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3RD PROGRESS REPORT OF THE RSPG WORKING GROUP
ON REVIEW OF SPECTRUM USE

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3rd Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Review of Spectrum Use

The Working Group held its sixth meeting on 17th January in Dublin.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the results of the public consultation on the draft Opinion on Review of Spectrum Use.

The public consultation was held from November 2011 until January 2012. Nine responses were submitted to the RSPG¹. All responses can be found on the RSPG website at

http://rspg.groups.eu.int/consultations/responses_spectrum_review_111121/index_en.htm

In general, all of the responses were supportive of the draft Opinion. All respondents acknowledged the importance of an inventory of existing uses of spectrum and in general supported the advice in the Opinion on factors to be taken into account in conducting a review of spectrum use. Respondents confirmed their willingness to participate in the review process and asserted that they must be consulted in a transparent manner so that the interests of all stakeholders could be considered. The draft Opinion was amended with the insertion of a new section summarising the results of the public consultation.

During the meeting it emerged that a number of Member States had been contacted or were in the process of being contacted by the consultants contracted by the EC to study the task of carrying out a spectrum inventory. Participants in the working group expressed concerns that the consultants did not appear to have a full understanding of the capabilities and contents of EFIS. As EFIS is seen as an importance reference tool in undertaking an inventory the Working Group therefore proposed that the consultants should meet with the ECO experts to get an in-depth understanding of EFIS database. The EC counsellor agreed to encourage such a meeting between the consultants and ECO.

Another issue raised was the difference in terminology between the draft RSPP Decision and the RSPG Opinion, specifically the terms “inventory” (RSPP Decision) and “review of spectrum use” (Opinion). Rather than change the terms used in the Opinion it was agreed that a paragraph should be inserted explaining the terminology used in the Opinion.

With those considerations taken into account the final version of the draft Opinion was adopted by the Working Group and will be presented to the February 2012 meeting of the RSPG Plenary for consideration and final adoption.

¹ Responses were received from the Aeronautical Spectrum and Frequency Consultation Group (ASFCG), Digital Europe, European Broadcasting Union, GSMA Europe, Telefónica Group, Telecom Italia, TETRA and Critical Communications Association (TCCA), Association of Commercial Broadcasters and Audiovisual Services in Germany (VPRT) and Runder Tisch Amateurfunk (RTA).

During the six meetings of the Working Group participants included representatives from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the EC and ECO.