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11th Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards

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on Peer review and Member State cooperation
on authorisations and awards**

RSPG at its Meeting #49 (Brussels, 12 June 2019) approved the 10th Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group (RSPG19-020) on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards.

I. PEER REVIEW

The RSPG launched in 2016, a voluntary Peer Review Platform allowing Member States experts to share documents on past, ongoing and future awards and experiences to seek advice from their Peers during the award design process.

II. MEMBER STATE COOPERATION ON AUTHORISATIONS AND AWARDS

The main activity of the group is to facilitate cooperation between RSPG Members by arranging Peer Review workshops to share best practice in spectrum awards and authorisation. The workshops, run by relevant authorities in Member States responsible, make it possible to exchange their experiences of practice and knowledge on their specific spectrum award approach.

The value of this close cooperation between Member States is a key element for the future utilisation of the Peer Review mechanism. The goal of sharing information, knowledge and best practice will assist RSPG Members in delivering the highest quality of award procedures, ensuring the ability of Member States to adapt to national circumstances and take into account different geographical characteristics, market situations, different usage scenarios whilst ensuring that spectrum is well utilized and that future speed, capacity and coverage requirements are met.

1. Since the last RSPG Plenary there has been only one Peer Review Workshop. This reflects the fact that a number of Member States have already held their peer reviews and / or awards recently and that many Member States are focused on preparations for the WRC-19 which starts in October 2019.

ARCEP – France – Peer Review on 3.4 -3.8 GHz. Paris, September 2019

Colleagues from ARCEP presented details to over 20 RSPG colleague, on their forthcoming 3.4 – 3.8 GHz. Their presentation was based on the proposals submitted to publication consultation in July 2019, with a focus on tendering, licence obligations and co-existence in the band.

Colleagues first discussed with France's 5G Roadmap before moving on to details of the Band plan for this key 5G spectrum. The design of the award was outlined, including the 3-stage process, the proposed coverage obligations focusing on urban and activity areas as well as major road coverage, proposed optional commitments such as 5G for verticals, indoor coverage and innovation and competition. Finally, the planned timetable was outlined.

III. FURTHER ACTIONS

RSPG colleagues have shared the view that they can obtain the best value out of Peer Reviews through the frank and informal exchange of views between peers; being able to discuss and debate the complex issues underpinning spectrum awards in a confidential environment. The possibility of further obtaining answers to questions with peers at times other than the event was also highlighted. The rapporteurs request that national experts maintain their correct contact details on the platform and continue to update the Peer Review Library with new materials. We would also encourage colleagues to hold Post Award reviews as this further provides opportunities to share lessons learnt. This has worked well thus far and we are keen to ensure this good practice continues so that Peer Reviews may continue to thrive.

Discussions are ongoing with a number of member states for scheduling Peer Review Meetings in 2020 and RSPG will be updates have already contacted the rapporteurs with a view to holding a further peer review meeting this year, diaries permitting with Member States in planning for WRC-19. Any other updates from RSPG members regarding upcoming awards and their plans to share with peers on their award plans are most welcome.

Rapporteurs:

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