

# EMERG | NATP-3 PLENARY MEETING

Lisbon, Myriad Hotel, 20-21.02.13

hosted by



## EMERG PLENARY HOSTED BY ANACOM

20-21 FEBRUARY 2013

### DRAFT MINUTES

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Fátima Barros</b> Chair of ANACOM's Board
<b>Co-Chair</b>	<b>Pedro Ferreira</b> Head of European Union Area   External Relations ANACOM

## MAIN RESULTS OF THE EMERG PLENARY

### **I. Final documents, approved for publication at emergonline.org (at the public area)**

- 1.1 2012 Benchmarking report [EMERG (13) 05]
- 1.2 EMERG 2013 Work Programme [EMERG (13) 06]
- 1.3 2012 Annual Report [EMERG (13) 07]
- 1.4 EMERG Redrafted Charter [EMERG (13) 09 Annex I]

### **II. Final documents, approved for publication at emergonline.org (at the private area, only for internal use)**

- 2.1 Information on the 2012 EMERG workshops [EMERG (13) 08]
- 2.2 Draft EMERG|NATP 3 Internal procedures for 2013 [EMERG (13) 03; EMERG (13) 03 Annex I; EMERG (13) 03 Annex II; EMERG (13) 03 Annex III]
- 2.3 Contact list pack
- 2.4 EMERG documents registration

### **III. Next meetings**

- The next regular CN (Q4'2013) and Plenary (Q1'2014) meetings will take place in the vice-Chair's country and will be hosted by the NRA acting as vice-Chair/Chair.
- The timetable of the 2013 workshops shall be confirmed in the coming days, according to each NRA's availability to host them.
- The possible senior official meeting, to be organized by the European Commission, is yet to be confirmed, but is expected to take place in the first semester of 2013 (date and place yet to be confirmed).

### **IV. Follow-up actions**

The follow-up actions arising from the meeting conclusions are presented in Annex I to these minutes.

## INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION

EMERG Plenary held its 2013 meeting on 20 and 21 February in Lisbon, Portugal, hosted by the Portuguese National Communications Authority - ANACOM.

The meeting was attended by twenty-five senior representatives of National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) bearing the main responsibility for overseeing the markets for electronic communications networks and services, as well as by the NATP-3/Regulaid team and two representatives from the European Commission.

The list of participants in the 2013 EMERG Plenary is presented in Annex II to these minutes.

The list of documents for the 2013 EMERG Plenary is presented in Annex III to these minutes.

## ITEMS DISCUSSED

### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Title	Draft Agenda
Document	EMERG (13) 01
Information presented	Words of welcome from the EMERG Chair (ANACOM) and NATP3 leader (Hans Bakker) and also from the former EMERG Chair, Dr. Amr, from NTRA/Egypt, via skype. The Chair presented the draft agenda of the CN meeting.
Conclusions	The Plenary approved the agenda.

### 2. INFORMATION BY THE EMERG CHAIR

Title	- Information on EMERG activities since last Plenary - State of play on EMERG's Charter
Document	No document.
Information presented	The former Chair provided information on meetings and relevant activities since last Plenary, including: the Secretariat activities, contacts resulting from the Global Symposium of Regulators and Regulatory Associations Meeting, held at Sri Lanka, last October. Then, the Chair briefed on the state of play of EMERG's Charter, namely regarding the feedback on EMERG members' formal compromise, as decided by the 2012 Plenary.
Discussion	One NRA said that there is no need for a formal agreement to the new charter since at the first plenary there was a declaration saying that all NARA countries and European countries are EMERG members. By default, it should be assumed that all members agree with the Charter. In case of disagreement, the member must send a letter to the Chair.
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information and decided that there is no need for insisting on a formal compromise.

### 3. EMERG 2014 CHAIR/2013 VICE-CHAIR AND PERMANENT SECRETARIAT TEAM

Title	- Appointment of the 2014 Chair/2013 Vice-Chair - Appointment of the 2013 Permanent Secretariat
Document	No document.
Information presented	The Chair briefed on the appointment of the 2013 vice-Chair, referring the contacts that took place to invite TRC from Jordan to assume the 2013 vice-Chair. The Chair also provided information on the proposal for the 2013 EMERG Permanent Secretariat team, discussed at the CN meeting, last December 2012 (which includes the 2012 Chair - NTRA, the 2013 Chair - ANACOM and also the 2013 vice-Chair - TRC, plus, CMT and TRA). AGCOM shall also be part of the Permanent Secretariat as a <i>pro</i>

	<i>bono</i> member, especially due to its involvement in the cooperation dialogue with the European Commission.
Discussion	The Plenary agreed on the proposals, with no comments.
Conclusions	TRC (Jordan) was appointed as EMERG 2014 Chair/2013 Vice-Chair with no objections and the Plenary agreed on the proposal for the 2013 EMERG Permanent Secretariat team.

#### 4. EMERG CHARTER

Title	Change of article 3 of the EMERG Charter ( <i>ANACOM</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 09 EMERG (13) 09 Annex I
Information presented	The Chair proposed a slight change to EMERG's Charter, article 3, in order to provide the Plenary with more flexibility when deciding on the location and date of Plenary sessions. Currently, the Charter provides that the Plenary meeting should be " <i>organized in the Country of the EMERG Member which has ensured the Presidency of EMERG in the previous term.</i> " This means, in practice, that there is no coincidence between the location and the Chairmanship of EMERG. The proposed amendment attempts to allow the country holding the Presidency to host the Plenary in the first quarter of each year. The corresponding CN meeting should be organized in the fourth quarter of the previous year, in the country to hold the next Presidency, or at another suitable location. This was the arrangement followed for ANACOM's Presidency (the CN was organized in December 2012 and the Plenary in February 2013, both in Lisbon).
Discussion	There were no comments to this proposal.
Conclusions	The Plenary approved the proposed amendment to article 3 of the Charter for publication in the website.

#### 5. EMERG 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Title	EMERG 2012 Annual Report ( <i>NATP3</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 07
Information presented	The NATP3 team prepared the 2012 EMERG Annual Report, based on the results of all the events organized during 2012. The document also points out the contacts made at a neighbourly assistance level, as well as a brief assessment on the progress made by EMERG. Two positive aspects and a negative one were mainly highlighted. On the positive side, the NATP3 team leader referred to the Members' engagement at both organizing and participating at the different events that took place during 2012, experts being clearly more open to reporting on their countries' situation; and also the new internal structure/Permanent Secretariat of EMERG. On the negative side, budget constraints were referred.
Discussion	The Chair agreed with the summing up made by the NATP3 leader and urged all members, especially those that also integrate BEREC, to ensure their representation at EMERG's events, at the highest and most appropriate level, in order to show commitment to EMERG.  Some members shared their own experience of participating at the events, mentioning that EMERG should be proud of the work which has already been done but it also has to keep in mind that there is more yet to be accomplished.  Other NRAs referred to the reasons that prevented their Chairs from participating in

	<p>this Plenary (mainly due to budget constraints or to events scheduled at the last minute) but they underlined their commitment to EMERG's activities.</p> <p>The European Commission referred that it is important for EMERG to have the so called impact indicators on achievements made so far. On EC's perspective, EMERG is on the right path but it now remains to be seen how far the <i>status quo</i> has changed within each country because of EMERG work. Further, EC informed that it is fully committed to provide experts to participate at the workshops. Contacts with BEREC also send out the message that EMERG has reached a good stage.</p> <p>The debate also included the reference to the high level political meeting joining both sectorial ministries and NRAs, likely to take place, that could be used as a top forum in order to achieve a higher level of commitment from political leaders, especially those from MENA countries. Some NRAs also stressed the idea that this top-down approach is useful but, as in IRG and BEREC, the most effective approach is bottom-up, enabling NRAs to share their expertise and to show their commitment towards approximation, when applicable.</p> <p>At this point, the NATP3 team leader pointed to the fact that within EMERG three components should be considered: cooperation among regional NRAs; the role of the political institutions in making the relevant changes to the regulatory framework; and third, the annual analysis of activities carried out and targets achieved. This third level existed at NATP2 level but is missing under NATP3. This topic should be included in the EMERG agenda, if deemed appropriate, and voluntary assessments on the work done should go forward. But, as discussed at the last CN, for now the lack of will/funds makes those assessments impossible.</p> <p>Some members also questioned how the impact assessments could be made, as it is not possible to tell to which extent the achievements in a specific country are due to EMERG cooperation or to the cooperation with the World Bank or with EBRD. Furthermore, it was also referred that one cannot ask more from a multilateral network such as EMERG, and that its future development and, even more crucial, its sustainability, is the issue now at stake.</p> <p>The Chair also stated that, at this level, it should be taken into account that this matter involves people and not only institutions. Members should use EMERG to share information and keep this routine alive so that this network remains sustainable. On measuring impacts, all members agreed that EMERG should be provided with a tool to measure impacts and success but this assessment should not be made on an annual basis since there is a significant time lag between policy implementation and results.</p>
Conclusions	The Plenary approved the EMERG 2012 Annual Report for publication in the website.

## 6. EMERG 2012 WORKSHOPS

Title	Information on the 2012 EMERG workshops ( <i>NATP3</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 08
Information presented	<p>Information on the workshops held during 2012, and their deliverables, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshop on Net Neutrality, Barcelona, 15-16 May, 2012</li> <li>- Workshop on Network Security, Biel-Bern, 19-20 June, 2012</li> <li>- Workshop on International Roaming, Berlin, 11-12 July, 2012</li> <li>- Workshop on Licensing and Open Access to the Market in the EU and in the MENA Countries, Rome, 12-13 September, 2012</li> <li>- Workshop on Universal Service Funding, Athens, 10-11 October, 2012</li> <li>- Workshop on Retail Pricing Regulation, Istanbul, 7-8 November, 2012</li> </ul>

Discussion	<p>The NATP3 team leader presented the document, highlighting the outcomes and recommendations of each workshop. He especially referred to the workshop on roaming, as EC was considering the possibility of including third countries under the EC's Roaming Regulation framework.</p> <p>There was also a <i>tour de table</i> by each workshop rapporteur, each of whom was given the opportunity to express their own thoughts on the workshops' achievements.</p>
Conclusions	<p>The Plenary endorsed the recommendations with regard to the desirability of approximation and follow-up activities. These recommendations are to be published at the website (as internal document).</p>

## 7. COOPERATION BETWEEN EMERG AND BEREC

Title	Cooperation between EMERG and BEREC ( <i>ANACOM, EETT</i> )
Document	No document.
Information presented	<p>The Chair provided information on the contacts as well as on the results made so far since the last CN.</p> <p>The representative of the BEREC's Chair briefed on BEREC's perspective towards the cooperation with EMERG. BEREC aims at cooperating with EMERG and announced that EMERG will be invited to participate in the BEREC workshop preceding the Plenary, on the 6<sup>th</sup> March, as well as to give a presentation to the BEREC Plenary on the 8<sup>th</sup> March. There are other initiatives to be developed during 2013: organizing a joint BEREC-EMERG workshop and making available to EMERG members the BEREC mailing lists (CN and Experts Working Groups) so that questionnaires may be submitted on specific issues, and addressed to the right person within BEREC. Finally, BEREC's website has already a link to the EMERG website (cf. "Other networks" at <a href="http://berec.europa.eu/eng/links/">http://berec.europa.eu/eng/links/</a>).</p> <p>In addition, there are other ways to foster the cooperation link between BEREC and EMERG, namely by exploring whether it is possible for the BEREC Office to fund the participation of experts at workshops.</p>
Discussion	<p>As far as the joint workshop is concerned, information on EMERG's working programme will be sent to the BEREC Office, with the contents that will be discussed at the scheduled workshops. As AGCOM actually chairs the BEREC Implementation Framework EWG, it indicated that it was available to co-organize the workshop on enforcement powers and judicial review.</p>
Conclusions	<p>The Plenary took note of the provided information. As a first step, contacts will be made by the Chair in order to ensure EMERG's participation at the BEREC Plenary and to coordinate the organization of the joint workshop.</p>

## 8. EMERG'S FUTURE

### 8.1 NATP3 PROGRAM EXTENSION

Title	The terms of NATP3 program extension ( <i>NATP3</i> )
Document	No document.
Information presented	<p>The NATP 3 team leader provided information on the 2012 developments, namely the extension of the NATP3 program by 17 months, until the end of February 2014, with no increase in funding and no possibility for further extension in time. Furthermore, depending on the level of expenditure up to that point, the 2014 Plenary will be included under the NATP3 budget.</p>

Discussion	No comments were made.
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information.

## 8.2 SHORT TERM PERSPECTIVES FOR EMERG

Title	NATP Plus proposed Concept Paper ( <i>NTRA</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 04
Information presented	The former Chair presented the draft document on the short term perspectives for EMERG, namely its own role <i>vis-à-vis</i> the cooperation framework with the European Commission. Taking the outputs from the last CN, this document sets a proposal for an action plan based on three main initiatives to be developed: to have an open multilateral high level dialogue at an annual meeting (which can be hold twice a year); to settle thematic light twinnings (of up to three months and without requiring a residential expert, etc.); to keep with traditional activities (workshops, CN and Plenary).
Discussions	<p>The European Commission representatives clearly stated that the EC/DGCONNECT is open to discuss this proposal but there are no high expectations as regards the possibility of success especially due to recent budget cuts at EC level. For now, EC agrees only to hold the so called Senior Officials Meeting, expected to take place during the first semester of this year (agenda and location yet to be decided). This meeting aims at bringing together representatives from ministries and regulators of MENA countries, in order to discuss priorities on the table for the ICT sector.</p> <p>With regard to the bilateral cooperation (the thematic light twinnings), the EC informed that the present perspectives tend to show that this issue may not be dealt with as in the past. For financial reasons, there was a change on the way financial aid is supposed to be provided to the Southern Mediterranean area. In fact, it is now planned to be settled in different funding packages available to the beneficiary countries and these funding packages may include different sectors. The privileged interlocutors in this process will be, for example, the ministries of finance or the ministries in charge of the ICT sector. Based on this, the EC suggested that NRAs requested their own countries' ministries of finance to provide those funds, trying to push and influence the decision process so that funds are assigned to ICT projects.</p> <p>Further, the EC considers that it is up to EMERG to decide on its main goals and so it has to be clear about its priorities. At this level, the EC also considers that the third stage of traditional activities must be the priority guiding EMERG's efforts.</p> <p>To conclude, the EC representative said that, for now – within the framework of the decision process of EC's future financial perspectives for 2014-2020 –, the priority is to find the right moment to use influence. At present, it is not possible to give a precise picture as there are several tricky bureaucratic <i>momenta</i> and a proposal may suddenly undergo a difficult decision process.</p> <p>So, especially within DGCONNECT, it is necessary to find solid intellectual arguments to support EMERG. Therefore, proposals presented by countries must be consistent (even if the adopted financial instruments are different) and coherence between proposals for getting financial aid is a top priority.</p> <p>Second, given EC's new financial framework for cooperation focused on both geographic and sectorial perspectives, the ICT sector can hardly be defined as a priority on its own. The idea is to have a "more for more" approach, meaning that ICT has to be seen as an important sector for the overall development of societies. Accordingly, since November 2012, DGCONNECT has sent internal notes stressing the importance of building a harmonized regulatory framework across the Southern</p>

	<p>Mediterranean region, and of fostering the deployment of research infrastructures and ICT services (computers, e-services).</p> <p>Third, DGCONNECT considers that cutting down EMERG now would be counter-productive, given especially the financial investments that have already been done. However, for now, it cannot meet any expectations regarding the possible funding for EMERG or the Southern Mediterranean countries. However DGCONNECT undertook to inform EMERG of any developments/signals. It also required Members to do the same, paying attention to any proposals and projects that are presented to their own countries.</p>
Conclusions	<p>The Plenary took note of the provided information. The Chair and the Permanent Secretariat will work closely with DGCONNECT in order to follow any developments on the referred aspects.</p>

### 8.3 LONG TERM PERSPECTIVES FOR EMERG

Title	Presentation on the possible future of EMERG ( <i>ANACOM</i> )
Document	No document.
Information presented	<p>Based on the new developments as regards the European Commission's support to EMERG, which may undermine EMERG's financial sustainability (given the present structure), ANACOM provided information regarding the future perspectives for EMERG's sustainability on the basis of its own funding, presenting the three possible future scenarios (from a best-case scenario of an improved EMERG to a worst-case scenario of a collapsed EMERG). Finally, it was referred that the EU must keep its own perspectives open as regards its closest neighbours. In this sense, it was referred that EMERG expects the European Commission to confirm that EMERG is considered to be a platform for the promotion of cooperation and neighbourly assistance among regulators in the Mediterranean region (policy instrument), as well as a channel to promote open and competitive markets and to enhance trade relations in the Mediterranean area, identifying potential new acting roles for EMERG.</p>
	<p>In face of the three presented scenarios, all NRAs agreed that the most desirable scenario would be the first one "Improving EMERG" but this would raise different levels of constraints within EMERG members. In this regard, some NRAs informed that, due to their institutional structure and statutes, it is not possible to join a new legal and private entity that implies paying a quota. Thus, it was considered that the second scenario "Soft EMERG" would be the most realistic one. Notwithstanding, all NRAs expressed their commitment to EMERG's objectives and their willingness to participate at EMERG planned events (if not all, at least most of them), by paying their own costs when participating in events abroad or by hosting EMERG events. The majority of NRAs also considered important to have, as an exceptional measure, an extra Plenary during the current year to further discuss and decide on these issues.</p> <p>Some NRAs considered the possibility of approaching different interlocutors regarding the funding of EMERG activities, namely EBDR (which is actually interested in supporting some reports in the Mediterranean area). Also, some NRAs gave the example of other regional regulators networks, such as FRATEL and ARGNET, but stressing that it is important to keep in mind that different networks have different objectives and achievements.</p> <p>The idea of having stakeholders or OTTs joining or funding EMERG also made some NRAs uncomfortable, fearing for EMERG's independence.</p>



	Nevertheless, at this point, all NRAs and the NATP3 team considered the European Commission's support to EMERG to be crucial, so that this unique network remains sustainable, fostering common goals and sharing best practices, at a multilateral level. In fact, the key driver now is that EC considers EMERG to be important, recognizing the role that EMERG may play in a broader context of a political context. The European Commission stated that the Mediterranean region is important for the EU and that now is the key opportunity for lobbying for EMERG. From EC's side, it will keep EMERG informed on the developments that may occur regarding EMERG. But it also concluded that it is important that EMERG reacts promptly when the time comes (in the event more funds are provided by EC, EMERG must have a clear idea of how to make use of it).
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information. The Plenary decided that, in the near future, it will be important to hold an extraordinary meeting to decide on these issues. Nevertheless, the outputs of the debate clearly indicate that financial contributions/quotas by EMERG's members should not be relied upon, but that all are committed to pay the costs of participating in the scheduled meetings. Furthermore, a plan must be prepared to deal with the possibility of extra funding from the EC and the fostered cooperation that is now being built with BEREC should also be considered. The Chair and the Permanent Secretariat will work closely with the European Commission on any developments regarding EMERG, namely the possible ICT senior officials meeting that EC intends to organize for the South Mediterranean region.

#### 9. 2012 EMERG BENCHMARKING REPORT

Title	Draft 2012 EMERG Benchmarking Report ( <i>NATP3</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 05
Information presented	The NATP3 team presented the 2012 benchmarking report, stressing the fact that this report was a result of an interactive input from the participating members of EMERG. It informed that the presented outputs are inconclusive due to the fact that some NRAs didn't answer the base questionnaire and that some answers were somehow vague, preventing a full perspective on some countries.
Discussion	There were no comments to the document.
Conclusions	The Plenary approved the report for publication in the website.

#### 10. 2013 EMERG WORK PROGRAMME

Title	Draft 2013 EMERG Work Programme ( <i>NATP3/ANACOM</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 06
Information presented	The Chair co-presented the Work Programme for 2013 with the NATP3 team leader. This year the presented document was based on a new structure which clearly sets out the three main objectives of EMERG for 2013: enhancing approximation, increasing regulatory cooperation and strengthening EMERG sustainability. This document was also drafted considering that there are events that should be considered in advance (as the 2013 Plenary, the 2013 CN meeting and six workshops) but some news at the level of workshops were also stressed (one of which is supposed to be jointly organized with BEREC and other one is supposed to include the participation of stakeholders and/or OTTs). In addition, it was referred that there are two types of workshops. On the one hand, there are workshops that aim at enhancing cooperation, by achieving agreements

	and/or decisions to amend the legal or regulatory frameworks of the participating members as necessary. This will align current best practice in the region. On the other hand, there are workshops that aim at improving regulatory cooperation, though the sharing of knowledge between experts with experience in the day to day handling of certain subjects and experts seeking to acquire the same experience and skills.
Discussion	<p>The EC informed that, within these workshops' activity, it must be considered that, due to the results of the WCIT, the future perspectives for both sides of the Mediterranean will be different. Thus, the expert groups should consider having an exploratory debate on the consequences of this new international framework.</p> <p>The Chair also proposed to include a new point dealing with a new task for the rapporteurs of the workshops, who must also assure the follow up of the agreed recommendations to each workshop.</p> <p>To the question from some NRAs on how this follow up should be made, the Chair clarified that the rapporteur must only collect info from NRAs on how the recommendations are being put into practice and include that information on the report made within the Workshop Expert Group to be presented to the Plenary.</p>
Conclusions	The Plenary approved the 2013 EMERG Work Programme for publication in the website.

## 11. BROADBAND QUALITY MEASUREMENTS

Title	Broadband quality measurements (EETT)
Document	No document.
Information presented	EETT provided information on a tool for broadband quality measurements in fixed locations, called HYPERION. This tool provides data on the quality of service used by individual users as well as reports speeds of nearby users.
Discussion	Some NRAs presented their own experiences on this kind of measurement tools, questioning about the importance of establishing a guaranteed minimum speed as opposed to the maximum speed that is effectively set in the contract between the user and the service provider. The different market reactions (operators and service providers) to these tools were also referred as well as the fact that there are some NRAs devoid of powers at the level of end-user protection.
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information.

## 12. EMERG PERMANENT SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES

### 12.1 EMERG | NATP 3 INTERNAL PROCEDURES FOR 2013

Title	Draft EMERG   NATP 3 Internal procedures for 2013 ( <i>ANACOM</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 03 EMERG (13) 03 Annex I EMERG (13) 03 Annex II EMERG (13) 03 Annex III
Information presented	The Chair provided information on the provisions of the EMERG   NATP 3 Internal procedures for 2013, the roles assigned to each activity at a practical level, namely as regards the organisation of the different events (Plenary, CN meeting and workshops), as well as the publication of contents on the website and in the newsletter. This document shall prevail only until February 2014, when the NATP 3 program expires.

Discussions	There were no comments to the presented documents.
Conclusions	The Plenary approved the documents for internal use.

## 12.2 EMERG INTERNAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Title	Information on EMERG internal management issues ( <i>ANACOM/CMT/TRA/NTRA</i> )
Document	EMERG (13) 02 ( <i>Heads and CN contact list</i> )
Information presented	On EMERG's internal management issues, the different members from the Permanent Secretariat provided information on the EMERG logo, website, documents registration, CN questionnaires, EMERG newsletter and contact lists.
Discussion	<p>Regarding the EMERG logo, the two options previously chosen and discussed at the CN were presented and voted by the Plenary (by secret vote). The chosen logo (option A) will be adapted to be used at the website and in documents distributed at meetings.</p> <p>On the publication of contents on the website, there was not much feedback from NRAs and so members were requested to create a link on their websites to the EMERG website and to cooperate with the Permanent Secretariat when they are requested to send content on each NRA's news.</p> <p>The first edition of the EMERG newsletter (<a href="http://www.emergonline.org/Headlines-Netherlands/emerg-newsletter">http://www.emergonline.org/Headlines-Netherlands/emerg-newsletter</a>) was also presented, which will be published twice a year. The workshop rapporteurs must cooperate with TRA (the NRA responsible for the newsletter) by sending the brief description on the workshops as well as some pictures on the subject.</p> <p>Members were also encouraged to use the CN contact list to send questionnaires from now on, as in 2012 questionnaires were not delivered to all members.</p> <p>The Plenary was also informed about the two document reference lists that were created in order to give a reference to each document presented to the CN [EMERG CN (YEAR) XX] and the Plenary [EMERG (YEAR) XX], so it may be easier to identify each document presented in all meetings.</p>
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information.

## 13. NEXT MEETINGS

### 13.1 SENIOR OFFICIAL MEETING

Title	Senior Official meeting ( <i>European Commission</i> )
Document	No document.
Information presented	The European Commission provided information on the possible senior official meeting, to be organized by the EC and expected to take place during the first semester of 2013, in a place yet to be defined. Further, the European Commission stressed the importance of an opportunity such as this one, which brings together representatives from both ministries and NRAs, discussing present issues on the ICT agenda for both sides of the Mediterranean. This will also be an appropriate moment to discuss EMERG's possible role in the region. The EC representatives requested EMERG to commit itself to the success of this event given that, in a way, it represents a positive sign from the EU towards the EMERG scope area. Moreover, EC also informed that EMERG members will be welcomed at the two workshops that are being organized by EC, during 2013, concerning the Mediterranean region, on e-health and e-signature.

Discussion	The Permanent Secretariat will be in close contact with EC in order to participate in the organization of this senior official meeting. There were no further comments.
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information.

### 13.2 EMERG MEETINGS

Title	Information on the next CN meeting and workshops ( <i>ANACOM</i> )
Document	No document.
Information presented	The Chair informed that the next regular CN (Q4'2013) and Plenary (Q1'2014) meetings will take place in the vice-Chair's country and will be hosted by the NRA acting as vice-Chair. The timetable of the 2013 workshops shall be decided, according to each NRA's availability to host them. The Chair and the NATP3 team will inform EMERG members accordingly.
Discussion	The Chair further indicated that an extraordinary Plenary meeting may be required, given EMERG's (near) future, but members will be informed as soon as there is any development on this.
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the information and agreed on the provided elements.

### 14. AOB

Title	Information on any other business
Document	No document.
Information presented	The Chair informed on the list of documents to be published at EMERG's website: 2012 benchmark report [EMERG (13) 05]; 2013 working programme [EMERG (13) 06]; 2012 annual report [EMERG (13) 07]; and the redrafted EMERG Charter [EMERG (13) 09 Annex I].
Discussion	There were no further comments, apart from the request from some NRAs to be allowed more time to confirm the disclosure of the benchmarking report data. The NATP3 team leader called the members' attention to the fact that this report has a disclaimer at the first page preventing any abuse regarding the use of the information contained in it.
Conclusions	The Plenary took note of the provided information.