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| CPG | | Doc. CPG15(14)016 |
| CPG15-4 | |  |
| Riga, Latvia 25th - 28th March 2014 | |  |
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| Date issued: | 25th March 2014 | |
| Source: | Sweden | |
| Subject: | The CPG categorisation of the frequency bands | |
| Group membership required to read? (Y/N)  N | | |
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| Summary: | | |
| At the CPG meeting held in September 2013 in Zagreb the bands under consideration were structured in three categories namely:  bands that are supported (Cat.1),  bands that are subject to further consideration (Cat.2) and  bands that seem not suitable (Cat.3).  Sweden proposes to change the Cat.3 definition from “seem not to be suitable for mobile broadband” into “has currently no potential as a candidate band”.  Furthermore, Sweden is of the view that all frequency bands listed as Cat.3 should be moved to Cat.2.  In particular, Sweden is of the opinion that the exploration of the potential of the frequency band 3800-4200 MHz has not yet been exhausted within CPG PTD, as there have been studies submitted by the industry for this band. Therefore, Sweden proposes that this band is moved to Cat. 2. | | |
| Proposal: | | |
| Sweden invites CPG to revise the Cat.3 definition from “seem not to be suitable for mobile broadband” into “has currently no potential as a candidate band”.  In our view, the proposed wording has more relevance as it reflects the current position, rather than the final verdict. The wording “seem suitable” does not not give a complete picture, since the situation regarding the band may vary from country to country. Further more, any band that is not yet supported should be considered as a potential frequency band pending further studies. As a consequence the relevant wording in the CEPT Brief should reflect this position.  Further more, Sweden proposes to move all bands from Cat.3 to Cat.2 since all bands should be considered as a potential frequency band pending further studies up to the conference.  In particular Sweden proposes to move the band 3800-4200 MHz to Cat.2. In our view, the exploration of the potential of this frequency band has not yet been exhausted within CPG PTD, as there have been studies submitted by the industry for this band.  Also, the frequency band has been the subject of the RSPG Opinion on strategic challenges facing Europe in addressing the growing spectrum demand for wireless broadband (RSPG13-521 rev1). In this opinion, the band is described as one that has significant medium term potential in supporting the future capacity needs especially in urban hot-spots. | | |
| Background: | | |
| At the CPG meeting held in September 2013 in Zagreb the bands under consideration were structured in three categories namely:  bands that are supported (Cat.1),  bands that are subject to further consideration (Cat.2) and  bands that seem not suitable (Cat.3).  “Sweden supports the idea to identify frequency bands supported for mobile broadband and a possible IMT identification (candidate bands). Sweden is however of the view that it is premature to identify frequency bands not suitable for mobile broadband. Any band that is not yet supported should be considered as a potential frequency band pending further studies. Sweden is therefore of the view that no band should be excluded at this stage  As a consequence, Sweden is of the view that all frequency bands listed under the heading “not suitable for mobile broadband” should be moved to the section “are subject to further consideration taking into account sharing and compatibility studies.”  In particular, regarding the frequency band 3800-4200 MHz the the previous CPG meeting noted that there were low support for Cat.1 and agreed that, although others views were expressed, PTD should not make further effort on this frequency band. The frequency band 3800-4200 MHz was therefore placed in Cat.3.  In the RSPG Opinion on strategic challenges facing Europe, in addressing the growing spectrum demand for wireless broadband (RSPG13-521 rev1) it is pointed out that “the frequency range 3800-4200 MHz has the potential to play a role in the provision of electronic communications services to ensure that the future capacity needs especially in urban areas, are met.” This potential is of course depending on compatibility being achieved with other services in this band and therefore “studies should be carried out into the possibility of sharing in Europe between the FSS and terrestrial wireless broadband services”. The RSPG recommends further that “a strategic plan should be developed by the Commission to make sufficient and appropriate spectrum available to meet the increasing demand for wireless broadband services in the time frame 2013-2020, identifying at least 1200 MHz of spectrum by 2015.The strategic plan should include a detailed analysis of the usage of all bands identified in Annex 2 to this Opinion, including the 700 MHz, 1.5 GHz, 2.3 GHz, 3.8-4.2 GHz and 5 GHz bands, in Member States and their potential for wireless broadband services on a harmonised basis, prioritising the bands in accordance with their potential and timeframe in which they are likely to be available.”  Sweden supports this opinion. The 3800-4200 MHz band represents a wide contiguous spectrum suitable for broadband services, that would potentially enable Europe to expand its mobile broadband services towards the next generation (5G). Sweden is of the view that the exploration of the potential of this frequency band has not yet been exhausted within the CPG PTD, as the industry is still studying this band and the studies are not yet finalised on a global level in JTG 4-5-6-7. Therefore Sweden proposes that this band is moved to Cat. 2 | | |