

OPEN JOINT STOCK CO VIMPEL COMMUNICATIONS
Form SC 13D/A
March 12, 2009

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
SCHEDULE 13D**

**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No. 49)***

OPEN JOINT STOCK COMPANY VIMPEL-COMMUNICATIONS

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, 0.005 rubles nominal value

(Title of Class of Securities)

68370R 10 9

(CUSIP Number)

Bjørn Hogstad

Telenor ASA

Snarøyveien 30

N-1331 Fornebu, Norway

47-97-77-8806

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person
Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

March 12, 2009

(Date of Event which Requires Filing
of this Statement)

Copy to:

Peter O Driscoll

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe

Tower 42, Level 35

25 Old Broad Street

London EC2N 1HQ

England

44-20-7562-5000

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition which is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of §§ 240.13d-1(e) or 240.13d-1(f) or 240.13d-1(g), check the following box.

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See § 240.13d-7 for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

*The remainder of this cover page will be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange of 1934 (the Act) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

CUSIP No. 68370R 10 9

1. Name of Reporting Person: Telenor East Invest AS
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only): 000-00-0000

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions):

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only:

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions):
WC

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e):
N/A

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization:
Norway

7. Sole Voting Power:
17,254,579⁽¹⁾

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

8. Shared Voting Power:
-0-

9. Sole Dispositive Power:
17,254,579⁽¹⁾

10. Shared Dispositive Power:
-0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person:
17,254,579⁽¹⁾

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions):
o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11):
33.6% of the outstanding Common Stock (29.9% of the outstanding voting capital stock)

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions):
CO

⁽¹⁾1,916,725 of such shares are represented by 38,334,500 American Depositary Receipts.

CUSIP No. 68370R 10 9

1. Name of Reporting Person: Telenor Mobile Holding AS
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only): 000-00-0000

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions):

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only:

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions):
N/A

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e):
N/A

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization:
Norway

7. Sole Voting Power:
17,254,579⁽²⁾

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

8. Shared Voting Power:
-0-

9. Sole Dispositive Power:
17,254,579⁽²⁾

10. Shared Dispositive Power:
-0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person:

17,254,579⁽²⁾

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions):

o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11):

33.6% of the outstanding Common Stock (29.9% of the outstanding voting capital stock)

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions):

CO

⁽²⁾1,916,725 of such shares are represented by 38,334,500 American Depositary Receipts. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of all shares and American Depositary Receipts.

CUSIP No. 68370R 10 9

1. Name of Reporting Person: Telenor ASA
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only): 000-00-0000

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions):

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only:

4. Source of Funds (See Instructions):
WC

5. Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings Is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e):
N/A

6. Citizenship or Place of Organization:
Norway

7. Sole Voting Power:
17,254,579⁽³⁾

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

8. Shared Voting Power:
-0-

9. Sole Dispositive Power:
17,254,579⁽³⁾

10. Shared Dispositive Power:
-0-

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person:
17,254,579⁽³⁾

12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions):
o

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11):
33.6% of the outstanding Common Stock (29.9% of the outstanding voting capital stock)

14. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions):
CO

⁽³⁾1,916,725 of such shares are represented by 38,334,500 American Depositary Receipts. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of all shares and American Depositary Receipts.

SCHEDULE 13D

Item 1. Security and Issuer

The statement on Schedule 13D relating to the common stock, 0.005 rubles nominal value (the Common Stock), of Open Joint Stock Company Vimpel-Communications, a Russian open joint stock company (VimpelCom), as previously jointly filed by Telenor East Invest AS, Telenor Mobile Holding AS and Telenor ASA (as amended by Amendment Nos. 1 through 48, the Statement), is hereby amended and supplemented with respect to the items set forth below.

Except as provided herein, this Amendment does not modify any of the information previously reported in the Statement.

Item 2. Identity and Background

This amendment to the Statement on Schedule 13D is being jointly filed by Telenor East Invest AS, Telenor Mobile Holding AS and Telenor ASA (collectively, the Reporting Persons).

TELENOR EAST INVEST AS

(a) Telenor East Invest AS, a corporation formed under the laws of Norway.

(b) Snarøyveien 30
N 1331 Fornebu
Norway

(c) Telenor East Invest AS is engaged principally in the business of investing in the telecommunications industry outside of Norway.

(d) During the last five years, Telenor East Invest AS has not been convicted in a criminal proceeding.

(e) During the last five years, Telenor East Invest AS was not a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body as a result of which Telenor East Invest AS was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF TELENOR EAST INVEST AS

(a), (b), (c) and (f) The following information sets forth the name, citizenship, business address and present principal occupation of each of the directors and executive officers of Telenor East Invest AS. Except as otherwise indicated, the business address of each of such persons is Telenor East Invest AS, c/o Telenor ASA, Snarøyveien 30, N-1331 Fornebu, Norway.

DIRECTORS OF TELENOR EAST INVEST AS

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Jan Edvard Thygesen (Nesbru, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Telenor in Eastern & Central Europe
Gunn Margrethe Ringøen (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Senior Business Manager of Telenor ASA
Bjørn Hogstad (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Attorney, Advokatene i Telenor

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF TELENOR EAST INVEST AS

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Gunn Margrethe Ringøen (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Senior Business Manager of Telenor ASA

(d) During the last five years, none of the above executive officers and directors of Telenor East Invest AS has been convicted in a criminal proceeding.

(e) During the last five years, none of the above executive officers and directors of Telenor East Invest AS was a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body as a result of which Telenor East Invest AS was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

TELENOR MOBILE HOLDING AS

(a) Telenor Mobile Holding AS, a corporation formed under the laws of Norway.

(b) Snarøyveien 30
N 1331 Fornebu
Norway

(c) Telenor Mobile Holding AS is engaged principally in the development of and investment in the field of telecommunications through direct and indirect ownership of companies and entering into agreements relating to telecommunications.

(d) During the last five years, Telenor Mobile Holding AS has not been convicted in a criminal proceeding.

(e) During the last five years, Telenor Mobile Holding AS was not a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body as a result of which Telenor Mobile Holding AS was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF TELENOR MOBILE HOLDING AS

(f) (a), (b), (c) and (f) The following information sets forth the name, citizenship, business address and present principal occupation of each of the directors and executive officers of Telenor Mobile Holding AS. The address of the directors and executive officers is Telenor Mobile Holding AS, c/o Telenor ASA, Snarøyveien 30, N 1331 Fornebu, Norway.

DIRECTORS OF TELENOR MOBILE HOLDING AS

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Jon Fredrik Baksaas (Sandvika, Norway)	Norway	President and Chief Executive Officer of Telenor ASA and Chairman of the Board of Telenor Mobile Holding AS
Trond Westlie (Bærum, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Telenor ASA
Jan Edvard Thygesen (Nesbru, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Telenor in Eastern & Central Europe
Berit Svendsen (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Morten Fallstein (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Employee Representative
Tore Haugland (Bergen, Norway)	Norway	Employee Representative
Sigurd Endre Kjosnes Hansen (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Employee Representative

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF TELENOR MOBILE HOLDING AS

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Trond Westlie (Bærum, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Telenor ASA
Jon Fredrik Baksaas (Sandvika, Norway)	Norway	President and Chief Executive Officer of Telenor ASA and Chairman of the Board of Telenor Mobile Holding AS

(d) During the last five years, none of the above executive officers and directors of Telenor Mobile Holding AS has been convicted in a criminal proceeding.

(e) During the last five years, none of the above executive officers and directors of Telenor Mobile Holding AS has been a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body as a result of which such executive officer or director was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

TELENOR ASA

(a) Telenor ASA, a corporation formed under the laws of Norway.

(b) Snarøyveien 30
N 1331 Fornebu
Norway

(c) Telenor ASA is engaged principally in the business of production and supply of services in the fields of telecommunications, data services and media distribution.

(d) During the last five years, Telenor ASA has not been convicted in a criminal proceeding.

(e) During the last five years, Telenor ASA was not a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body as a result of which Telenor ASA was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF TELENOR ASA

(a), (b), (c) and (f) The following information sets forth the name, citizenship, business address and present principal occupation of each of the directors and executive officers of Telenor ASA. Except as otherwise indicated, the business address of each of such persons is c/o Telenor ASA, Snarøyveien 30, N 1331 Fornebu, Norway.

DIRECTORS OF TELENOR ASA

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Harald Johan Norvik (Nesoddangen, Norway)	Norway	Strategic Advisor at Econ Pöyry; Chairman of the Boards of H.Aschehoug & Co and Midelfart Sonesson ASA; Member of the Boards of ConocoPhillips Company and Petroleum Geo-Services ASA; and Chairman of the Board of Telenor ASA
Bjørge Ven (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Partner, Haavind Vislie Law Firm; Deputy Chairman of the Board of Telenor ASA; and Member of the Boards of Orkla ASA and Vital Insurance AS
Kjersti Kleven (Ulsteinvik, Norway)	Norway	Joint-owner of John Kleven AS
Olav Volldal (Kongsberg, Norway)	Norway	Chief Executive Officer of Kongsberg Automotive Holding ASA; and Member of the Boards of Elopak AS, Cappelen Holding and NCE Kongsberg
John Giverholt (Asker, Norway)	Norway	Chief Financial Officer of Ferd AS

Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Paul Bergqvist (Vikbol, Sweden)	Sweden	Chairman of the Boards of Carlsberg Sweden, East Capital AD and Bryggareforeningen
Liselott Kilaas (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Managing Director of Aleris ASA; and Member of the Boards of the Central Bank of Norway, IM Skaugen AS and Adresseavisen
Dr. Burckhard Bergmann (Essen, Germany)	Germany	Vice President of E.ON Ruhrgas AG; Member of the Boards of Allianz Lebensversicherungs AG, MAN Ferrostaal AG, Gazprom, NordStream, E.ON Energie AG, Accumulatorenwerke Hoppecke and Jaeger Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH & Co KG
Bjørn Andre Anderssen (Gol, Norway)	Norway	Employee Representative
Harald Stavn (Kongsberg, Norway)	Norway	Employee Representative
May Krosby (Hagan, Norway)	Norway	Employee Representative
<u>EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF TELENOR ASA</u>		
Name and Business Address	Citizenship	Present Principal Occupation
Jon Fredrik Baksaas (Sandvika, Norway)	Norway	President and Chief Executive Officer of Telenor ASA and Chairman of the Board of Telenor Mobile Holding AS
Arve Johansen (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Senior Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Telenor in Asia; and Chief Executive Officer of Telenor Mobile Holding AS
Trond Westlie (Bærum, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Telenor ASA
Jan Edvard Thygesen (Nesbru, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Telenor in Eastern & Central Europe
	Norway	

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Stig Eide Sivertsen (Oslo, Norway)		Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Telenor Broadcast; Chief Executive Officer of Telenor Broadband Services AS; and Chairman of the Board of Canal Digital AS
Morten Karlsen Sørby (Hammaro, Sweden)	Norway	Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Telenor in the Nordic Region; and Head of Norwegian Market of Telenor ASA
Ragnar Korsæth (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President of Telenor ASA and Head of Global Coordination; and Chief Operating Officer of Telenor Mobile Communications AS
Bjørn Magnus Kopperud (Drammen, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President and Head of Human Resources of Telenor ASA
Hilde Tonne (Oslo, Norway)	Norway	Executive Vice President and Head of Group Communications of Telenor ASA

(d) During the last five years, none of the above executive officers and directors of Telenor ASA has been convicted in a criminal proceeding.

(e) During the last five years, none of the above executive officers and directors of Telenor ASA has been a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body as a result of which such executive officer or director was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

Item 4. Purpose of the Transaction

On March 12, 2009, Telenor ASA issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein in its entirety.

The Reporting Persons may, from time to time, and reserve the right to, change their plans or intentions and to take any and all actions that they deem appropriate to maximize the value of their investment in VimpelCom. In order to maximize the value of their investment in VimpelCom, the Reporting Persons may, from time to time, consider, evaluate or propose various possible transactions involving VimpelCom or its subsidiaries or affiliates, which could include, among other things:

(i) the possible acquisition of additional securities of VimpelCom from time to time in the open market, in privately negotiated transactions or otherwise, including, without limitation, through entry into and exercise of call options or other derivative transactions;

(ii) the possible acquisition or disposition of debt securities or other debt instruments of third parties, in each case, that are secured by, convertible into or exchangeable for securities of VimpelCom, and the enforcement of any such security interest or the exercise of any such exchange or conversion right;

(iii) the possible disposition or exchange of any securities of VimpelCom owned by them, including the possible disposition of all of the shares of Common Stock of VimpelCom owned by them;

(iv) possible extraordinary corporate transactions (such as a merger, consolidation, reorganization or restructuring) involving VimpelCom or any of its subsidiaries, including with other telecommunication companies which may be affiliated with the Reporting Persons;

(v) in addition to the proposed transaction concerning Closed Joint Stock Company Kyivstar G.S.M. previously described in the Statement, the possible acquisition by VimpelCom or its subsidiaries of assets or interests in one or more telecommunication companies, including other telecommunication companies which may be affiliated with the Reporting Persons, or the possible sale of assets or operations by VimpelCom or its subsidiaries;

(vi) making or seeking to make changes in or affecting the Board of Directors or management of VimpelCom;

(vii) in addition to the litigation and arbitration proceedings discussed herein and previously described in the Statement, possible litigation or arbitration involving VimpelCom, its Board of Directors and/or its management and/or one or more of Eco Telecom Limited, CTF Holdings Limited, Altimo Holdings & Investments Limited and their respective affiliates;

(viii) in addition to the Swap Transaction previously described in the Statement, entering into and unwinding derivative transactions with respect to the securities of VimpelCom; or

(ix) soliciting the votes of VimpelCom's shareholders in relation to any annual or extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of VimpelCom.

The Reporting Persons may also, from time to time, formulate other plans or proposals regarding VimpelCom or its securities to the extent deemed advisable in light of market conditions, subsequent developments affecting VimpelCom, the general business and future prospects of VimpelCom, tax considerations, or other factors.

Item 6. Contracts,

Arrangements,
Understandings
or Relationships
with Respect to
Securities of the
Issuer

In addition to the Swap Transaction previously described in the Statement, the Reporting Persons may, from time to time, enter into and unwind cash settled equity swap or other similar derivative transactions with respect to the securities of VimpelCom, which transactions may be significant in amount. These arrangements do not and will not give the Reporting Persons voting or investment control over the securities of VimpelCom to which these transactions relate and, accordingly, the Reporting Persons disclaim beneficial ownership of any such securities.

Except as provided in the documents described in the Statement on Schedule 13D and Amendments Nos. 1 through 49 hereto (inclusive), or as set forth herein, neither Telenor East Invest, Telenor Mobile Holding AS or Telenor ASA, nor to the best of Telenor East Invest's, Telenor Mobile Holding AS's or Telenor ASA's knowledge, any of the individuals named in Item 2 hereof has entered into any contracts, arrangements, understandings or relationships (legal or otherwise) with any person with respect to any securities of VimpelCom, including, but not limited to, transfer or voting of any securities, finder's fees, joint ventures, loan or option arrangement, puts or calls, guarantees of profits, division of profits or losses, or the giving or withholding of proxies.

**Item 7. Material to be
Filed as
Exhibits**

99.1. Press release of Telenor ASA dated March 12, 2009

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this Amendment to the Statement on Schedule 13D is true, complete and correct and that such Statement, as amended hereby, is true, complete and correct.

Dated: March 12, 2009

TELENOR EAST INVEST AS

By /s/ Bjørn Hogstad
Name: Bjørn Hogstad
Title: Attorney-in-fact

TELENOR MOBILE HOLDING AS

By /s/ Bjørn Hogstad
Name: Bjørn Hogstad
Title: Attorney-in-fact

TELENOR ASA

By /s/ Bjørn Hogstad
Name: Bjørn Hogstad
Title: Attorney-in-fact