COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING OF 13 JUNE 2023 (10.00-12.30) VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SUMMARY REPORT

(1) Opening of the meeting. Introductory remarks and adoption of the agenda

The Chair informed the Delegates that following a small reorganisation of responsibilities within DG CNECT, the coordination of the Communication Committee now falls in the remit of unit B1 dealing with Electronic Communications Policy, Implementation and Enforcement.

The Chair informed the delegates about the data protection rules that apply to Committology meetings online, and proposed the adoption of the agenda (COCOM23-02), which was adopted without changes.

(2) Update on ongoing Commission initiatives on Electronic Communications

The Chair provided an update on the Connectivity package and the exploratory consultation on the future of the connectivity sector and its infrastructure, which closed on 19 May 2023.

The Commission has started to analyse the contributions received and plans to publish the non-confidential versions of all responses to the consultation and a
summary overview of the responses in the form of a Summary Report by the summer.

**Update on the Gigabit Infrastructure Act/The review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive (BCRD).**

The Commission provided an update on the status of the “Gigabit Infrastructure Act” Regulation will be key for the achievement of the 2030 Digital Decade connectivity targets and the acceleration of the deployment of advanced networks based on fibre and 5G.

The proposed Gigabit Infrastructure Act is a regulation that aims to reduce fragmentation in the Internal Market. A regulation is proposed to give operators legal certainty and to contribute to the timely achievement of the Digital Decade connectivity targets.

The European Parliament and the Council have started to examine the proposed Regulation, with an ambitious timeframe. A Presidency progress report on the GIA proposal was presented to the Transport and Telecom Council on 2 June. In the EP, the ITRE Committee is planning to present a draft Report by end of June and a vote in September.

**Update on the draft Gigabit Recommendation.**

The Commission provided an update on the draft Gigabit Recommendation, explaining that on 23 February 2023, the Commission published a draft Gigabit Recommendation and invited BEREC to provide its opinion on the proposed text. BEREC issued its Opinion on the draft Gigabit Recommendation on 5 May 2023. The Commission services are now carefully assessing the various points raised in the BEREC Opinion. The Commission aims to adopt a final recommendation which is legally sound and whose goals are fully understood and endorsed by NRAs and BEREC, and will continue to engage with BEREC on this topic.
**Update on the Digital Decade Policy Programme.**

The Chair informed the delegates about the state of play of the implementation of the Digital decade Policy Programme. The Commission is working in close cooperation with the Member States to implement the Decision of the European Parliament and the Council establishing the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030 (DDPP 2030), which entered into force on 8 January 2023.

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(3) **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1070 of 20 July 2020. Annual reporting obligation of the Member States on its implementation in accordance with Article 4 of the Regulation.**

The Commission presented the result of the annual reporting obligation on the deployment of small-area wireless access points (SAWAPs) exercise carried over by the Member States, in accordance with the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1070, starting from the end of 2021.

The main objective of this reporting obligation is the collection of quantitative information to assess the market impact of the Regulation. This presentation is about a summary of the implementation until the end of 2022, (Responses of Member States, Key conclusions, Comparison between 2021 and 2022, Points for Guidance).

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(4) **Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/444 on measures to ensure effective access to emergency services through emergency communications to the single European emergency number ‘112’.*

The Commission informed the delegates on the content of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/444 for emergency communications, which was adopted
on 16 December 2022, published in the Official Journal on 2 March 2022 and entered into force on 5 March 2023. A corrigendum was published on 6 March.

The Commission explained the role of COCOM for the future reporting exercises on the implementation of the Delegated Regulation.

(5) **Any other business - Closing remarks 11.50-12.00**

The Commission informed the delegates that in line with Art. 6 of Commission Decision 2007/116/EC on reserving the national numbering range beginning with 116 for harmonised numbers for harmonised services of social value, Member States shall report periodically on the implementation of the harmonised numbers for harmonised services of social value. The last report dates back to 2019 and the Commission will soon launch a request to the Member States to collect data for a new report.

The Chair closed the meeting informing the delegates that the next COCOM Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 12 September in virtual mode. The last meeting of the Committee for 2023 scheduled for mid-November shall take place in hybrid mode.