

Response to European Commission Radio Spectrum Policy Group consultation on “Draft RSPG Opinion on Licensed Shared Access” from and Nokia Solutions and Networks ¹

Nokia Solutions and Networks (NSN) welcome this opportunity to express its views and comments on the “Draft RSPG Opinion on Licensed Shared Access”.

NSN consider that LSA is a complementary and innovative regulatory approach to improve the efficiency of spectrum use in underutilised bands. NSN believe that LSA approach can adapt to market demand dynamically, and that it provides a complementary means of enabling the timely availability of harmonised spectrum for mobile broadband services and applications to sustain the economic and societal growth in Europe.

The draft opinion defines the various aspects of LSA including the key regulatory features of LSA and gives a good consideration on how LSA can be implemented. NSN support many of the statements and opinion of RSPG on LSA to large extent.

Comments related to the draft opinion:

Background section II:

“licensed” means that the usage rights are individually granted to an undertaking in time, frequency and geography. For example, a license might last for 25 years, apply to a frequency block and on a national or regional basis. Examples of licensed use are the harmonised ECS bands (790-862 MHz, 880-915 MHz, 925-960 MHz, 1710-1785 MHz, 1805-1880 MHz, 1920-1980 MHz, 2110-2170 MHz, 2500-2690 MHz, and 3400-3800 MHz) for the provision of electronic communication services.

We noted that RSPG has listed the harmonised ECS bands. We would like to propose amending the list by adding the bands 1900-1920 MHz and 2010-2025 MHz as long as they are harmonised for ECS.

LSA scope and definition section III

In the draft opinion the RSPG has proposed a revised definition of LSA; we believe that a clear and stable definition of LSA is needed. As LSA is considered to be the enabler for enhanced shared use of spectrum, we place a high potential on predictability and certainty in this regulatory framework as this is the key of innovation and investments in technologies. We also consider that LSA should address bands with clear potential for global harmonization.

The LSA approach is intended to make available additional licensed spectrum for mobile broadband networks to delivery services and applications capable of providing QoS. The approach aims at making available more spectrums capable of providing coverage and QoS to network operators. We consider that the exclusivity among LSA licensee at a given place, at a given time, for a predictable future, is a critical aspect such that infrastructure investment and delivery of services with coverage QoS can be triggered.

¹ **About Nokia Solutions and Networks**

Nokia Solutions and Networks (NSN) is the world’s specialist in mobile broadband. From the first ever call on GSM, to the first call on LTE, NSN operates at the forefront of each generation of mobile technology. www.nsn.com

Based on the above consideration we would like to propose a slight amendmenet to the definition proposed by the RSPG in its opinion:

“A regulatory approach aiming to facilitate the introduction of radiocommunication systems operated by a limited number of licensees under an individual licensing regime in a frequency band already assigned ~~or expected to be assigned~~ to one or more incumbent users. Under the LSA framework, the additional users are authorized allowed to use the spectrum (or part of the spectrum) in accordance with sharing rules included in their rights of use of spectrum, thereby allowing all the authorized users, including incumbents, to provide a certain QoS. Under LSA, the individual authorisation provides exclusivity among LSA licensees for a specific frequency resource”.

The definition of the incumbent

We noted in page 13 that the incumbent is currently envisaged being as governmental user

“As defined in section III an incumbent is described as a current holder of spectrum rights of use. Nevertheless it is currently envisaged that major opportunities of application of the LSA concept would be in the case of an incumbent being a governmental user.”

As we consider that when a band is made available for mobile broadband under LSA, the incumbent will continue to offer the same services as per its original spectrum rights whereas the LSA licensee(s) will be authorised to offer mobile broadband services and the services provided by incumbent and LSA licensee are und will remain orthogonal. Therefore we propose to amend the text as follows:

Under the LSA framework *“an incumbent is a current holder of spectrum rights of use, which have not been granted through an award procedure (first come, first served; beauty contest, auction) for commercial use*