

## Minutes

### Present

Marisa Azzopardi (GO)  
Stefan Briffa (GO)  
Fabian Grima (GO)  
Gertrude Borg Micallef (Melita)  
Jason Pavia (Vodafone)  
Ivan Bugeja, Andrew Meli, Steve Agius, Kevin Caruana (MCA)

### Introduction and Developments since last forum

Ivan Bugeja (IB) gave a brief overview of the MCA's activities in the second quarter of 2013.

### Update on development of National ICT Strategy

Steve Agius (SA) explained that government has recently commissioned the Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA) to draw up a national strategy for the digital economy. SA explained that the MCA is working together with MITA to this end. MITA will in the near future embark on a number of consultations with stakeholders, including the local operators.

### Bundling of electronic communications services in Malta: Competition and regulatory aspects

Kevin Caruana (KC) explained the current situation of bundling of electronic communications services in Malta, in particular the developments in the field and their impact on competition.

KC explained that the bulk of bundling subscriptions in Malta are triple and quad play subscriptions. Reference was also made to the fact that local developments in the field are much in line to what is happening at an EU level.

KC also provided an overview of the economic literature on bundling, specifically the two main strands of economic thought on the subject. One strand focused upon the efficiency motivation of bundling, whilst the other focused upon the strategic motivation of firms/service providers in implementing bundling practices.

The regulatory aspect was also addressed, mainly as to whether bundling affects the way the MCA carries out its analysis and investigations of competition in local electronic communications market. In this regard, mention was made of the fact that the EC Recommendation on relevant markets does not include nor is envisaged to include a bundled market in the list of relevant markets.

## **AOB**

### **Developments at EU level (April – June 2013)**

IB gave an update of the main EU developments of the last three months.

### **MCA Consultations**

The lists containing the current and planned MCA consultations were distributed during the meeting.

### **Next meeting**

The next Electronic Communications Forum will take place on:  
Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 09.30 hrs.