

Italy- Comments to RSPG14-578(rev1) – (Draft) RSPG Opinion on Common Policy Objectives for WRC-15

WRC15 AI 1.1

The frequency band 470-694 MHz is extensively used in many CEPT countries for digital terrestrial television (DTT) and it is the only UHF spectrum available and allocated worldwide to the Broadcasting Service.

DTT is generally the only TV platform for the provision of free-to-Air-programmes to citizens, therefore maintaining a worldwide harmonized band for television broadcasting will continue to allow for economies of scale in bringing affordable consumer equipment on the market.

Furthermore, the broadcasting service is currently in the process of transition from SD to HD and to Ultra HD broadcasting and allocation of additional spectrum for mobile service on a primary basis would seriously hamper future development of TV broadcasting.

In Italy the 470-790 MHz band is intensively used for DTT, there are 20 national DVBT/T2 (MUXes) multiplexers in operation and an average of 10 MUXes in operation at regional level, with more than 30% operating in 700 MHz band, with rights of use expiring in 2032/34.

Considering that digital terrestrial television in the short/medium term will be able to use only the use UHF band below 694 MHz band to guarantee:

- the offers of new TV content;
- the opening of the market to new incomers;
- the improvement of the technical quality of its content (i.e. HD, 3D TV, Ultra HD);
- the introduction of new successful TV services like: audio multi-channel, new interactive services;

it would be worthwhile to maintain the frequency band 470-694 MHz allocated exclusively to the broadcasting service.

Italy,

On the basis of the above considerations, opposes to a co-Primary allocation of the 470-694 MHz band to the Mobile service and/or its identification for IMT at WRC-15 and therefore supports NOC (No change) in the 470-694 MHz band at WRC-15.