



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Information Society and Media Directorate-General

Communications Services: Policy and Regulatory Framework  
**Radio Spectrum Policy Group**  
**RSPG Secretariat**

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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 5th meeting of RSPG on 19 November 2004. The paper includes only activities which have a relevance to RSPG's scope of responsibilities, in particular activities which may influence priorities in the RSPG work programme.

### 2. RSC-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Radio Spectrum Committee was held on 8 December 2004. Since the last RSPG meeting the following initiatives have been addressed:

- **Automotive Short Range Radar (SRR).** The Commission Decision on automotive short-range radar in the 24 GHz band was adopted on 17 January 2005. Together with the previous Decision on use of the 79 GHz band for the same purpose, the formal legal requirements for the implementation of this new technology are now in place.
- **Short Range Devices.** The CEPT final report on the Commission Mandate concerning the harmonisation of spectrum use for SRD was discussed and it was noted that the future-looking elements of the mandate are not fully addressed in the report. The CEPT will continue working on these issues, and the Commission's intention is to provide a further Mandate to frame these activities. Concerning medical telemetry it was agreed that the Commission, CEPT and ETSI would coordinate further their activities with regards to the identification of requirements for spectrum related to these applications.
- **Ultra-Wide Band (UWB).** The interim CEPT report was presented and discussed. The Commission urged all relevant parties to explore further the means of enabling the regulated placing on the market of mass-market UWB devices in Europe in a harmonised way while ensuring adequate protection to incumbent services
- Frequency band formerly used by **ERMES** (169.4-169.8 MHz): The final report submitted by CEPT (*RSCOM04-69*) pursuant to the EC Mandate was accepted. The

Commission emphasised the need for further progress by CEPT to the feasibility to accommodate additional harmonised non-exclusive channels for Active Listening Devices (ALD) for the hard-of-hearing. Future steps to implement the recommendation of the CEPT final report were also discussed, including the preparation of a Commission Decision and the launch of the abrogation process for the present ERMES EC Directive.

- **Terrestrial Flight Telecommunication Services (TFTS):** The first CEPT report pursuant to the TFTS Mandate was presented, and it was noted that the ECC work is on schedule.
- **Radio area local networks (RLAN).** CEPT submitted its final report on the EC Mandate as well as the ECC Decision (*both can be found in RSCOM04-61*), adopted by ECC on 12 November 2004 after changes recommended by the Commission had been incorporated in the Decision. The large majority of RSC members and the Commission found the CEPT deliverables acceptable. A first draft of a Commission Decision based on the CEPT deliverables was discussed and will be subject to a further round of comments before being considered at the next RSC.
- **IMT 2000/UMTS** The final CEPT report on the 5<sup>th</sup> UMTS/IMT-2000 Mandate was discussed; it has resolved some important issues, but also raises the question as to whether the relevant bands at 2.5 GHz should be made available for IMT-2000 exclusively, or for new technologies besides or beyond IMT-2000 as well. When discussing the Commission paper on the IMT-2000 issues, the majority of the administrations indicated that the band should be harmonised for IMT-2000 with no deviation at this stage, subject to further review at a subsequent stage. Some MS were of the opinion that the Decision ought to allow other technically compatible technologies to operate in the band.
- **Satellite Digital Multimedia Broadcasting (S-DMB)** was introduced by representatives of the IST research project MAESTRO. The S-DMB concept foresees the use of the 2 GHz Mobile-Satellite Service (MSS) bands for an overlay functionality to UMTS terrestrial networks (high bandwidth download of data by means of satellites feeding terrestrial repeaters). CEPT was requested to present preliminary conclusions on the work it is envisaging on spectrum-related aspects of this issue at the June RSC meeting.

### 3. STUDY ACTIVITIES

The **Study on information on the allocation, availability and use of radio spectrum in the Community** has been finalised and is scheduled for publishing in the first half of February.

A study on 4G, the **Future Mobile Communications Market and Services in Europe** study is under elaboration. A workshop was held in Brussels on 11 January 2005. Workshop documentation is available on <http://fms.jrc.es>.

### 4. OTHER COMMISSION-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Also of relevance to RSPG, the following activities showed progress during the last five months:

## **Power Line Communications (PLC)**

A proposal for a Commission recommendation on broadband communications through power lines is has been sent to the Member States to give their opinion by written procedure in accordance with comitology. The deadline for responses is February 18.

## **Research and Spectrum Workshop**

The Commission also held a Workshop on Research & Technology Development and Spectrum Policy in Brussels on November 23, with the purpose to further the general understanding of the "interplay" between research activities and spectrum policy, and to identify the main links and possible overlaps between research and spectrum aspects. Presentations can be found under:

[http://europa.eu.int/information\\_society/policy/radio\\_spectrum/highlights/workshop\\_research\\_presentations/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/information_society/policy/radio_spectrum/highlights/workshop_research_presentations/index_en.htm)

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