

INDIREG

FINAL REPORT – ANNEX

Indicators for independence and efficient functioning of audiovisual media services regulatory bodies for the purpose of enforcing the rules in the AVMS Directive” (SMART 2009/0001)

Annex II – Country Tables – Latvia

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Table 1 - Market data

This table is aimed at gathering information on the number of audiovisual media services that are supervised in the country.

Country	Number of linear commercial services	Number of non-linear commercial services	Number of public service channels (PSBs)
Latvia	30 Operated by 3 national television broadcasters (LNT, TV3 and Pro100TV), 8 satellite channels, 2 terrestrial channels, regional and local television channels.	0	2

Table 2 - Audiovisual laws and regulatory bodies

This table lists the regulatory bodies in charge of overseeing the areas covered by the Audiovisual Media Services (AVMS) Directive, in relation to commercial linear television, non-linear audiovisual media services and public service broadcasters (PSBs). It also lists the relevant laws.

Country	Areas	Main laws	Regulatory body in charge of commercial television	Regulatory body in charge of non-linear commercial media services	Regulatory body in charge of PSB
Latvia	Information requirements (art. 5 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc	National Broadcasting Council	N/A	National Broadcasting Council
	Audiovisual commercial communication, sponsorship, product placement (Art. 9 – 11 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc	National Broadcasting Council	N/A	National Broadcasting Council
	Accessibility to people with a disability (Art. 7 AVMS Directive)	Not yet transposed	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Broadcasting of major events (Art. 14 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc	National Broadcasting Council	N/A	National Broadcasting Council
	Access to short news	Not implemented	N/A	N/A	N/A

Country	Areas	Main laws	Regulatory body in charge of commercial television	Regulatory body in charge of non-linear commercial media services	Regulatory body in charge of PSB
	reports (Article 15 AVMS Directive)				
	Promotion of European works (Art. 13, 16, 17 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc	National Broadcasting Council	N/A	National Broadcasting Council
	Hate speech (Art. 12 and 6 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc			
	Television advertising and teleshopping, (Art. 19 – 26 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc			
	Protection of minors (Art. 27 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc			
	Right of reply (Art. 28 AVMS Directive)	Radio and Television Law 8 September 1995 www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc			
	Communication and cooperation with other European regulation bodies and the Commission (Art. 30 AVMS Directive)	Not yet implemented	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 3 - Regulatory bodies – general information

This table provides basic information on the regulatory authority (name, website address, date of establishment and location).

Country	Name of regulatory body	Link to website	Date of establishment	Location
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	www.nrtp.lv	1995	Riga

Table 4 - Sectors covered

This table provides an overview of the areas that are covered by the regulatory authority.

Country	Body	Audiovisual content (radio/TV, on demand media services)	Transmission aspects of audiovisual content (e.g. spectrum)	Distribution aspects of audiovisual content (e.g. must carry, EPG, API)	Spectrum	Electronic communications (networks and services in general)	Others (e.g. energy, post)
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No

Table 5 - Staff and overall budget

This table provides an overview of the staff and overall budget of the regulatory authority. The figures are given for the areas covered by the AVMS directive (where possible) for regulators with a broader area of responsibility.

Country	Body	Total number of staff foreseen in statutes/law	Current staff count	Annual budget (€m) foreseen in statutes/law	Current annual budget	Reference year +source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Not stipulated	16	Not stipulated	€332,000	2010 National Broadcasting Council

II. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Table 6 - Legislation establishing and governing the regulatory body

This table shows the legislation setting up and governing the regulatory authority.

Country	Body	Legislation setting-up the regulatory body	Governing legislation
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Radio and Television Law (1995)	Radio and Television Law (1995)

Table 7 - Legal status

This table provides information on the legal status taken by the regulatory authority.

Country	Body	What form does it take?	It is a separate legal entity?	If it is not a separate legal entity, it is part of:	Specific organisational characteristics	Source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Independent legal entity	Yes			

Table 8 - Independence as a value

This table is intended to capture whether independence of the regulatory body is explicitly or implicitly recognised as a value in the legal framework.

Country	Body	Is independence implicitly or explicitly recognised as a value in the legal framework?		Source (highest formal legal level)
		No	Yes	
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council		✓	Constitutional Court judgement of 16.10.2006 in Case No. 2006-05-01

III. POWERS OF THE REGULATORY BODIES

Table 9 - Regulatory powers

This table is aimed at understanding the types of decisions that can be taken by the regulatory body.

We have distinguished from a theoretical point of view, between:

- general policy setting powers, i.e. the power to decide on the general orientation of the rules to be followed (for instance the power to decide on the amount of quotas)
- general policy implementing powers, i.e. once the general policy has been adopted, to specify by means of general or abstract rules how this general policy will be implemented (for example to decide in general terms (not connected to a specific case) how the quotas should be applied and monitored)
- third party binding policy application powers, i.e. the power to take in a specific case a decision binding on specific operators

Country	Body		General policy setting	General policy implementing powers	Third party decision making powers
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Tick boxes	√	√	√
		Areas	Overall development of the electronic media market; interpretation of advertising & sponsorship rules, European works rules, language quotas. Determination of the public service remit	Licence allocation via tendering process, supervision of compliance with rules and adherence to programme format	Allocation of licences to promote a balanced market and prevention of monopolisation Supervision of compliance with rules, broadcasters to supply information according to regulators' rules i.e. ex-post regulation. As trustees of the PSBs the NBC appoints the directors general and approves appointments to their boards.
		Source	General act Radio and Television Law	Tender rules (conditions of licence), Radio and Television Law	General act Radio and Television Law

Table 10 - Supervision and monitoring power

This table is aimed at understanding the supervision/monitoring/information gathering powers of the regulatory body.

Country	Body	Areas	Systematic monitoring	Ad-hoc monitoring	Information collection powers	Monitoring only after complaints	Others	Source (legislation, or practice)
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Quotas	√	√	√			Radio and television law
		Advertising	√	√	√			Radio and television law
		Protection of minors	√	√	√			Radio and television law

Table 11 - Powers of sanctions

This table provides an overview of the sanctions that can be adopted by the regulatory body in case of breach of the rules implementing the AVMS Directive on quotas, advertising and protection of minors.

Country	Body	Areas	Warnings/formal objections	Fine (lump sum) If so, list maximum and minimum amounts	Publication of decisions in the media	Suspension/Revocation of licence	Penalty payments (in case of non compliance with decision)	Others
Latvia	National	Quotas	√	√ 1.41 – €3,533	√	√		

Country	Body	Areas	Warnings/formal objections	Fine (lump sum) If so, list maximum and minimum amounts	Publication of decisions in the media	Suspension/Revocation of licence	Penalty payments (in case of non compliance with decision)	Others
	Broadcasting Council		discretionary	discretionary	discretionary	discretionary		
		Advertising	√ discretionary	√ 1.41 – €14,132 discretionary	√ discretionary	√ discretionary		
		Protection of minors	√ discretionary	√ 1.41 – €3,533 discretionary	√ discretionary	√ discretionary		

Table 12 - De facto use of formally granted competences and monitoring powers

This table shows whether the regulatory body has made use of its formally granted powers in the areas covered by the AVMS Directive within the past 5 years.

Country	Body	Policy setting	General policy implementing powers	Specific rule making	Systematic monitoring	Ad-hoc monitoring	Information collection powers	Monitoring after complaints
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	√	√	√	√ In 2009 the Council's monitoring centre (2 people) analysed 1929 hours of TV and 579 hours of radio broadcasts and produced. 144 reports.	√	√	√ The Council is free to monitor as it sees fit. This does not require any special powers.

Table 13 - De facto use of formally granted sanction powers

This table shows whether the regulatory body has made use of its formally granted sanction powers within the past 5 years.

Country	Body	Warnings	Fine (lump sum)	Publication of decisions in television programmes/on demand services	Suspension/Revocation of licence	Penalty payments (in case of non compliance with decision)
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	√ 7 in 2009	√ 10 in 2009	No cases	√ One radio station had its licence suspended in 2005 for 3 days for surreptitious political advertising	N/A

Table 14 - Complaints handling

This table shows whether there are procedures for dealing with complaints coming from viewers against conduct of audiovisual media service providers. Briefly explain them.

Country	Body	Do complaints handling procedures exist?	Link to website
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Yes, but they are not specific. On receipt of complaint a recording of the relevant broadcast is requested from the provider and analysed for violations. A decision is then taken by the Council.	

IV. INTERNAL ORGANISATION AND STAFFING

Table 15 - Highest decision-making organ – composition

This table shows whether the highest decision-making organ of the regulatory body/bodies (i.e. the organ responsible for regulatory tasks, namely supervision and enforcement) is an individual or a board/commission and if it is a board/commission, who are its relevant representative components

Representation does not necessarily mean formal representation of that group. It can mean that the board member is expected to emanate from that group, but does not have to formally represent it during the mandate.

Country	Body	Individual or Board	Legal requirements regarding composition of highest decision-making organ							Implicit representation structures?	Source
			Number of Board members	Representatives of civil society	Representatives of government	Representatives of parliament	Representatives of industry	Experts	Others (e.g. regions)		
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Board	6 Were 9 up to	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	

Country	Body	Individual or Board	Legal requirements regarding composition of highest decision-making organ							Implicit representation structures?	Source
			Number of Board members	Representatives of civil society	Representatives of government	Representatives of parliament	Representatives of industry	Experts	Others (e.g. regions)		
			October 2009. Law amended to 5 because of crisis but 1 member allowed to remain until end of term.								

Table 16 - Highest decision-making organ – competences and decision-making process and transparency

This table shows the main fields of responsibility of the highest decision-making organ of the regulatory body as well as its decision-making process (in particular its transparency and whether minutes and agendas are published).

Country	Body	Competences	Decision-making process	Is the decision making process transparent?	Minutes and agendas published?
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustee of the PSBs (budgetary control, appoints DGs & approves board appointments, determines the public service remit) Allocation of broadcasting licences Content monitoring Examination of 	<p>Decisions taken by majority vote (chair has casting vote). Quorum – more than half the members present (i.e. 4) (Art. 49 Radio & TV law) but a decision to dismiss a DG of a PSB requires 2/3 majority (Art. 59.6) which would be 4. This is a leftover from when the Council had 9 members. www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc</p>	<p>Decision making not envisaged as open but many decisions are taken in the presence of interested parties (e.g. decisions on licence allocations taken in presence of tender participants, decisions on sanctions often taken in presence of violators). All Council decisions are</p>	<p>Minutes not published Agendas published www.nrtp.lv/lv/padome/aktualitates/sezu-darba-kartiba/ Press release after every Council meeting www.nrtp.lv/lv/padome/medijiem/preses-relizes/</p>

Country	Body	Competences	Decision-making process	Is the decision making process transparent?	Minutes and agendas published?
		complaints <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioning Participation in legislative process <p>The Council determines its internal organisation and procedures as well as the recruitment/dismissal of staff.</p>		published on its website. In addition, those concerning allocation of licences through a tendering process are also published in the official gazette, a national newspaper and local newspaper where appropriate. Appointment of PSB DGs includes public consultation .	

Table 17 - Highest decision-making organ – appointment process

This table shows whether there are several stages in the appointment process of the chairman and members of the highest decision-making organ of the regulatory body, for the nomination and appointment phases respectively. It also shows who is involved in each of these two stages (government, minister, parliament, civil society, religious groups, political parties, board members, board chairman, others) and whether the appointer(s) can override the proposals made at the nomination stage.

Country	Body		Nomination stage Yes – No	Nomination stage Specify who is involved in that stage and who has the decisive say	Appointment stage Specify who is involved in that stage and who has the decisive say	If there are two stages, can the appointer ignore the nominations?	Source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Chairman	No	n/a	Board members elect their own chair and vice-chair by secret ballot	n/a	Radio and TV law
		Board members	Yes	Candidates must be nominated by at least 5	Parliament	No	Radio and TV law

Country	Body		Nomination stage Yes – No	Nomination stage Specify who is involved in that stage and who has the decisive say	Appointment stage Specify who is involved in that stage and who has the decisive say	If there are two stages, can the appointer ignore the nominations?	Source
				MEPs. The parliamentary commission on human rights and public affairs interviews nominees and expresses its opinion to parliament.			

Table 18 - Term of office and renewal

This table shows the term of office of the chairman and members of the highest decision-making organ of the regulatory body and whether the term is staggered not to coincide with election cycles. It also indicates if appointment is renewable and for how many times.

Country	Body		Term of office	Is the term staggered not to coincide with election cycle?	Renewal possible? If so, state how many times	Source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Chairman of the board	4	Yes	1	Radio & TV law
		Board members	4	Yes	1	Radio & TV law

Table 19 - Professional expertise/qualifications

This table illustrates the qualifications and professional expertise required to become a chairman or member of the highest decision making organ of the regulatory body.

Country	Body		Qualifications	Professional expertise	Source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Chairman of the board	None	None	Radio and Television law does not mention any such requirements
		Board members	None	None	Radio and Television law does not mention any such requirements

Table 20 - Rules to guard against conflicts of interest – Appointment process

This table shows whether there are clear rules, in the appointment process of the chairman and members of the highest decision-making organ of the regulatory body, to avoid possible conflicts of interest.

Country	Body		Do such rules exist?		Rules to prevent conflicts of interest with government	Rules to prevent conflicts of interest with political parties	Rules to prevent conflicts of interest with industry	Can other offices be held at the same time?	Others (e.g. obligation to disclose participations in companies)	Source
			Yes	No						
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Chairman		No						
		Board members		No						
		Senior staff		No						

Table 21 - Rules to guard against conflicts of interest – during term of office

This table shows whether there are rules to avoid conflicts of interest during the term of office.

Country	Body		Do such rules exist?		Rules to prevent conflicts of interest with government	Rules to prevent conflicts of interest with political parties	Rules to prevent conflicts of interest with industry	Source
			Yes	No				
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Chairman	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Art 43 Radio & TV law www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc Art. 7.3 Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/On_Prevention_of_Conflict_of_Interest_in_Activities_of_Public_Officials.doc
		Board members	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Art. 43 Radio & TV law www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc Art. 7(3) Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/On_Prevention_of_Conflict_of_Interest_in_Activities_of_Public_Officials.doc
		Senior staff	Yes		No	No	Yes	All staff bound by Art. 47 of Radio & TV law www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/Radio_and_TV_law.doc

Table 22 - Rules to guard against conflicts of interest – after term of office

This table shows whether there are clear rules to avoid conflicts of interest after the term of office.

Country	Body		Do such rules exist?		Is a cooling-off period foreseen?	Source
			Yes	No		
Latvia		Chairman	Yes		Yes, for 2 years	Art. 10(7) Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/

Country	Body		Do such rules exist?		Is a cooling-off period foreseen?	Source
			Yes	No		
						On_Prevention_of_Conflict_of_Interest_in_Activities_of_Public_Officials.doc
		Board members	Yes		Yes, for 2 years	Art. 10(7) Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials /www.ttc.lv/export/sites/default/docs/LRTA/Likumi/On_Prevention_of_Conflict_of_Interest_in_Activities_of_Public_Officials.doc
		Senior Staff		No		

Table 23 - Rules to protect against dismissal

This table shows the rules to protect against dismissal of the whole decision making organ, the chairman and individual members of the highest decision-making organ of the regulatory body. Please add any other comments in the row below.

Country	Body		Do such rules exist?		Who can dismiss? Specify who is involved in that stage and who has the decisive say	Grounds for dismissal listed in legal instrument?	Can the whole body be dismissed or only individual members?	Source
			Yes	No				
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Chairman	Yes		Parliament	Yes, incompatibility, criminal offence, unjustified non-attendance of meetings.	Only individual members	
		Individual board members	Yes		Parliament	Yes, incompatibility, criminal offence, unjustified non-attendance of meetings.		Art.44(4) Radio & TV law

Table 24 - Dismissal before term

This table shows available statistics on dismissal before term in the last 5 years as well as the reasons for this dismissal.

Country	Body	Year		Dismissal before term		Reasons	Comment
				Yes	No		
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	2005-2009	Chairman		No		
			Individual board members		No		

V. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Table 25 - Sources of income

This table shows the sources of income of the regulatory authority.

Country	Body	End-user broadcasting licence fees (max level)	State budget	Spectrum fees	Authorisation/licence fees paid by broadcasters	Fines	Other fees, e.g., 'market surveillance fee' based on % of revenues of broadcasters (or other operators – e.g. in case of converged regulators)	Source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	No	State funding 96.2%	No	No	No	3.8% from tender applications to cover admin. Costs. The Council sets the fees to cover costs of publication and other expenses.	Latvijas Vestnesis (official gazette) www.lv.lv State Audit Office www.lrvk.gov.lv

Table 26 - Annual budget

This table shows who decides on the annual budget of the regulatory body and decides on adjustments to it as well as the extent to which the regulatory body is involved in these processes.

Country	Body	Who decides the annual budget?	Is the regulator involved in the process?	Rules on budget adjustment – who is involved in the process (e.g. parliament, government and/or industry) ?	De facto influence of third parties on budget amounts	Source
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Government decides on annual budget. Parliament votes.	Yes. The Council submits annual budget request and argues its case.	Government decides on budget adjustments. Parliament votes.	No evidence	Law on Radio & Television

Table 27 - Financial accountability – auditing

This table shows if the regulatory authority is subject to periodic financial auditing.

Country	Body	Is the regulatory body subject to periodic external auditing?					
		Yes/no	Periodicity	By national (state) audit office, etc.	Private audit firm	Other	Legal basis
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Yes	Annual	Yes State Audit Office	No	No	Law on the State Audit Office

VI. CHECKS AND BALANCES

Table 28 - Formal accountability

This table shows to whom the regulatory body is accountable to and through which means (e.g. reports, parliamentary questions).

Country	Body	Body accountable to		Accountability means	Legal basis
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Parliament	No	N/A	N/A
		Government as a whole	No	N/A	N/A
		Specific ministers (e.g. Media, finance, etc.)	No	N/A	N/A
		Public at large	No	N/A	N/A
		Other	Yes	Annual report submitted to State Audit Office and later published on website www.lrvk.gov.lv and in official gazette (Latvijas Vestnesis) www.lv.lv	Radio and TV law

Table 29 - Reporting obligation

This table is aimed at understanding the scope of the reporting obligation.

Country	Body	Report submitted to	Periodicity	Scope	Does statistical data need to be provided about own performance? Explain	Approval necessary?	Has a report been disapproved ?	Link
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	State Audit Office	Annual	Financial – i.e. use of state subsidy and overall performance but not linked to specific indicators.	Yes Monitoring performance, licences issued, sanctions applied, international cooperation	Yes	No	www.lrvk.gov.lv

Table 30 - Auditing of work undertaken

This table shows if the regulatory body is subject to periodic external auditing, either by a private or a national audit office.

Country	Body	Is body subject to periodic external auditing					
		Yes/no	Periodicity	By public authority	By private authority	Other	Legal basis
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Yes (as in Table 27)	Annual	Yes State Audit Office	No	No	Law on the State Audit Office

Table 31 - Power to overturn/instruct

This table shows if (regardless of an appeal lodged against a decision) any other body can overturn the decisions of the regulator or give it instructions.

Country	Body			Ministry/Minister	Government	Parliament	Other	Source	
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Does anybody have the power to overturn decisions of the regulator?	No	No	No	No	No	Radio & TV law	
		Does anybody have the power to give instructions to the regulatory body?	No	No	No	No	No	Radio & TV law	
		Are there limitations in the power to overturn (e.g. limited to legal supervision, which would exclude political supervision) ?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Are there limitations in the power to give instructions (e.g. limited to legal instructions which exclude	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Country	Body			Ministry/Minister	Government	Parliament	Other	Source
		instructions on political grounds)?						

Table 32 - Number of stages in appeal procedure

The following tables are concerned with the appeal procedure relating to decisions taken in relation to the enforcement of the rules listed in the AVMS directive (eg. non-compliance with quota requirements if binding, advertising, protection of minors, etc.). The stages include the internal stages.

Country	Body	Stage	Number of stages in appeal procedure and appeal body at each stage		Do internal procedures need to be followed before external recourse?	Who has the right to lodge an appeal?	Legal basis
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	External	1	Court of First Instance	No	Those directly affected by a Council decision	Radio & TV law
			2	Appeal Court			
			3	Court of Cassation			

Table 33 - Does the regulator's decision stand pending appeal?

Country	Body	Does regulator decision stand pending appeal body decision?			
		Yes	No	Yes, unless appeal body suspends it	Other
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council		√		N/A

Table 34 - Accepted grounds for appeal

Country	Body	Errors of fact	Errors of law (including failure to follow the due process)	Full re-examination	Other
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	√	√		N/A

Table 35 - Does the appeal body have power to replace the original decision with its own?

Country	Body	Appeal stage	Yes	No	Comments
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	1 Court of First Instance	√		Appeal bodies have the power to cancel the decision and remit it back to regulator for new decision but it could also reduce a fine. In the case of licence applications they could not instruct the Council to award a licence to another applicant or to appoint a different Director General of a PSB.
		2 Appeal Court	√		
		3 Court of Cassation	√		

VII. PROCEDURAL LEGITIMACY

Table 36 - External advice regarding regulatory matters

This table shows if the regulatory body is able to take outside advice regarding regulatory questions.

Country	Body	Is a budget foreseen for outside advice?	If so, what is the budget/year?	Must the body respect public tender procedures?	Other requirements	Does the regulatory body de facto take external advice on a regular basis?
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	No	-	Yes	-	Yes, if the situation calls for particular expertise and if funds are available.

Table 37 - Public consultations

This table shows if the regulatory authority is required to publish public consultations.

Country	Body	Which decisions require prior public consultation?	Requirements on who must be consulted? (e.g. broadcasters, consumer organisations, academics etc.)	Consultation period	Consultation responses published		Legal basis
					Full responses (if authorised by contributor)	Summaries prepared by regulator	
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Defining service remit of PSBs	Listeners & viewers	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Radio and TV law

Table 38 - Public consultations – figures

This table shows the number of public consultations that were organised by the regulatory body in the past five years, in the areas covered by the AVMS Directive.

Country	Body	Year	Number of public consultations
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	2009	1

Table 39 - Publication of regulator's decisions

This table shows if the regulatory authority is required to publish its decisions, if its decisions need to be motivated and if impact assessments are required.

Country	Body	Which decisions required by law to be published?	Obligation to motivate decisions? Legal basis?	Obligation to include/publish impact assessment? Legal basis?	
				Ex ante	Ex post
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Licence awards, revocation of licence	Yes, Law on Administrative Violations Procedure	No	No

VIII. COOPERATION

Table 40 - Cooperation with other regulatory authorities

Country	Body	Describe the mechanism of cooperation with other bodies	Source and form of cooperation	Can body receive instructions from other bodies? If so, state which and explain	Comments
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Consultation	Ad-hoc	No	Most commonly to agree on Latvia's position with regard to proposed EU instruments and Council of Europe recommendations.

Table 41 - International cooperation

Country	Body	Does it cooperate with other national regulatory bodies in EU and international fora?	Source and form of cooperation (legal basis)	Comments
Latvia	National Broadcasting Council	Yes	EPRA – Radio and TV law AVMS Contact Committee (TWF and now AVMS Directive) Council of Europe CDMC and TT-T (Convention)	Tripartite cooperation agreement with Estonian and Lithuanian regulators