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Communications Services: Policy and Regulatory Framework  
**Radio Spectrum Policy Group**  
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### COMMISSION ACTIVITIES RELATED TO RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THIS PAPER

This paper is to report on Commission activities related to radio spectrum policy since the 22nd meeting of RSPG on 9 June 2010. The paper concentrates on activities which have most relevance to RSPG's scope of responsibilities.

#### 2. HARMONISATION AND TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

Since the last RSPG meeting, there were two RSC meetings (RSC#32 and #33) which took place in Brussels on 7-8 July 2010 and 6 October, respectively. The following topics were addressed:

- **Short-range devices (SRD):** On 30 June 2010, the Commission adopted Decision 2010/368/EU amending Decision 2006/771/EC on harmonisation of the radio spectrum for use by short-range devices.
- **Intelligent Transport Systems:** The Commission services introduced a follow-up document on deployment and operation of infrastructure-based Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) in the 5.9 GHz band, including an update on the work carried out so far by the Intelligent Infrastructure Working Group (IIWG) set up by the eSafety Forum. A number of Member States provided information on their regulatory actions and other activities in the context of ITS. The Chairman urged the Member States to complete the implementation work and make available the ITS band in a timely manner.
- **Implementation of Commission Decisions:** The Commission services summarised the replies to questionnaires provided by Member States as regards the implementation of the revised GSM Directive 2009/114/EC and the Commission Decision on the 900/1800 MHz bands. RSC delegates took note of the written status report by ECO on spectrum information in the EFIS database as of September 2010. In the context of the implementation of EC Decision 2008/477/EC, the RSC members discussed the issue of compatibility between electronic communications services in the 2.5.-2.69 GHz band and radars operating in the band above 2.7 GHz, notably in the light of preliminary results of compatibility testing.

- **Protection of the passive band 1400-1427 MHz:** a contribution paper from France, Spain and ESA was introduced. The RSC was informed about the interference caused to the SMOS (Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity) satellite.
- **GSM-R:** Spectrum requirements for railway applications were discussed. The main conclusion was that the situation could be substantially improved by an optimised network planning by both GSM-R and public mobile operators in the 900 MHz band as well as by a better coordination between these operators. The RSC asked the spectrum management authorities in Member States to facilitate, together with relevant transport authorities, the cooperation and coordination of network planning between the above-mentioned operators in order to improve the quality of service in their networks. Sweden submitted a contribution on compatibility problems between the GSM-R and public mobile networks suggesting that the Commission services elaborate on a solution to these problems in cooperation with the relevant Committee within the railway domain.
- **Short Range Radar (SRR):** The RSC delegates discussed the Commission paper indicating its suggestions on the way forward following the review of the 24 GHz Decision for short-range radar applications 2005/50/EC. The major outcome of the discussion was that the Commission services, after due consideration of comments made by the RSC delegates, will prepare a first draft of a revised EC Decision on the 24 GHz band and submit it to the next RSC meeting.
- **WAPECS:** The CEPT representative presented the draft final reports in response to EC mandates on the 900/1800 MHz and 2 GHz bands. The Commission intends to update the annex of EC Decision 2009/776/EC on the 900/1800 MHz band to allow the use of LTE and WiMAX technologies in these bands, following the final adoption of the CEPT report envisaged in November 2010.
- **800 MHz band:** The RSC discussed the outcome of the cable interference workshop which took place in Brussels on 30 June. The Commission welcomed the technical work performed jointly by ETSI and CENELEC and noted that there is agreement on immunity levels in order to reduce the risk of interference between wireless broadband and cable TV networks to a tolerable and manageable level. RSC delegates presented plans of their countries with 800 MHz band.
- **Technical harmonisation of spectrum:** The Commission presented a document whose purpose was to launch a discussion in the RSC about possible areas for technical harmonisation of spectrum. The discussion mainly focused on the areas of Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE), Public safety and emergency communications (PPDR), broadband via satellite (Ka-band frequencies) and on the gradual implementation of the WAPECS approach. Further work will take place regarding PMSE after the planned workshop on 26 October 2010, on PPDR and WAPECS. There was no support for the harmonisation of the Ka-band frequencies for satellite broadband.

### 3. WORKSHOPS AND STUDIES

- The Commission organised a "Workshop on Cable TV receivers affected by new radio services in the 800 MHz band" on 30 June 2010. The main objective of this second workshop was to examine the results of further studies that have been carried out, and in particular review the work of the Joint Working Group ETSI/CENELEC.
- The Commission organised a workshop on "A long term approach to radio spectrum for PMSEs in Europe". The workshop took place in Brussels on Tuesday 26 October 2010. This initiative was welcomed by the stakeholders. In the coming weeks, the Commission will make a proposal on how to proceed regarding the key areas identified at the workshop.
- The TCAM workshop on "Software Defined Radio in the context of the revision of the R&TTE Directive" organised by the Commission took place on 1 October 2010 in Brussels.
- No new studies have been launched.

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