



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND
TECHNOLOGY

Connectivity
Radio Spectrum Policy Group
RSPG Secretariat

Brussels, 24 November 2021

RSPG21-046 FINAL

RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

Subject: Chairman's Report of RSPG #56 on 24 November 2021

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The Plenary meeting was Chaired by RSPG Chair Frank Krüger (Germany) and took place on-line given the restrictions in force as a result of the covid-19 pandemic.

The RSPG adopted an Opinion on the role of radio spectrum policy to help combat climate change (RSPG21-041) and reviewed the state of play regarding 5G spectrum awards.

The RSPG received progress reports from the Sub Groups dealing with:

- Climate change
- peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisation and awards
- Good Offices
- WRC23

The RSPG also agreed to publish a draft work programme for the period 2022/23.

The Group elected Eric Fournier from France and Aleksander Soltysik from Poland to serve as the RSPG Chair and Deputy Chair respectively, for the period 2022 to 2023.

MEETING REPORT

(1) Introduction to RSPG #56

The RSPG Chairman, Frank Krüger (Germany), opened the meeting and presented the draft agenda (RSPG20-037) which was adopted.

The European Commission was represented by Rita Wezenbeek, Director for Connectivity, DG CONNECT.

(2) Update on Commission Initiatives

The European Commission made a presentation on the Commission proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 2030 Policy Programme "Path to the Digital Decade".

The European Commission agreed to send a written reply to the questions on eCall submitted by Germany and France at the RSPG#55 plenary meeting.

(3) Update from the Chair and former Chair on activities since the last meeting

The Chair provide RSPG members with a brief report on his recent and future planned activities, including arrangements for a public RSPG stakeholder workshop to be held on 6 December.

(4) 5G pioneer bands: state of play on awards

The Chair thanked RSPG members for providing updates regarding their national award situations. The Group took note of the current state of play as set out in document RSPG21-038. The Commission welcomed the progress reported and urged Member States that had not yet completed national awards procedures to do so as soon as possible so as to minimise any further delays.

(5) RSPG Sub Group on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards

The Sub Group co-chair Alexander Soltysik (Poland) presented a progress report (RSPG21-039) from the working group on peer review and Member State authorisations and awards. The Group noted that since the last Plenary meeting in June, the RSPG had been formally requested by two Member States, Lithuania and the Netherlands, to convene Peer Review Forums (as foreseen in Article 35 of the Code). These had taken place in June 2021.

(6) RSPG Sub Group on Climate Change

The Sub Group co-chairs, Rory Hinchy (Ireland) and Robert Lindgaard (Denmark) presented a progress report (RSPG21-040) to the group and a draft Opinion on the “role of radio spectrum policy to help combat climate change” (RSPG21-041) which had been previously been published for public consultation. The Group adopted the Opinion.

(7) RSPG Sub Group on "Good offices"

The RSPG considered a progress report (RSPG21-042) from the Sub-Group on “Good Offices” presented by the Co-Chair Eric Fournier (France). The RSPG noted the progress made in respect of cross-border interference problems between Italy and Croatia, and urged all parties involved to take all necessary steps to resolve the remaining problems. Italy explained the difficulties faced and promised to solve UHF problems no later than March 2022 in the North of Italy and May 2022 in the South of Italy and to apply its best efforts to do so even earlier if possible. The Commission expressed concern that the deadlines set by the 16 June 2021 RSPG opinion for UHF had not been completely met and invited Italy to make additional efforts as this was essential for Croatia and for the Union. For the FM bands, the Commission invited IT to comply with the European Electronic Communications Code and international agreements.

(8) RSPG Sub Group on the WRC

The Group considered a progress report (RSPG21-043) presented by the Co-Chair of the Sub Group Alexander Kühn (Germany).

(9) RSPG Work Programme 2022-2023

The Deputy Chair of the RSPG Eric Fournier (France) presented a draft future work programme for the period beginning 1 January 2022. The group welcomed the draft and agreed that it should be published for public consultation, with a view to a final version being adopted at the first RSPG Plenary meeting in 2022.

(10) Election of RSPG Chair and Deputy Chair

The Group elected Eric Fournier (France) to serve as RSPG Chair from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023. The Group also elected Aleksander Soltysik (Poland) to serve as Deputy RSPG Chair for the same period.

The Group and the European Commission also expressed their gratitude to Frank Krüger for his service to the Group as RSPG Chair and former Deputy Chair.

(11) Administrative matters

The next RSPG Plenary meeting (RSPG#56) will take place on the 9th February 2022.
