Meeting of the Communication Committee of 16 November 2021

Summary report

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

The Chair informed delegates that the meeting of the Communication Committee has been organised in a hybrid mode, in presence in Brussels, but with the possibility of connecting remotely via videoconference and of the sanitary measures put in place for those participating in person in Brussels.

The Chair proposed to adopt the agenda, which was adopted without any change.

Agenda point:
(2) Update on ongoing initiatives

The Chair informed delegates about the updates in the area of emergency communications.

The Chair updated delegates on the ad hoc expert meeting on 116 numbers.

On 28 September, an ad hoc expert meeting on “116” numbers was held to present two initiatives:

- 116 016 – helpline for victims violence against women and domestic violence,
- 116 100 – helpline for elderly citizens.
Following the outcome of this meeting, the Commission services will draft the amendment to Decision 2007 on 116 numbers to add ‘116 016’ as helpline for victims violence against women and domestic violence. COCOM will be asked to express its formal opinion in the preparatory process for the implementing act.

The second initiative presented during the ad hoc meeting was a ‘116 100’ helpline for elderly citizens.

Member States that support the harmonisation of the abovementioned number and service were asked to confirm their support. Any next steps in this initiative will depend on Member States support for the harmonisation of the number and the service in question.

The Chair informed delegates on the latest developments in the ongoing initiatives, in particular on the review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive (BCRD) and on the Connectivity Toolbox Recommendation.


The Commission services informed the delegates that the Commission is advancing in the process of reviewing the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive. The proposal for a legislative instrument is planned to be adopted in Q2 2022.

b. **Connectivity Toolbox Recommendation**

The Commission services updated the delegates on the 2020 Recommendation on Connectivity. Following the Recommendation, a Connectivity Toolbox was developed and agreed by Member States, in close cooperation with the Commission, in March 2021. It contains 39 best practices on (i) reducing the cost and increasing the speed of deploying VHCN and (ii) ensuring a timely and investment-friendly access to 5G radio spectrum.

**Agenda point:**
(3) **The European Electronic Communications Code, state of play on the transposition and implementation**

The Chair reminded the delegates that in September, the Commission sent Reasoned Opinions to 18 Member States for not having transposed the European Electronic Communications Code.

The Member States which, at the date of the meeting, had not notified complete transposition were asked to give a provisional timetable for transposition.

**Agenda point:**
(4) **Commission implementing regulation on setting the weighted average of maximum mobile termination rates across the Union (repealing Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2082)**

The Commission services sought an opinion under the examination procedure from the Committee on the Draft Commission Implementing Regulation setting the weighted
average of maximum mobile termination rates across the Union and repealing Implementing Regulation (EU)2020/2082.

The Chair then proceeded to ask the Member States representatives to express their formal opinion, which was provided by raising hands in favour of the draft implementing regulation.

All Member States representatives voted in favour of the adoption of the implementing regulation, except two that expressed the need to report back to the competent Ministries and would then answer in writing. The implementing regulation was considered adopted, given that the majority of Member States voted in favour, taking into consideration the weighting factor.

**Agenda point:**

**5) Any other business**

Under this agenda point two information points were presented to the delegates:

1) Update on enhancing of data collection for 5G base stations in the context of DESI

This is to inform COCOM Members that the Commission services are planning to request the data collection regarding 5G base stations to be broken down by type of spectrum used (1. Dynamic Sharing Spectrum in 4G band), 2. 700 MHz, 3. 3.5 GHz, 4. 26 GHz). This is to get a more useful picture of the type of 5G performance/Quality of Service that is made available to the public (as the speed/quality depend largely on the type of band).

2) On the designation of the .eu TLD Registry and on the list of blocked and reserved .eu domain names by the Member States

On 25 October 2021, the Commission adopted a Decision whereby it designated EURid (current Registry) as the next .eu TLD Registry. This was the result of a competitive procedure launched in March 2021, where EURid ranked first among the eligible applicants (4 out of 5). The new contract will start in October 2022 at the time of the entry into application of .eu Regulation (2019/517).

**Final note**

The Chair informed the delegates that the next COCOM Meeting is planned for February 2022. Precise information as regards to date, location and arrangements will be provided shortly to the Delegates, taking into account the evolving sanitary situation.