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RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

Subject: Work Programme of the Radio Spectrum Policy Group

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

1. AIM OF THE RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

The Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG), which was established by Commission Decision 2002/622/EC, shall assist and advise the Commission on radio spectrum policy issues, on co-ordination of policy approaches and, where appropriate, on harmonised conditions with regard to the availability and efficient use of radio spectrum necessary for the establishment and functioning of the internal market in EU policy areas such as electronic communications, transport and research and development (R&D).

At the Commission's request or at its own initiative, the RSPG shall adopt so-called RSPG Opinions on the radio spectrum policy issues mentioned above, which have a policy or strategic relevance in the context of EU policies. In view of such RSPG Opinions, the Commission may pursue further action in the EU context.

2. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RADIO SPECTRUM COMMITTEE, THE CEPT AND THE EU INSTITUTIONS

The aim and activities of the RSPG should be seen in the context of the Radio Spectrum Decision (676/2002/EC), which establishes a policy and legal framework in the EU for the co-ordination of radio spectrum policy approaches.

Whereas the RSPG shall provide policy or strategic advice, the Commission may call upon the Radio Spectrum Committee (RSC) for the adoption of technical implementing measures, which are necessary to implement agreed EU policies. Where appropriate, these shall be developed in co-operation with the CEPT, which has specific technical expertise in the area of spectrum management.

For new policy or legislative initiatives, which go beyond the remit of the RSC, the Commission may develop a co-decision proposal, thereby directly involving the European Parliament and the Council.

The RSPG shall focus its activities on policy and strategic issues and shall not duplicate the work of the bodies mentioned above.

3. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE RSPG

At its second meeting on 19 September 2003, the RSPG agreed on an *indicative list of radio spectrum policy issues* (see attached), which the RSPG shall regularly review with the purpose of selecting specific issues which would require further consideration, i.e. the development and adoption of RSPG Opinions.

In progressively looking into the matters included in the list, the RSPG will consider policy and strategic aspects. Certain of the items listed may subsequently or in parallel also be subject to consideration by the RSC, albeit from the point of view of developing and adopting technical implementing measures.

4. CONSULTATION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

In order to take well-informed decisions as to whether or not to develop and adopt RSPG Opinions on a specific radio spectrum policy issue, the RSPG would welcome the views of all radio spectrum users, both commercial and non-commercial, as well as any other interested parties in order to determine the relative importance and urgency of the policy issues included in the list.

Details on how and where interested parties can comment on the various radio spectrum policy issues can be found on the RSPG web-site at the following address: <http://rspg.groups.eu.int>.

INDICATIVE LIST OF RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY ISSUES

TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

1. RADIO SPECTRUM REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY POLICIES

(1) **Radio spectrum for wireless electronic communications access platforms**

Analyse the relative needs for different wireless electronic communications access platforms: mobile terrestrial (2G, 3G, beyond 3G, satellite, R-LAN, FWA) and development of a coherent and flexible approach with respect to market and technology developments.

(2) **Convergence of wireless electronic communications and broadcasting; impact of digitalisation of broadcasting**

Discuss synergies between wireless electronic communications and broadcasting (incl. radio) and analyse impact on spectrum availability and spectrum planning, including the impact of digitalisation of broadcasting.

(3) **Space strategy**

Synoptical view of spectrum needs of different activities framed by the Community Space Strategy (Galileo, GMES, satellite communications, see separate entries) spectrum needs and possible harmonisation at Community level, taking the international context into account.

(4) **Road safety**

Discuss spectrum needs and possible harmonisation at Community level.

(5) **Short range devices (SRD, such as wireless tags, medical telemetry)**

Consider SRDs which are linked to Community policies and assess need for harmonisation of spectrum planning to foster the single market for such products and services.

(6) **Public Protection / Disaster Relief**

Assess spectrum needs and possible harmonisation at Community level, taking the results of WRC-03 into account.

(7) **Single Sky Policy**

Discuss spectrum needs and possible harmonisation at Community level.

(8) **Maritime Policy**

Discuss spectrum needs and possible harmonisation at Community level, taking the international context into account.

(9) **Scientific use of spectrum**

Discuss the implications of the increasing market demand for spectrum and of new technologies (e.g. UWB) on the availability of spectrum for scientific use.

2. PRACTICES AND DEVELOPMENTS IN RADIO SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

(10) **Spectrum trading**

Consider the need to ensure consistency of radio spectrum trading definition and practices in accordance with the new regulatory framework.

(11) **Information on availability and usage of radio spectrum**

Progressing towards a coherent information system at Community level; definition of information to collect and to make available.

(12) **Spectrum refarming and relocation issues**

Discuss best practices for spectrum refarming.

(13) **Allocation guidelines**

Consider approaches to ensure technology neutrality; assess competition and single market implications.

(14) **Adapting regulatory legacy at Community level to new radio spectrum policy approach**

Establish modalities on how to deal with existing regulation which does no longer reflect the spectrum usage reality (example: ERMES Directive).

(15) **Technology developments impacting on radio spectrum management (e.g. UWB, soft-ware radio; mitigation techniques for licence exempt spectrum)**

Assessing the impact of new technologies on radio spectrum management

3. SUPPORT TO OTHER SPECTRUM POLICY ASPECTS

(16) **International developments**

Review policy implications of major international radio spectrum negotiations (e.g. WRC, Regional Planning Conferences etc.). Exchanges with major trading partners on radio spectrum policy aspects, e.g. videoconference with FCC.

(17) **Relationship civil / defence usage of radio spectrum**

Assessment of interrelation of spectrum policy aspects pursued in both areas.