



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Information Society and Media Directorate-General

Communications Services: Policy and Regulatory Framework

Radio Spectrum Policy Group

RSPG Secretariat

Brussels, 7 June 2011

DG INFSO/B4/RSPG Secretariat

RSPG11-371

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 24rd meeting of RSPG on 10 February 2011. 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 was one RSC meeting (RSC#35) which took place in Brussels on 23 March 2010. The following topics were addressed:

- **Short Range Radar (SRR)**: The RSC was informed about the outcome of public consultation on the proposed amendment to Commission Decision 2005/50/EC on SRR in 24 GHz band, the latest version of which) was considered at the meeting. The discussion showed broad support of RSC members for the draft amendment proposal which with agreed editorial changes were later submitted for a regulatory opinion. Following further comments this issue will be further discussed.
- **GSM-R**: Representatives of the railway community and mobile operator community presented their views on the issue of co-existence between GSM-R and public mobile networks. The Commission pointed out the existing legal obligations of Member States to ensure appropriate protection of GSM-R systems under EC Decision 2009/766/EC on the 900 and 1800 MHz band. A reference was made to the ongoing work within the CEPT on guidance to reduce interference, and RSC members agreed that proper coordination and network planning are crucial and that all stakeholders must make efforts to ensure compatibility.
- **900/1800 MHz**: Following a favourable opinion from the RSC under the examination procedure draft for Commission Implementing Decision on the harmonisation of the 900 MHz and 1800 MHz frequency bands for terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services in the European Union (opening the bands to LTE and WiMax for the moment) amending Decision 2009/766/EC, the Commission adopted the relevant Decision, 2011/251/EU, on 18 April 2011. Deadline for implementation is 31 December 2011. Next step in WAPECS is to present a first draft on the "GHz Decision in October

- **Implementation of EU law on spectrum:** The Commission services have launched the verification of implementation of EC Decision 2010/368/EU amending Decision 2006/771/EC on short-range devices. RSC delegates took note of the written status report by ECO on spectrum information in the EFIS database as of March 2011. The Commission services recalled the obligation of Member States to periodically update information regarding radio interface specifications and individual rights of use in EFIS database as required by the EC Decision 2007/344/EC.
- **169 MHz:** The RSC discussed the options proposed by the Commission with regard to the review of EC Decision 2005/928/EC. RSC members have received a revised text of a draft Mandate to CEPT on the 169 MHz band taking into account comments by RSC members and CEPT, and the Commission intends to launch a written regulatory procedure in view of adopting an advisory Opinion on the Mandate

3. INTERINSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES

On 11 May 2011, the European Parliament adopted in first reading a resolution putting forward amendments to the proposed Radio Spectrum Policy Programme. On 27 May 2011, the Hungarian Presidency presented a progress report on the same subject at the Telecoms Council. On this basis, exploratory meetings will now take place between the institutions to identify where the different views could be reconciled in order to get closer to a final agreement.

On 6 April 2012, the Commission also issued a Communication to the European Parliament and the Council on the European Unions policy approach to the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2012. The Council adopted conclusions on this matter at its meeting on 27 May 2012. The European Parliament has not yet provided its response to this Communication.

4. STUDIES AND WORKSHOPS

- Two studies will be awarded within a short timeframe: one on collective use of spectrum, and another one in support of the impact assessment for the technical harmonisation of the 2 GHz band.
- A workshop on Public Protection and Disaster Relief, "The future of PPDR services in Europe", took place on 30 March 2011. The report is available on the EU Radio Spectrum website.
