

ANRTI Develops Universal Service Implementation Strategy and Program for the Republic of Moldova

On 21 June 2004, the Administrative Board of the National Regulatory Agency for Telecommunications and Informatics (ANRTI) presented a report on coverage for fixed and mobile telephony service, as well as the Internet, in the Republic of Moldova.

In order to ensure access of citizens to basic services provided by telecommunications operators, the ANRTI agreed to the following steps of implementation:

- (1) During the first stage, ANRTI will analyze the current situation in terms of coverage for fixed and mobile telephony, the Internet, and the needs of citizens to have access to communications services.
- (2) On the basis of analysis results, ANRTI will establish the minimum set of services included in the definition of Universal Service, the procedure for designating the Universal Service providers, and start the effective designation of these providers.
- (3) According to the estimations made by ANRTI, Universal Service will include: access to the public fixed telephony, public payphones, fax, emergency services (ambulance, police, fire brigade), and Internet.
- (4) All tariffs applied by Universal Service Providers will be subject to ANRTI's control.

The ANRTI will establish how to create and manage the Universal Service fund and how to finance it.

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Adapted from: National Regulatory Agency in Telecommunications and Informatics (ANRTI), 21 June 2004. (http://www.anrti.md/index_en.htm)