

## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Digital Decade and Connectivity Radio Spectrum Policy Group RSPG Secretariat

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## **RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP**

## **Statement**

on suspension of the RSPG sub-group on the role of radio spectrum policy to help combat climate change

The RSPG believes that Climate change is of utmost importance. Since 2020, the RSPG is active in further investigating the role of spectrum policy to help combat climate change and published an Opinion as well as a Report on this topic.

The RSPG's work over the past two years shows that, even though there are many actions being implemented by stakeholders in order to reduce their climate impact, the wireless sector as well as regulators are still at the early stages of monitoring and assessing the energy consumption of wireless technology networks. This work is the first necessary step to be able to understand the relationship between spectrum use and climate impact. The RSPG believes that this work is progressing in the right direction, but it has not yet matured sufficiently in order to enable the Group to analyse the role of spectrum use in more detail.

In the current situation, it seems unlikely that RSPG will be able to determine any concrete recommendations on how spectrum policies can facilitate a green digital transition for Europe, to be included within an opinion within the next two years. Therefore, the RSPG proposes to temporarily suspend the work on climate change in a dedicated work item. The future direction of work can be determined and, when appropriate, the RSPG sub-group could be reactivated in order to develop a future opinion when more substantive information is available.

In the meantime, the RSPG believes that the RSPG sub – group on Peer Review and Member State cooperation, where the exchange of practices is well established, can serve to gather information about how operators' energy data is evaluated or measured and managed nationally (e.g. through workshops or other events). In this way, the criteria to be considered as regards energy and environmental footprint can be considered among MS and stakeholders.

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