



Newsletter

Telecommunications and Post Caribisch Nederland

2nd edition, December 2016

Dear reader,

Through this newsletter, the Radiocommunications Agency Netherlands (RA) and the Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) provide the residents of the Dutch Caribbean and the parties in the telecommunications and postal market with information about important developments in the sector. This is the second Newsletter of 2016.

Since the change of Bonaire, Saba and Sint Eustatius into "special municipalities" of the Netherlands (Dutch Caribbean), as per 10 October 2010, RA and ACM have been in charge of executing and supervising the compliance of, among other things, the Telecommunications Act BES and the Postal Act BES.

In view of this transition a covenant was signed with Bureau Telecommunicatie en Post (BT&P), in order to exercise these tasks and responsibilities adequately. BT&P up to that moment had been responsible for the execution and supervision for telecommunications and post in the Antilles.

Aside from its own tasks for Curacao, BT&P since then has taken on the execution and supervision tasks on the BES islands under responsibility of RA and ACM.

Change in collaboration between RA and BT&P as per 1 January 2017

The covenant expires this year on 31 December. Because RA has acquired extensive experience in the local situation, as of 1 January 2017, it will undertake the tasks itself again. This means that from that moment on the Bonaire office including the monitoring station will transfer to RA. Current employees will then also be employed by the Government of the Netherlands.

As of 1 January 2017 you can still visit our office at Kaya Grandi 69 on Bonaire. All activities will carry on as usual, only will the employees be supported from the Netherlands in financial, legal and policy matters, instead of Curaçao.

A summary of what the employees on Bonaire can assist you with:

- Applications for authorization for frequency use



- Information about which radio equipment is excluded from the authorization requirement and which is not
- Information about the import of radio equipment (Customs)
- Complaints regarding interference on or by radio equipment
- Complaints regarding the quality of service of telecom providers

RA has established formal arrangements with BT&P to ensure a smooth transition to the new situation. Both parties will do their utmost to prevent any inconveniences for you.

Future collaboration

The transition does not mean that all collaboration will have come to an end. After 1 January 2017 RA and BT&P will also collaborate on specific areas. This includes among other things support in the event of disasters and having a fall back function for RA. BT&P will also maintain its role in the international harmonization of frequency use in the region and representing the interests of the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands during international conferences regarding radio frequencies.

Additionally the collaboration will concern knowledge sharing and development, including traineeships and collaboration in the development of policy and regulation.

Termination service provision BT&P to ACM as per 1 January 2017

As of 1 January 2017 BT&P will no longer be undertaking the tasks of ACM. ACM will also be taking on the supervision of the Dutch Caribbean itself.

ACM will continue to monitor:

- Telecommunications
 - The compliance with the concession conditions by telecom companies and the dispute of settlements between telecom providers;
 - The construction, maintenance and clearance of telecommunications infrastructure (right of way);
 - The use of numbers.

- Post
 - The compliance with rules that apply to the postal market.

Contact?

Until 1 January 2017 applications, questions, complaints, recommendations and all other correspondence may be sent to the office address of Bureau Telecommunicatie en Post on Bonaire or be sent by e-mail to bonaire@burtel.cw:

Radiocommunications Agency Netherlands
Attention mr. B.T. van Duijvenvoorde

Or

Authority Consumers & Markets
Attention mr. drs. J.G.J. Keetelaar

Address: Kaya Grandi 69
P.O. Box 791
Kralendijk, Bonaire
Dutch Caribbean
Tel.: (+599) 717-3140
Fax: (+599) 717-3554

This business address for RA and ACM will remain unchanged.

New e-mail address

As of 1 January 2017 the new contact email address for the office on Bonaire can be used bes@agentschaptelecom.nl

For relevant news regarding the telecommunications and postal sector on the BES islands you can consult the website of RA or ACM:

RA:
<http://www.agentschaptelecom.nl>

ACM:
<https://www.acm.nl/nl/onderwerpen/acm-op-bonaire-sint-eustatius-en-saba/>

Concession and license holders and other parties in both sectors will be informed accordingly.