



Brussels, 12 November 2013

**RSPG ADOPTS DELIVERABLES ON LICENSED-SHARED ACCESS (LSA) AND SECTORAL NEEDS, ADOPTS DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2014, AND RE-ELECTS ITS CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN FOR THE NEXT TWO-YEAR TERM**

The RSPG today re-elected Mr Gilles Brégant, Director General of ANFR (France) and Mr Finn Petersen, Deputy Director General of DBA (Denmark), as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, respectively, for the next term 2014-2015.

The current Work Programme was completed with the adoption of an Opinion on Licensed Shared Access (LSA) and a Report on Strategic Sectoral Spectrum Needs.

Moreover, the RSPG adopted for public consultation the draft Work Programme “2014 and beyond”, which foresees the following work items:

- A long-term strategy on the future of the UHF band in the EU
- Efficient awards and use of spectrum bands harmonised for Electronic Communications Services (ECS)
- Update of the Radio Spectrum Policy Programme (RSPP)
- Common policy objectives for WRC-15 (continuation from current WP)
- Assistance in bilateral coordination (continuation from current WP)

In presenting the result of the work, the RSPG Chairman, Mr Brégant, declared: *“I am glad that we were able to deliver the last two important deliverables of the current work programme. The Opinion on LSA comes timely. A common EU approach on the concept is needed as its application in specific frequency bands such as the 2.3 GHz band is foreseen in the near future. The RSPG achieved also a major goal with the adoption of the Report on Sectoral Needs, a very comprehensive work covering eleven key sectors related to EU policies and containing strategic considerations how to handle sectoral needs in the future. It represents an important additional input for the RSPP inventory process. As re-elected chairman team, Finn Petersen and I are now looking forward to the next term with great challenges on the horizon. The draft work programme that we adopted for consultation gives first orientations in that direction.”*

All public documents related to RSPG 32 are available here:

<https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/e730cacf-4ee2-4809-b45e-ec1d5e9036bb>

## **Background**

### **Licensed Shared Access (LSA)**

Following the 2011 RSPG Report on collective use of spectrum and other sharing approaches, the Commission had requested the RSPG to provide it with advice on the main features of an operational LSA and to develop recommendations how such an approach to spectrum authorisations should be taken forward to encourage more shared use of spectrum, at EU level and its possible implementation in the EU Member States.

Based on the 2012 RSPG work programme, which foresees an in-depth assessment of the LSA, the Member States have developed an Opinion in which the definition of LSA, as complementary spectrum management tool that fits under the individual licensing regime, and the role of administrations/NRA and others stakeholders are clarified. It considers also how this approach could be implemented at national level, in particular, focusing primarily on unlocking bands used by incumbents and in a frequency band which could be subject to EU harmonisation. It confirms the compatibility of the LSA framework with the current EU regulation and framework.

During the public consultation, stakeholders supported LSA as an appropriate complementary instrument to enable the timely availability of harmonised spectrum. The RSPG adopted in its November plenary the final Opinion on LSA for publication. This Opinion paves the way for an innovative regulatory approach in Europe.

### **Strategic Sectoral Spectrum Needs**

Further to a request for a report from the European Commission and in line with the time schedule of the current work programme, the RSPG approved a report on strategic sectoral spectrum needs in response to article 8 of the RSPG. A large number of sectors with different spectrum needs have been analysed: Smart meters, Smart grids, ITS, IoT (including RFID), Galileo, Scientific services, GMES, Aeronautical, Maritime, PPDR, PMR and PMSE. This report describes spectrum needs, how they are expressed by various sectors and met in different processes (national, ETSI, CEPT and ITU). For each sector, the RSPG clarifies possible spectrum supply and solutions to accommodate their spectrum needs. The RSPG identifies relevant synergies between various sectors, as appropriate, and agreed on some basic strategic principles for managing sectoral spectrum needs.

### **World Radio Conference (WRC-15)**

After the publication an interim opinion on the preparation of the next World Radio Conference (WRC-15) in June, the newly appointed Rapporteur, Mr Rainer Wegner from the German Federal Ministry of Economics laid down the next steps towards Common Policy Objectives for WRC-15. The adoption of a draft Opinion for public consultation has been shifted to November 2014 with final adoption foreseen for February 2015. Mr Wegner will present RSPG's views at the joint EC/CEPT workshop on WRC-15 to be held on 10 December 2013.

### **EU Assistance in bi-lateral coordination**

The RSPG's role to provide "good-offices" for cross-border coordination is on-going for the following bi-lateral negotiation processes : Italy – Malta, Italy – France, Germany – Belgium. RSPG noted the progress made on each case.

Further to a request for assistance from Slovenia, RSPG agreed to open its “good-offices” to the Italy – Slovenia case.

The RSPG confirmed this strategic role and agreed to maintain it in the next RSPG work programme.

### **Update of the RSPG Work Programme**

RSPG adopted a new draft Work Programme “2014 and beyond” for public consultation. It is planned for final approval in February 14.

RSPG confirmed the “WRC-15 preparation (common policy objectives for WRC-15)” for the next two years and the need to maintain as a permanent activity the “Good Offices” to assist in bilateral negotiations between EU countries.

In addition RSPG agreed on its plans:

- to develop an RSPG Opinion on “A long-term strategy on the future of the UHF band in EU”. This activity will be launched soon.
- to produce RSPG report(s) on “Efficient awards and use of spectrum in harmonised ECS bands”. Cooperation with BEREC is also foreseen with possible common workshop(s).
- to develop an RSPG Opinion on “the update of the RSPP”. This activity is planned to be launched at the end of 2014.

Furthermore, RSPG intends to hold a Workshop on Defence issues.

In the coming days stakeholders will be invited to comment on the draft RSPG Opinion, the public consultation is planned to end at 6 January 2014.

All public documents will be made available on the RSGP website:  
<http://rspg-spectrum.eu>

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### **Note to the editor:**

*The Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) was created by a European Commission Decision in 2002, amended in December 2009. Comprising the national spectrum authorities of the 27 EU Member States, the RSPG provides the Commission and other EU institutions with advice on high level policy matters in relation to spectrum. Representatives of the EEA countries, the European Parliament and the regional and international bodies may attend as observers. Before being transmitted to the Commission, the RSPG’s expert opinions are normally submitted to public consultations of all spectrum users, both commercial and non-commercial, as well as of any other interested stakeholders. The RSPG also publishes Reports on key issues in spectrum matters. The RSPG therefore constitutes a unique platform for Member States, the Commission and all relevant stakeholders to discuss and co-ordinate regulation of radio spectrum.*