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RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

13th Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards

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RSPG at its Meeting #51 (Brussels, 5th February 2020) approved the 12th oral Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards.

I. PEER REVIEW

This work item was originally established in 2016 to facilitate peer learning between Member States on spectrum awards and authorisation. Therefore, the RSPG hosts a voluntary "Peer Review" platform (EC CIRCABC website) allowing Member States to share documents and experience and to seek advice from their peers during the award design process. In addition, the RSPG holds Peer Review workshops to share experience and expertise on specific (planned or completed) awards

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.

Since the last RSPG Plenary due to the outbreak of COVID-19 none Peer Review Workshops had been held. The planed Workshops were postponed indefinitely. The new and ongoing situation makes any physical meetings impossible, therefore it implies the necessity to define the methods that would allow the continuation of the organization of PR Workshops in a remote form. This should include, but not be restricted to technical arrangements such as dedicated online platform accessible to all representatives of the Member States, registration and online participation, security of information. Given the confidential nature of information, the face-to-face meeting is particularly important for PR Workshops to allow experts to engage in the most open discussion to make possible the mutual learning.

Taking in consideration the current situation, WG submitted on the PR Platform the questionnaire "Peer Review Overview" that will allow to pre-determine the work plan on the organization of Peer Review workshops in the upcoming two-year-cycle, and in the current conditions, i.e. in Web-Meetings. Before submitting this Progress report to the RSPG Secretariat, the WG received inputs from 10 Member States.

III. FURTHER ACTIONS

Working Group propose to develop the rules for a Web-based Peer Review Workshops in close cooperation with RSPG Secretariat and European Commission, that grants the best level of security of information given and availability to all interested Member States representatives.

Rapporteurs:

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