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Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Electronic Communications Networks and Services

**Radio Spectrum Policy Group**

**RSPG Secretariat**

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**RSPG14-549**

**RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group  
on the preparation of Common Policy Objectives for WRC-15**

## **3rd Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on the preparation of Common Policy Objectives for WRC-15**

RSPG on its 31st Plenary Meeting (Brussels June 13, 2013) approved an Interim Opinion on Common Policy Objectives for WRC-15 (RSPG13-525).

In doing so RSPG confirmed the main themes within the agenda of WRC-15 with relevance to specific EU policy areas to be further considered and concluded to continue the development of a draft opinion on EU Common Policy Objectives.

The Working Group has held its fourth meeting on 20 January 2014 in Berlin at the kind invitation of the German Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy. The meeting was attended by representatives from Sweden, France, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Austria, Ireland, Denmark, Finland and Germany.

The meeting was aiming to start a discussion for the development of very preliminary elements of Common Policy Objectives, in particular on those main items which could be proposed as conclusive in terms of the ongoing developments of technical studies within CEPT.

### **Report structure/General aspects**

The group agreed to keep the structure of the Interim Report as the basis for further discussion. An additional chapter reflecting the results of public consultation needs to be incorporated in due time.

With regard to the introduction, the group agreed to clarify the point on the differentiation between spectrum allocations within the Radio Regulations and the actual implementation and use spectrum by systems and applications. It was seen advisable to point to the fact that it is within the responsibility of each country or group of Member States to take their decision on specific usage of certain frequency bands by systems or applications taking into account the sharing conditions and coordination requirements defined in the RR as well as the issue of harmonisation.

Noting the certain activities of the European Commission regarding a re-adjustment of EU competences in international fora, the Working Group took the unanimous view that the current preparatory and negotiation process at WRCs is most successful in ensuring to a maximum extent possible the account and implementation of EU policy. This was underlined by adding that the Group will consider the development of Common Policy Objectives in accordance with the requirements of the principle of sincere cooperation, as pointed out in RSPP Art. 10.1 (b).

### **Improvements since the 32th RSPG meeting**

Taking into account input proposals on the main themes with relevance to EU policies the meeting improved text on the characterisation of the corresponding WRC-15 agenda items and developed preliminary elements for a common policy objective. Square brackets highlight those elements where further discussions are required..

Lengthy discussion took place with regard to “Information Society – Electronic communication” and the corresponding agenda items (1.1./1.2/1.3)

With regard to agenda item 1.1 two different approaches have been proposed. Some member states were of the view that frequency bands to be further considered for an IMT identification needed to be specifically mentioned. Whereas some others prefer a more general approach in order to address the issue of fulfilling the needs for allocations to the mobile service and argued that it may be premature to reflect specific bands in the draft report at this stage. Since no agreement has been achieved, the issue need to be discussed at the next meeting take also account of the available outcome of the technical studies.

With regard to agenda item 1.2 the meeting reflected on the importance of the allocation of the band 694 – 790 MHz and the identification for IMT as well as the need to protect the broadcasting service below 694 MHz.

Regarding Space Policy, Transport Policy and Scientific use of spectrum the meeting included several proposals to update the description of the items, agreed on first elements for common policy objectives and, where applicable, put square brackets on elements for further discussion.

With regard to agenda items of future conferences, the meeting discussed the importance to identify potential agenda items for future conferences at a very early stage taking into account both the need to ensure long term consistency with EU policy and the impact of European proposals on WRC-15 agenda items.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the working group is scheduled for:

- Friday 11 April 2014 in Paris, Maison-Alfort

Attachment:  
Document RSPG14-550