



The Telecom Reform and Digital Dividend

25 November 2009

Nicola Frank
EBU Brussels office



Proposed approach to EU spectrum management

European Commission



We need a new spectrum management system: *“There should not be sacred cows”*

European approach, but how?



European Parliament



Do not touch my competences!

Council



2 ½ years later



Most of our concerns addressed

European Commission

Many of our ambitions have been endorsed



A European approach, but with co-decision



European Parliament

Harmonisation? We decide on frequencies used for broadcasting



Council



Telecom Package Adopted: Council 20 November/EP 24 November 2009

Radio spectrum is a public good which has an important social, cultural and economic value



□ market-based approach limited:

- frequencies used for broadcasting excluded from trading in commonly identified bands

□ harmonisation reduced:

- comitology (without co-decision) only for *technical* implementing measures
- multiannual spectrum policy programme with co-decision

□ principles of technological and service neutrality limited:

➤ Member States can make exceptions

✓ promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity and media pluralism, e.g. provision of broadcasting services

✓ to ensure avoidance of harmful interference

□ individual rights still possible:

➤ Member States can continue to link them with commitments related to provision of particular content



Telecom Package

Procedure	
Entry into force of Package	December 2009
Transposition into national legislation	By June 2011

Digital Dividend

Commission Communication: the Roadmap (28/11/09)

➤ Short term measure:

- Decision on the technical harmonisation of the 790-862 MHz sub-band
 - based on CEPT minimum standards
 - comitology

Mid-term proposals based on Analysys Mason study

- ❑ **Mandatory date to cease broadcasting services in sub-band**
- ❑ **Minimum standards for TV receivers to resist interference**
- ❑ **EU mandate on key aspects of the digital dividend for WRC 2012 negotiations**
- **Council and Parliament invited to give their views on the Communication/roadmap**

Recommendation to Member States: “Facilitating the release of the digital dividend in the European Union” (28/10/09)

- ❑ Recommends switch-off by 1 January 2012**
- ❑ Introduction of non-broadcasting services in sub-band:
Member States should support harmonised conditions and not hinder or impede the deployment of non-broadcasting services**

Multiannual spectrum policy programme

- ❑ **Spectrum summit will discuss Road Map (February or March 2010)**
- ❑ **Programme decided by co-decision (later in 2010)**

Will proposals for multiannual programme go much further than the roadmap?

- ? Call for a second sub-band**
- ? long-term action to open the whole UHF band for broadcasting services**

EBU Interdisciplinary Ad-hoc Group

- ❑ **Develop long-term view on broadcasters' use of DTT and alternative platforms, broadband in particular**
- ❑ **React to Commission initiatives**
- ❑ **Input to spectrum summit**
- ❑ **Participants: from legal and public affairs and technical communities**

Thank you

