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Electronic Communications Networks and Services

**Radio Spectrum Policy Group**

**RSPG Secretariat**

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**RSPG18-043 FINAL**

## **RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP**

### **8<sup>th</sup> 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 #46 (Brussels, 5 June 2018) approved the 7<sup>th</sup> Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group (RSPG18-028) on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards.

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**I. PEER REVIEW**

The RSPG launched, in 2016, a voluntary Peer Review Platform allowing Member States to share documents and experiences and to seek advice from their Peers during the award design process. **The quality and value of this mechanism is based on the possibility of obtaining the requested answers at a specific time, therefore it is crucial that national experts have their e-mail addresses connected with the notification function when new threads appear on the Platform.**

**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 that undertake to share best practice in spectrum awards and authorisation. The workshops, run by authorities responsible for the authorisations and awards, make it possible to exchange best practice and knowledge on the 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.

Since the last RSPG Plenary there has been one Peer Review workshop hosted by the UK (22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018), on its recent 2.3/3.4 GHz award. The workshop was well attended with about 25 participants. The 2.3/3.4 GHz award had taken place earlier in the year, so the UK was able to address both the planning and execution of the award, as well as some lessons learnt.

The workshop covered;

- award considerations
- competition issues and spectrum caps
- auction format and design
- litigation
- auction delivery
- auction bidding and results

There was a good level of interaction and much time was spent in Q&A. While we note that any future Peer Review Workshops held under Article 35 of the European Electronic Communications Code will take place during the consultation phase of award planning, we still believe there is merit in additional knowledge sharing between Member States on auction delivery bidding and results post award.

### **III. FURTHER ACTIONS**

There are several events in planning for later this year/early next. In December Hungary will host both a Member State Peer Review Workshop on its 700 MHz and, as part of the RSPG's wider stakeholder engagement plans, a Stakeholder Peer Review Workshop where the Working Group aims to seek the views of stakeholders who experience spectrum auctions from 'the other side' and in multiple countries. While we will not address specific auctions in individual Member States, we will aim to extract views on general auction practices that are seen as positive, some lessons learnt and opinions on challenges for future awards. This Stakeholder Peer Review workshop will take place alongside the existing RSPG Stakeholder Briefing session.

In addition, we have had expressions of interest from Italy and Slovenia in hosting future workshops and we urge any Member State who wants to share its award plans with its peer to do so.

Rapporteurs:

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