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RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

1st Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on the preparation of Common Policy Objectives for WRC-19

**1st Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group
on the preparation of Common Policy Objectives for WRC-19**

RSPG on its Meeting #39 (Brussels, 24 February 2016) established a Working Group on the preparation towards WRC-19. This Working Group was also tasked to develop a Draft for an official RSPG output (Report or Opinion) on the Results of WRC-15 for the 40th meeting of RSPG in June, which should address as appropriate “lessons learned” to be taken into account by the future work of the Group. The Group should begin its consideration based on Document RSPG 16-011REV containing a proposal from Germany amended by the European Commission.

The RSPG Working Group (WG) on the preparation of Common Policy Objectives for WRC-19 met at 15th April 2016 on the kind invitation of the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA) in Bonn/Germany.

Two main issues have been considered.

1. Draft new Report on the results of WRC-15

The WG received two contributions, both based on RSPG16-011REV, from France and Germany, as well as -based on the first contribution- from Luxembourg.

It was decided to develop a Report on the results of WRC-15.

Furthermore this meeting should concentrate on the development of this draft new Report on order to meet the objective of the RSPG to deliver this output in time for an adoption at the 40th RSPG Plenary.

As requested by the RSPG Plenary the WG focused in its considerations on “lessons learned” from the WRC-15 preparations and negotiations which can be beneficial for the future tasks on the preparation for WRC-19. With a view to this the Group agreed on a new structure of the Report beginning with an Introduction, followed by a factual presentation of the results and ended with remarks regarding the EU unity during WRC-15. It was decided to delete the section on conclusions.

Intensive consideration was given on the aspect of EU unity and its practical implementation. The European Commission reminded that EU unity on agreed EU positions is not negotiable. On request the European Commission clarified that the

Council was responsible for the procedure for international negotiations with regards to agreed EU positions. Any ambiguity of conclusions, in view of the EC, would therefore dilute the EU policy objective and should consequently be avoided.

Furthermore it was found necessary again to underline that the RSPG should develop as early as practicable an Opinion on common policy objectives for a WRC in order to assist the European Commission in its tasks. In that regard there was common agreement within the WG that the objective of defining unambiguous EU objectives and develop them as early as possible are contradictory to each other. In order to optimize the preparatory work, both objectives needed to be well balanced.

Regarding negotiations at the conference the common understanding was confirmed that it needs flexibility to ensure successful subsequent results. The European Commission informed about some possibilities on used procedures to ensure EU unity during negotiations in other areas.

The WG underlined again the very positive results of WRC-15. Any consideration of the new Report needed to take account of this context.

2. Initial consideration for an draft new Opinion on common policy objectives for WRC-19

The WG agreed on the following:

- The work is to be done in two stages:
 - o Development of an interim Opinion, which identifies the relevant WRC-19 Agenda items from an EU policy perspective;
 - o Development of the final Opinion containing common policy objectives.
- Specific attention will be given to address already existing harmonization decisions. The European Commission agreed to provide relevant information on this to the WG.
- An initial skeleton for the interim opinion has been prepared and all Member states are invited to base their contributions to the WG on it.

The next meeting of the WG is scheduled for the 30th or 31st of August 2016 in London on the kind invitation of Ofcom UK.

Proposed course of action

The RSPG Plenary Meeting #40 is invited

1. to note this report from the RSPG Working Group on the preparation for WRC-19;
2. to approve the (Draft) Report on the results of WRC-15;

Alexander Kühn
Rapporteur

Annexes:

1. Update to plenary on WRC15
2. Update to plenary on WRC19

RSPG work item: update to Plenary	
Work item	<i>Report on WRC-15 results</i>
Rapporteur/s	<i>Alexander Kühn, Federal Network Agency, Germany</i>
Rationale	<i>Moreover a review of the WRC-15 decisions should provide a follow-up of the common policy objectives adopted in the Council conclusions and assess how the preparation of ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences could be improved in order to update, if needed, the recommendations provided in RSPG Opinion on "The preparation of ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences".</i>
Scope	<p><i>The RSPG plans to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Review the outcome of WRC-15 [...];</i> <i>2. Assess the preparation of ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences in order to update, if needed, the recommendations provided in the RSPG Opinion on "The preparation of ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences";</i> <p><i>[...]</i></p> <p><i>The working group could propose a separate RSPG deliverable to address the task 2 and propose a revision of the time schedule according to the progress of the work.</i></p>
Planned deliverables and timing	<i>Report Adoption for June 2016 meeting (RSPG#40)</i>
Analytical approach	<i>Collection of views of Memberstates on the result of WRC-15 Comparison of the results with the Conclusions of the Council on WRC-15 and, as appropriate, with the RSPG Opinion on Common policy objectives on WRC-15. Identification of „lessons learned” to enhance the process within RSPG on WRC-19.</i>
Project plan	<i>Work basis on the contribution by memberstates and the comments from the European Commission to RSPG#39. Develop a final draft by one meeting and electronic means.</i>
Dependencies	<i>None</i>

Members, stakeholders and resources

Members	<i>Constantinescu, Dan Ancom Romania Cziczatka, Florian BMVIT Austria D'Abate, Piero Agcom Italy Fournier, Eric ANFR France Guggi, Walter BMVI Germany Kühn, Alexander BNetzA Germany Palmberg, Anders PTS Sweden Talbot, Stephen Ofcom United Kingdom Thegeby, Björn European Commission Vallet, Alexandre ANFR France Vellucci, Antonio Agcom Italy Seifert, Christiane BNetzA Germany Toivonen, PasiFicora Finland</i>
Key stakeholders	<i>All</i>

Other resources	<i>Not applicable</i>
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Work flow (internal and external milestones)

Date	Action / deliverable	Internal Work group only	External Plenary, Publication
Year 2016			
15 April	Meeting of the work group – discuss, draft and finalise deliverable	Work group	n/a
8 June	Draft Report presented to Plenary	Rapporteur	Plenary
June/July	Publication	Secretariat	Publication

RSPG work item: update to Plenary	
Work item	<i>Opinion on WRC-19</i>
Rapporteur/s	<i>Alexander Kühn, Federal Network Agency, Germany</i>
Rationale	<i>WRC-15 ended on 27 November 2015. One of the decisions taken at WRC-15 was the agenda for WRC-19. RSPG should start to identify common policy objectives on items which are of particular importance for EU policies as early as possible in the process of preparation of WRC-19, similarly to the processes successfully carried out for past WRCs.</i>
Scope	<p><i>The RSPG plans to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Review the outcome of WRC-15 including the Agenda for WRC-19 and identify any issues of relevance for EU spectrum policy;</i> <i>2. Assess the preparation of ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences in order to update, if needed, the recommendations provided in the RSPG Opinion on "The preparation of ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences";</i> <i>3. Assist the European Commission in formulating Common Policy Objectives;</i> <i>4. Identify actions for the European Commission in order to provide political support to promote common policy objectives in regular meetings between EC and non-EU countries.</i>
Planned deliverables and timing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Interim Opinion February 2017</i> <i>2. Draft Final Opinion February 2018</i> <i>3. Final Opinion June 2018</i>
Analytical approach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Analysis of the provisional Agenda as adopted by WRC-15 and identify those items/issue on which EU policy aspects may be affected.</i> <i>2. Taking into account various developements within international fora especially the ITU and CEPT, as well as information provided by the members of the group, develop recommendations for elements of common policy obejctives on the identified items of the WRC-19 agenda.</i>
Project plan	<p><i>2 Step approach:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Step: Identification of relevant EU policies which may be affected.</i> <i>2. Step: Based on the result of step 1, develop an RSPG Opinion on elements for common policy objectives.</i> <p><i>The group will use personal meetings to finalise texts and electronic means to the maximum extend possible to collect proposals.</i></p>
Dependencies	<i>Regarding the items 5G, ITS and IoT, the results of other RSPG acitivities need to be taken fully into account to ensure consistency. Furthermore the work is heavily depending on the further preparatory activities within other international fora in particular the ITU and CEPT.</i>

Members, stakeholders and resources

Members	<i>Constantinescu, Dan</i>	<i>Ancom</i>	<i>Romania</i>
	<i>Cziczatka, Florian</i>	<i>BMVIT</i>	<i>Austria</i>

	<i>D'Abate, Piero</i> <i>Fournier, Eric</i> <i>Guggi, Walter</i> <i>Kühn, Alexander</i> <i>Palmberg, Anders</i> <i>Talbot, Stephen</i> <i>Thegeby, Björn</i> <i>Vallet, Alexandre</i> <i>Vellucci, Antonio</i> <i>Seifert, Christiane</i> <i>Toivonen, PasiFicora</i>	<i>Agcom</i> <i>ANFR</i> <i>BMVI</i> <i>BNetzA</i> <i>PTS</i> <i>Ofcom</i> <i>ANFR</i> <i>Agcom</i> <i>BNetzA</i> <i>Finland</i>	<i>Italy</i> <i>France</i> <i>Germany</i> <i>Germany</i> <i>Sweden</i> <i>United Kingdom</i> <i>European Commission</i> <i>France</i> <i>Italy</i> <i>Germany</i>
	<i>List not closed.</i>		
Key stakeholders	<i>All</i>		
Other resources	<i>Not applicable</i>		

Work flow (internal and external milestones)

Date	Action / deliverable	Internal Work group only	External Plenary, Publication
Year 2016			
15 April	1 st Meeting – initial discussion, development of the work plan and initial skeleton for an interim opinion	Work group	n/a
8 June	Progress Report to Plenary	Rapporteur	Plenary
[30/31] August [tbc]	2 nd Meeting – continue development	Work Group	n/a
October/November[TBD]	3 rd Meeting – continue development of draft interim opinion	Work Group	n/a
November	Progress Report to Plenary	Rapporteur	Plenary
Year 2017			
January [TBD]	4 th Meeting – finalization of the draft interim opinion	Work Group	n/a
February	Presentation of the draft interim opinion to Plenary	Rapporteur	Plenary
2Q/2017	Stakeholder Workshop	Rapporteur	Public