



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Electronic Communications Networks and Services

Radio Spectrum Policy Group

RSPG Secretariat

Brussels, 30 January 2019

DG CNECT/B4/RSPG Secretariat

RSPG19-011 FINAL

RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

9th Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards

9th Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards

RSPG at its Meeting #47 (Brussels, 3rd October 2018) approved the 8th Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group (RSPG18-043) on Peer review and Member State cooperation on authorisations and awards.

I. PEER REVIEW

The RSPG launched in 2016, a voluntary Peer Review Platform allowing Member States experts to share documents on past, ongoing and future awards and experiences 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 in a reasonable 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 to share best practice in spectrum awards and authorisation. The workshops, run by authorities responsible, make it possible to exchange their experiences of practice and knowledge on their 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. The goal of sharing information, knowledge and best practice will assist RSPG Members in delivering the highest quality of award procedures, ensuring the ability of Member States to adapt to national circumstances and take into account different geographical characteristics, market situations, different usage scenarios whilst ensuring that spectrum is well utilized and that future speed, capacity and coverage requirements are met.

1. Since the last RSPG Plenary there has been three Peer Review Workshop sessions hosted by the Hungarian National Media and Infocommunications Authority in Budapest (11-12 December 2018) on:
 - Slovenian 700 MHz Auction preparation;
 - Italian 5G multiband award on 700 MHz, 3,7 GHz and 26 GHz;
 - Hungarian 5G multiband award plans.

The workshop sessions were well attended by about 30 participants and covered wide range of issues, such as general spectrum strategies, market and spectrum situation

in each country, award procedures along with detailed issues (spectrum caps, reserve prices, coverage and access obligations) and spectrum awards plan for the next upcoming years. This expert level of Peer Review Workshops enabled detailed insight into the initiatives of presenting countries and thus an excellent level of exchange of knowledge and experience between participants.

2. For the first time along with Peer Review Workshops, Stakeholder Award Workshop was organized and took place on 11th December, giving stakeholders the opportunity to share their experience on spectrum auctions across multiple countries. GSMA, Telefonica, Vodafone, Telecom ParisTech presented their experiences and views on key elements regarding radio spectrum awards, market competition and regulations. The workshop showed that demand for an exchange of views on those issues is very much needed and will be continued in the future.

III. FURTHER ACTIONS

On 28th February 2019 a Peer Review Workshop, hosted by Ofcom, is planned on recent award for 700 MHz band in Sweden and the forthcoming award of 700 MHz and 3.6-3.8 GHz spectrum bands in the United Kingdom.

Any updates from RSPG members regarding upcoming awards and their plans to share with peers on their award plans are most welcome.

Rapporteurs:

Claire Lyons, Aleksander Sołtysik