



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 21 September 2007

11991/07

**TELECOM 98
AUDIO 29
TRANS 252
AVIATION 134
MI 184
COMPET 222
RECH 214
ENV 420**

I/A ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : COREPER/COUNCIL
No. Cion prop. : 11425/07 TELECOM 91 AUDIO 28 TRANS 231 AVIATION 118 MI 174
COMPET 211 RECH 202 ENV 369
Subject : "The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07)"
- Council Conclusions

1. The Commission adopted its Communication on "The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07)"¹ on 2 July 2007. This Conference will be held in Geneva from 22 October to 16 November 2007.

¹ Doc. 11425/07 [COM(2007) 371 final].

2. The Communication seeks to inform the European Parliament and the Council about Community policies (both general and sectoral) that could be affected by the regulatory decisions (the ITU Radio Regulations) to be adopted with respect to the global coordination of spectrum usage. The Commission identifies the underlying Community common policy objectives and develops ideas on priority issues (additional spectrum for future mobile communications, support for scientific uses of spectrum, reorganisation of HF bands, future spectrum needs for aviation and satellite communications, and finally more flexibility in the global spectrum regulatory framework). The overall objective is to ensure the effective coordination of Community positions within the WRC-07 negotiations², thereby calling on Member States to endorse, in advance, and pursue the Community considerations throughout the negotiation process. In this perspective, the Commission shall endeavour to support those European negotiating positions (“European Common Proposals”) which are in line with and relevant to Community policies. Following WRC-07, it will report on its outcome, as well as on the agenda for the next Conference due in 2011 (WRC-11).

3. In response to the above Communication, the Presidency prepared and submitted to the Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society, draft Council Conclusions, the text of which was examined at its July 2007 meetings. The Working Party reached an agreement on the text annexed.

4. In light of the preceding considerations, it is suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee recommends to the Council unanimous adoption of the annexed Council Conclusions.

² As required by Article 1, para. 2(d) of the Radio Spectrum Decision No 676/2002/EC (OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 1).

Council Conclusions
on the Communication from the Commission on
"The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07)"

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

1. WELCOMES

- the Commission Communication of 2 July 2007 on "The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07)", to be held in Geneva from 22 October to 16 November 2007.

2. RECALLS

- the Decision No 676/2002/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 7 March 2002 on the regulatory framework for the radio spectrum policy of the European Community³;
- the Council conclusions on the Communication from the Commission on the European positions for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2000 (WRC-2000) and on the Communication from the Commission on the World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03)⁴;

³ OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 1.

⁴ See previous docs. 4248/92 ECO 4, 14484/00 ECO 385 AVIATION 56 TRANS 222 and 9131/03 and 9131/03 TELECOM 72 AUDIO 10 TRANS 130 AVIATION 92 MAR 65 PROCIV 47 RECH 82 + COR 1(en).

- the Presidency Conclusions of the European Council of December 2006, stating in particular that immediate priorities include the development of spectrum allocation models meeting all objectives, the fast promotion of advanced mobile services and to the extent possible a coordinated approach for the use of spectrum capacity becoming available as a result of digital switch-over⁵.

3. TAKES NOTE OF

- the 14 February 2007 Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) Opinion on "EU Spectrum Policy implications of the digital dividend", including the relevant actions at WRC level.⁶

4. EXPRESSES ITS BROAD SUPPORT FOR

- the following objectives to be achieved at WRC-07 in view of the successful implementation of relevant Community policies, taking into account the Commission's Communication:
 - a) Considering the spectrum demands of mobile systems:
 - I. Identifying the 3.4 to 3.8 GHz frequency band for mobile services on a non-exclusive basis, while avoiding harmful interference between Mobile and Fixed Satellite Services;
 - II. Continuing the examination of the regulatory status of the mobile service in the UHF band, without prejudice to other proposals that may be considered at WRC-07 regarding that status;

⁵ Brussels European Council, 14/15 December 2006 Presidency Conclusions 16879/1/06 REV1 (para. 30, p. 14).

⁶ http://rspg.ec.europa.eu/doc/documents/opinions/rspg07_161_final_op_digdiv.pdf

III. Minimising the risks of interference to International Mobile Telecommunications networks operating in the EU in the 2.5–2.69 GHz band from satellite services.

- b) Ensuring the effective protection of Earth Exploration and other scientific services from harmful interference;
 - c) Satisfying the necessary spectrum requirements for digital radio broadcasting and for maritime mobile services in the HF band, as far as possible;
 - d) Enhancing the regulatory framework to support viable satellite systems;
 - e) Providing sufficient spectrum for aeronautical telemetry and air-to-ground voice and data communications;
 - f) Preparing actions supportive of Community policies in view of the next WRC Conference due in 2011, notably concerning spectrum flexibility, Digital Dividend, climate change and the Single European Sky, as appropriate.
- the European Common Proposals (ECPs) adopted by the Conference Preparatory Group of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), which are relevant in the context of the Community policies mentioned above.

5. INVITES MEMBER STATES TO

- co-sign the ECPs in accordance with the Community objectives mentioned above,
- do their utmost to ensure that these objectives and the related ECPs are satisfied in the WRC-07 negotiations;

6. INVITES THE COMMISSION TO

- report rapidly to the European Parliament and the Council on the results of WRC-07 and on the means to ensure that the European preparations for the next conference due in 2011 (WRC-11) are fully supportive of Community policies and principles.
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