to streamline its management structure. This change is aimed at strengthening the organisation by focusing leadership on the main areas of CEPT's work in cooperation and harmonisation at the European level. These areas are:

- telecommunications (with a strong emphasis on spectrum management);
- postal services regulation;
- engagement by CEPT members with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

A separate Presidency, changing every year, is now replaced by a Co-presidency of the three Chairmen currently responsible for the most senior group responsible for each of the areas of work. The Chairmen of these groups are separately elected under the procedures of the groups concerned. These Chairmanships are of finite duration. This Co-Presidency will be assisted by the European Communications Office (ECO) acting as a Secretariat.

The new structure establishes a leadership that corresponds directly to the substantially autonomous areas of activity around which the CEPT's reputation, influence and responsibility is clustered, and where its stakeholder interests lie. The creation of a joint Presidency should ensure that areas of common interest receive due attention.

The CEPT Assembly remains as the supreme body of the organisation, with the expectation of a flexible approach to convening its meetings when necessary.

## **Background**

This decision comes after a process of review initiated by the Netherlands Presidency of 2007 and undertaken by a Task Force led by the Maltese Presidency since autumn 2007. The Task Force undertook consultations within its Membership and with external stakeholders to bring forward a series of recommendations about the CEPT's orientation and priorities and on management structure (ie the new model of Presidency and the process for convening Assemblies). The Decision making process has been completed by the Extraordinary Assembly in Copenhagen in March 2009.

The resolutions on orientation and priorities focus on:

- Maintaining and strengthening technical expertise;
- Maintaining coordination in wider international fora (ITU and UPU);
- Improving external communications;
- Taking a more strategic, top-down approach;
- Ensuring complementarity and constructive engagement with EU activities in the same area of interest;
- Giving a greater emphasis to economic considerations in spectrum management;
- Improving arrangements for external participation in CEPT work.

The three Committees are each currently developing more detailed plans appropriate to their working context, to take these principles forward and put them into practice.

## **New Website**

Later this summer CEPT will be launching a brand new website here at [www.cept.org](http://www.cept.org) where you can access up to date information, and interact with the numerous activities within the CEPT on posts and telecommunications. But an open door to the CEPT is not new: in the meantime, the website of the ECO is a portal to the ECC, and Com-ITU (under its previous name of WG-ITU). Here you can find a lot of information on spectrum use (such as the frequency information database 'EFIS'), key deliverables such as ECC Decisions, information on the outcomes of Working Group meetings, and open access to almost all of their documents. You can find the ECO website at [www.ero.dk](http://www.ero.dk). Similarly CERP has its own website at [www.cept-cerp.org](http://www.cept-cerp.org) which in the future will also be integrated into the new website.