Structured Dialogue with ITRE Committee – 18/06/2018

Scene setter

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[Out of scope]
Speaking points

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Defensives

Digital Europe Programme
Connecting Europe Facility 2

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- [ ]
Artificial Intelligence
Structured Dialogue with ITRE
Brussels, 18/06/2018
What was exactly the technical problem?

- The portal had a "count-down" showing the time left before activation of the "apply" button (exact time for the launch of the call). As developed by the contractors, this count-down was synchronised with the clock of each applicant's local computer - and not with the central server clock. Depending on whether their PC’s clock was ahead or late vis-à-vis universal time, some applicants were therefore led to apply before 13:00 Brussels time, or were only able to apply after that time.

- There is no evidence that early applicants changed this clock setting on their PC on purpose, and it is impossible to identify applicants who may have been artificially constrained from applying on time, so we decided to cancel the call to ensure the fairness of the competition.
How will the Commission inform the municipalities about the cancellation of the call?

- Every municipality that applied will receive an email informing that the call has been cancelled.

- This cancellation does not affect the registrations made by municipalities in the portal (including the provision of "supporting documents"), which remain valid for all future calls.

If the Portal remains closed for the time being, what happens with the next call?

- Since the Portal is closed, no further registration of municipalities or Wi-Fi installation company can be made for now.

- As soon as all technical issues are fixed, it will resume its operations – in any case well before the 2nd Call is launched (Autumn 2018).

How will the municipalities be informed that they are able to register and/or upload the supporting documents?

- The portal will remain closed until all technical issues are fixed. It will resume its operations well before the 2nd Call is launched (Autumn 2018).

- All registered municipalities will be informed by email. We will also communicate to the general public through our traditional channels as well as through the WiFi4EU Portal.
**When will the next call be open?**

- The 2nd call for projects is scheduled for the Autumn 2018.
Background notes

Digital Europe Programme
Connecting Europe Facility 2

Horizon Europe
Cybersecurity
Artificial Intelligence