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RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

Progress Report of the RSPG Sub-group on Digital Decade

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The RSPG at its Meeting #61 invited the subgroup on DD to have a further discussion on satellite authorisations and potential additional deliverables.

Based on the May 2023 RSPG Opinion¹ on “*The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure*” the Co-chairs engaged in a preliminary investigation on satellite authorisations and potential additional deliverables. A need for an addendum aiming to complement the May 2023 Opinion with regards to satellite authorisations and other satellites issues was identified.

1. Addendum to the RSPG Opinion on “The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure”

Two subgroup web-meetings have been held on 6 October and 10 October, in order to draft and finalise an addendum. The goal of these meetings was to agree on a draft for submission to the RSPG plenary for subsequent adoption for publication.

This addendum highlights the following

- Regarding FSS/MSS there is no need for EU wide authorisation or EU-level authorisation. Neither is there a need for a centralised authorisation approach nor a selection process at EU level in order to preserve and promote EU interests or EU sovereignty. This addendum on FSS/MSS satellite authorisations should not be seen as an overlap to the current work on MSS 2 GHz² which is subject to another RSPG workstream and upcoming Opinion.
- The current legal EU framework is well established and implemented in national legislation. Authorisations for frequency usage – including by satellite services – are successfully managed at national level.
- It recalls how satellite service provision and terminal operation are managed in EU Member States on the basis of two models which are in force in accordance with EECC for providing MSS/FSS service/terminal operations: either individual authorisations or general authorisations.

The RSPG plenary is invited to consider and adopt for publication this addendum to the RSPG Opinion on “The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure”.

2. Other satellites issues

In the discussions on the draft addendum, other satellites issues were identified that could potentially be relevant for further RSPG deliberations. One such issue is that Member States are dealing more and more with global satellite operators providing

¹ RSPG Opinion on “The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure”
[Document RSPG23-016](#)

² RSPG22-037 request for an RSPG Opinion on MSS 2 GHz

European-wide services. This is an effect of the growth in the NGSO satellite sector as a result of intense investment and innovation in a highly competitive global market.

Examples of issues arising from this development include unsolved cases of interference, risk of non-compliance to international framework and rules (RR), coexistence with other spectrum users (GSO, NGSO, terrestrial) and satellite market access regulation taking EU interests into account. One other topic is to clarify the role of various international organisations and to assess any potential role for the RSPG in order to preserve EU interests.

These discussions triggered questions and various views from Member States requiring further investigation at sub-group level.

On the basis on this initial exchange, co-chairs, with the support of the subgroup, recommend to continue to work on satellite issues in relation with EU interests within the “Spectrum matters” subgroup.

Co-chairs:

Didier Chauveau, Jonas Wessel