

Media Release- 4 April 2003

ComReg Seeks Views on its Strategy Statement 2003-2005

Ireland's Commissioners for Communication, **Etain Doyle, John Doherty** and **Isolde Goggin** today outlined their proposals for a regulatory strategy for the Irish communications sector going forward to 2005. In developing their strategy for the communications sector, the Commissioners have sought to balance the interests of enduser with the long term aim of ensuring that there is a sustainable market for electronic communications, peopled by operators capable of delivering competitive and innovative services over a range of different platforms..

The introduction of the new EU Directives in July 2003, which will change the way the electronic communications sector is regulated, coupled with the further liberalisation of the Postal Sector are some of the many challenges the industry in Ireland will face over the next few years. These changes will also be taking place at a time of considerable uncertainty in the international economic environment. However, the communications sector continues to be a major contributor to the Irish economy and it is the Regulator's role to ensure, as far as is within its powers, that there is sustainable competition delivering competitively priced, innovative, quality products and services to end users.

The proposed strategy is in line with ComReg's objectives as set in the Communications Regulation Act, 2002, and with the Policy Directions issued by the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources on 21 February 2003.

ComReg would appreciate receiving the views of all interested parties of those involved in the communications sector, both users and operators, to its vision for a roadmap of regulation to 2005.

The full strategy statement which is now open for consultation can be viewed on www.comreg.ie 03/41

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