

MOBILE TELESYSTEMS OJSC
Form 6-K
September 24, 2014

FORM 6-K

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer
September 24, 2014

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Commission file number: 333-12032

Mobile TeleSystems OJSC

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Russian Federation

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**4, Marksistskaya Street
Moscow 109147
Russian Federation**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Edgar Filing: MOBILE TELESYSTEMS OJSC - Form 6-K

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

Press release

MTS and the Republic of Uzbekistan Set Up Telecom Joint Venture

24 September 2014

Moscow, Russian Federation Mobile TeleSystems OJSC (**MTS** or the **Company** NYSE: **MBT**), the leading telecommunications provider in Russia and the CIS, announces that the Company has acquired a controlling stake in the Russian-Uzbek joint venture Universal Mobile Systems LLC (**UMS** or the **Operator**) and plans to commercially launch operations throughout the territory of Uzbekistan on December 1, 2014.

In accordance with the terms of a Settlement Agreement between MTS and the Republic of Uzbekistan, a 50.01% stake in the charter capital of UMS was transferred to MTS, while a state-owned unitary enterprise established and managed by the State Committee for Communications, Development of Information Systems and Telecommunications Technologies of the Republic of Uzbekistan will retain the remaining 49.99% stake. The assets, equipment and infrastructure, which were previously owned by Uzdurobita FE LLC, a former subsidiary of MTS in Uzbekistan, were transferred to UMS.

UMS has been granted 2G, 3G and LTE licenses, and received frequencies, numbering capacity and other permits required for the launch of the operations. UMS has also received guaranties for the investment protection and return of investments in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The parties intend to submit a joint application to discontinue ongoing legal proceedings in the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes, Member of the World Bank Group (ICSID).

The Settlement agreement is governed by English law and provides for resolution of any disputes arising out of the Settlement agreement in the International Court of Arbitration under International Chamber of Commerce in Paris (ICC).

Edgar Filing: MOBILE TELESYSTEMS OJSC - Form 6-K

For further information, please contact in Moscow:

Joshua B. Tulgan

Director, Department of Corporate Finance and Investor Relations

Mobile TeleSystems OJSC

Tel: +7 495 223 2025

E-mail: ir@mts.ru

Learn more about MTS. Visit the official blog of the Investor Relations Department at www.mtsgsm.com/blog/

* * *

Mobile TeleSystems OJSC (MTS) is the leading telecommunications group in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, offering mobile and fixed voice, broadband and pay TV in one of the world's fastest growing regions. Including its subsidiaries, the Group services over 100 million mobile subscribers. The Group has been awarded GSM licenses in Russia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan and Belarus, a region that boasts a total population of more than 230 million. Since June 2000, MTS' Level 3 ADRs have been listed on the New York Stock Exchange (ticker symbol MBT). Additional information about the MTS Group can be found at www.mtsgsm.com.

* * *

Some of the information in this press release may contain projections or other forward-looking statements regarding future events or the future financial performance of MTS, as defined in the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You can identify forward looking statements by terms such as expect, believe, anticipate, estimate, intend, will, could, may or might, and such terms or other similar expressions. We wish to caution you that these statements are only predictions and that actual events or results may differ materially. We do not undertake or intend to update these statements to reflect events and circumstances occurring after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. We refer you to the documents MTS files from time to time with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically the Company's most recent Form 20-F. These documents contain and identify important factors, including those contained in the section captioned Risk Factors that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those contained in our projections or forward-looking statements, including, among others, the severity and duration of current economic and financial conditions, including volatility in interest and exchange rates, commodity and equity prices and the value of financial assets; the impact of Russian, U.S. and other foreign government programs to restore liquidity and stimulate national and global economies, our ability to maintain our current credit rating and the impact on our funding costs and competitive position if we do not do so, strategic actions, including acquisitions and dispositions and our success in integrating acquired businesses, potential fluctuations in quarterly results, our competitive environment, dependence on new service development and tariff structures, rapid technological and market change, acquisition strategy, risks associated with telecommunications infrastructure, governmental regulation of the telecommunications industries and other risks associated with operating in Russia and the CIS, volatility of stock price, financial risk management and future growth subject to risks.

* * *

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

MOBILE TELESYSTEMS OJSC

By:	<i>/s/ Andrei Dubovskov</i>	
	Name:	Andrei Dubovskov
	Title:	CEO

Date: **September 24, 2014**