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RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

Implications of the new Rules of Procedure for RSPG Sub-groups

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Creation of Sub-groups in the RSPG

1. Introduction

Following the adoption of new Rules of Procedure of the RSPG, there will be a need to adapt the functioning of the group with the formal replacement of working groups by 'sub-groups'. The Commission is therefore presenting this note to prepare for the creation of these sub-groups to cover the work of the RSPG for 2020 and beyond.

This note makes an inventory of existing or past working groups, recalls the main rules set by the RoP and defines the main lines for the creation of sub-groups. This is based on the forthcoming work of the RSPG as defined in its work programme to be adopted for 2020 and beyond. It does not exclude the possibility for the Commission to create additional sub-groups where considered necessary for the RSPG in the future.

2. General regulatory framework

Under Article 4(3) of the 2019 RSPG Decision, *“the Commission may set up sub-groups for the purpose of examining specific questions based on terms of reference defined by the Commission. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with the horizontal rules defined by the Commission on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups and shall report to the Group. The sub-groups shall be dissolved as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.”*

As provided in Article 12¹ of the new RoP, before setting up a sub-group, the Commission shall consult the members of the Group on its remit, chairmanship and composition. The Commission shall include any member of the Group having expressed the desire to be a member of the sub-group.

This formal change should not affect the work of the RSPG nor current practices of stakeholders workshops and strategy workshops as these are meant to ensure adequate consultation of the public.

¹ Article 12 of the RoP reads:

Sub-Groups

1. Without prejudice to Article 8, before setting up a sub-group pursuant to Article 4(3) of the RSPG Decision, the Commission shall consult the members of the Group on its remit, chairmanship and composition. The Commission shall include any member of the Group having expressed the desire to be a member of the sub-group. Other members of the sub-group shall be appointed on a clear and transparent basis.
2. Composition of a sub-group may be confined to the members of the Group and to observers of the Group. Where necessary, the Commission may open sub-groups to external participants. Sub-groups shall only be chaired by a member of the Group.
3. Members of the public shall be informed via the website of the Group about the establishment of any sub-group.
4. The Chairperson of each sub-group shall report on the activities of the sub-group to the Group at the latter's following meeting.
5. The reports of the sub-groups shall include a list of organisations and individuals which have contributed to the work, as well as of all documents considered.

3. Current situation and working groups

In 2019, the following working groups have been active :

Activity	WG Rapporteur	Pending deliverable	Final deliverable	Duration
European Spectrum Strategy	Jonas Wessel (SE), Frank Krueger (DE), Philip Marnick (UK)		Report on Spectrum Strategy	Ended October 2019
European Electronic Communications Code, EECC	Emília Ulelay (HU) Didier Chauveau (FR) Anne Beimann (D)		Progress Report on the EECC. Report on practical implementation of Art 35 EECC.	Ended October 2019
WRC19	Alexander Kuehn (DE) Nadia Katsanou (EL)		Opinion on WRC19, Oct. 2018. Opinion on EU coordination at WRCs, March 2019	Ended March 2019
Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards	Claire Lyons (UK) Aleksander Softysik (PL)		Progress report on Peer Review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards	Ongoing To be transformed into sub-group
5G implementation challenges	Bo Andersson (SE) Tassos Lyratzis (EL)		Final Report/Opinion in April 2019	April 2019
Good offices	Eric Fournier (FR) Mindaugas Zilinskas (LT)	Report on good offices for 700 MHz band - January 20	Ongoing activity	Unlimited duration To be transformed into sub-group.

4. Creation of Sub-Groups

The RSPG agenda for 2020 and beyond will include the following issues which will require deep analysis through dedicated sub-groups:

- Preparation of WRC 2023
- Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards
- Good offices and cross-border coordination under Article 28 of the EECC
- Opinion on the Radio Spectrum Policy Programme
- Spectrum Sharing – pioneer initiatives and bands
- Additional spectrum needs and guidance on the fast rollout of future wireless broadband networks
- Role of Radio Spectrum Policy to help combat Climate Change

Therefore, the Commission considers that the following sub-groups should be created, building on the current working groups where appropriate. The remit of a number of these sub-groups will

depend on the final adoption of the RSPG work programme for 2020 and beyond. Chairpersons and members of the group will also have to be appointed.

In line with Article 24 of the RoP, the sub-groups shall be registered in the Register of expert groups.

Name	Remit	Duration
WRC	Report on WRC19 Preparation of an opinion for WRC 2023	Until adoption of opinion due by October 2022.
Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards	In line with the RSPG work programme and request from the Commission tbc	Unlimited duration.
Good offices and cross-border coordination	Implementation of Article 28 EECC and article 8 of the RoP.	Unlimited duration.
Radio Spectrum Policy Programme	Provide an opinion on the future RSPP as requested by Commission	Until adoption of opinion due by June 2021.
Spectrum needs for future wireless broadband networks	In line with the RSPG work programme and request from the Commission	Until adoption of opinion due by January (February?) 2021
Spectrum Sharing	In line with the RSPG work programme and request from the Commission	Until adoption of opinion due by June 2021
Role of Radio Spectrum Policy to help combat Climate Change	In line with the RSPG work programme and request from the Commission	Until adoption of report/opinion due by January/October 2021.

5. Invitation

In order to allow the Commission to create the necessary sub-groups, the members of the Group are hereby invited, pursuant to Article 12 of the RoP, to comment on the remit, chairmanship and composition of the proposed sub-groups and to submit any candidates they would wish to support as chairpersons and members thereof.

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