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Electronic Communications Networks and Services

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FINAL

RADIO SPECTRUM COMMITTEE

Working Document

Subject: Permanent Mandate to CEPT to identify the technical conditions relating to the harmonised introduction of radio applications based on Ultra-Wideband (UWB) technology in the European Union

**Opinion of the RSC
pursuant to Advisory Procedure under Article 4 of Regulation 182/2011/EU and
Article 4.2 of Radio Spectrum Decision 676/2002/EC**

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PERMANENT MANDATE TO CEPT

TO IDENTIFY THE TECHNICAL CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE HARMONISED INTRODUCTION OF RADIO APPLICATIONS BASED ON ULTRA-WIDEBAND (UWB) TECHNOLOGY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Purpose

The underlying objective of this Mandate is to provide updated technical parameters to amend Commission Decision 2007/131/EC in order to:

- expand its scope to different operating environments and specific ultra-wideband applications according to market demand;
- ensure less restrictive operation and specific techniques to ensure appropriate mitigation of potential harmful interference to radiocommunication services and radio applications.

Pursuant to this permanent Mandate, CEPT shall provide the Commission, when needed, with an assessment on the needs for updating the technical annex of the Commission Decision on harmonising technical conditions for the use of the radio spectrum for equipment using ultra-wideband technology in a harmonised manner in the Community.

If the assessment performed by CEPT points to a need to update the Commission Decision on UWB, CEPT will also provide a report to the Commission with all the technical parameters required to amend the Decision.

Justification

Pursuant to Article 4(2) of the Radio Spectrum Decision the Commission may issue mandates to the CEPT for the development of technical implementing measures with a view to ensuring harmonised conditions for the availability and efficient use of radio spectrum necessary for the functioning of the internal market. Such mandates shall set the tasks to be performed and their timetable. Pursuant to Article 1 of the Radio Spectrum Decision, activities under the Decision must facilitate policy making with regard to the strategic planning and harmonisation of radio spectrum use as well as ensure the effective implementation of radio spectrum policy in the EU while serving the aim of coordination of policy approaches. Furthermore, they shall take due account of the work of international organisations related to spectrum management such as the ITU.

This permanent mandate follows the five previous Mandates given by the Commission to CEPT on UWB on 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2012, and seeks to support the objectives and integrate the work undertaken in these earlier mandates into a more regular and predictable framework for future updates. Stakeholders or ETSI may submit demands to access spectrum for UWB to CEPT. Any such request should be carefully analysed in order to assess whether the current technical conditions of the EC Decision on UWB are

able to respond to demand. Moreover CEPT when reviewing the framework, could make suggestions to improve it by removing frequency ranges from the list included in the technical annex, when required and duly justified (e.g. in case a particular use has become obsolete);

Objectives

In addition to the core objectives of the Decision itself, the aim of this permanent mandate is to provide relevant technical information necessary to:

- a) Update, whenever appropriate, the technical conditions in the technical annex of the Decision;
- b) According to market demand, this may include the identification of new frequency bands and/or new applications which should be added to the list included in the technical annex of the Decision, in order to consolidate the Single Market through spectrum harmonisation. If needed, the deletion of entries in the technical Annex in case no demand has been identified;

Duration

- c) This mandate will be kept as long as the Commission Decision on UWB is applicable;
- d) However, the Commission, having received the position opinion of the RSC on that matter and with due consultation with CEPT, may terminate or modify this mandate at a specified point in time in case it would have become redundant, obsolete or needs to be updated.

Task Order and Schedule

CEPT is hereby mandated to undertake all the activities required to assess specific technical compatibility issues between UWB applications (generic and specific) and potentially affected selected radio services and radio applications, based on realistic interference scenarios, with a view to setting spectrum usage conditions which allow the use of UWB equipment without creating harmful interference to existing radiocommunication services and radio applications.

In agreeing technical solutions, the utmost consideration should be given to the benefits for consumers of the lower cost of products instigated by global harmonisation and by the avoidance of undue equipment fragmentation or operational restrictions.

CEPT is requested to collaborate actively with the European Telecommunications Standardisation Institute (ETSI) which develops harmonised standards for conformity under the Radio Equipment Directive and to take into account emerging technologies and ETSI (harmonised) standards.

In particular, CEPT is tasked to:

- identify and submit appropriate technical parameters, where needed, for additional UWB applications where a common approach could be beneficial to the EU internal market;
- identify and submit proposals, where needed, for updating technical parameters harmonised by the latest version of the technical Annex of the Commission Decision.

CEPT is mandated to provide deliverables according to the following preliminary schedule:

Delivery date	Deliverable	Subject
1 st November 2018 and tentatively every two years hereafter, pending CEPT's assessment of the need to update the UWB Decision	Report from CEPT to the Commission	All the technical parameters required to amend Decision 2007/131/EC, to be presented.

In addition, CEPT is requested to report on the progress of its work pursuant to this Mandate in the relevant meetings of the Radio Spectrum Committee.

The result of this Mandate may be made applicable in the European Union pursuant to Article 4 of the Radio Spectrum Decision¹.

In implementing this Mandate, the CEPT shall take the utmost account of Union law applicable.

¹ Decision 676/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 March 2002 on a regulatory framework for radio spectrum policy in the European Community, OJ L 108 of 24.4.2002, p.1.