



Brussels,
DG CONNECT/B4

SECOND MANDATE TO CEPT TO UNDERTAKE TECHNICAL STUDIES ON MOBILE COMMUNICATION SERVICES ON BOARD VESSELS (MCV)

1. PURPOSE

Pursuant to Art. 4 of the Radio Spectrum Decision 676/2002/EC¹, CEPT is mandated to undertake the work required to identify the most appropriate technical criteria for the inclusion of new technologies and frequencies in the EC Decision on Mobile Communication Services on Board Vessels (MCV) (2010/166/EC) to facilitate further deployment of MCV applications in the European Union.

Art. 5 of Commission Decision of 19 March 2010 on harmonised conditions of use of radio spectrum for mobile communication services on board vessels (MCV services) in the European Union² establishes that "*Member States shall submit to the European Commission a report on their findings with regard to the review referred to in Article 4 of this Decision. The European Commission shall, where appropriate, proceed to a review of this Decision*". The results of the reports and other observations from Member States in form of a questionnaire, summarised in document RSCOM 15-25rev1 which was discussed at RSC#52 of 14-15 July 2015 clearly show the need to add further communication technologies for MCV services. It should be noted that a similar update already took place for MCA (mobile communications on board aircraft) services in 2013³.

The objective of this Mandate is to study the coexistence of seaborne UMTS and LTE with ***terrestrial electronic communications networks operating in the 1710-1785 / 1805-1880 MHz, 1920-1980 / 2110-2170 MHz and 2500-2570 / 2620-2690 MHz bands***. This Mandate is a follow-up to the first EC Mandate on MCV of 8 July 2008, and its purpose is to extend the scope of compatible MCV systems and services currently available.

Seaworthiness and safety of MCV equipment are addressed by entities at national, European and global level other than spectrum management administrations and are outside the scope of this Mandate. This Mandate addresses only the operation of MCV in territorial seas of the Member States. All other operation (on the high seas, in inland

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.

² OJ L72, 20.3.2010, p.38.

³ Commission Implementing Decision 2013/654/EU amending Decision 2008/294/EC to include additional access technologies and frequency bands for mobile communications services on aircraft (MCA services) of 12 November 2013. OJ L303, 14.11.2013, p.48.

waterways, lakes, ports and harbours etc.) including operation of backhaul connections (e.g. satellite link) is outside the scope of this Mandate.

2. JUSTIFICATION

The first Mandate given by the Commission to CEPT on 8 July 2008 on this issue led to a final CEPT Report being delivered to the Commission on 1 July 2009 (doc. RSCOM08-49) and to a subsequent Commission Decision 2010/166/EU on harmonised conditions of use of radio spectrum for mobile communication services on board vessels (MCV services) in the European Union, which was adopted by the Commission on 19 March 2010.

Allowing people to be connected everywhere at all times is at the heart of the Digital Agenda and of the Digital Single Market. The development of increased means of communicating must be in line with the principles of service and technology neutrality as defined in the regulatory framework for electronic communications. Seaborne connectivity applications are being used also for cross-border seafaring within the European Union, as well as for cruises departing from and arriving in the European Union, and are pan-European in nature. The inclusion of new appropriate technologies and frequencies for the use of MCV services would therefore further support the objectives of the EU Single Market.

3. ORDER AND SCHEDULE

CEPT is hereby mandated to undertake all required activities to:

Assess compatibility between MCV services and land based wireless networks for scenarios introducing a new combination of technology and frequency band on board vessels:

- *LTE on board vessels in the 1710-1785 / 1805-1880 MHz and 2500-2570 / 2620-2690 MHz bands (LTE MCV 1800 MHz and 2600 MHz).*
- *UMTS on board vessels in the 1920-1980 / 2110-2170 MHz band (UMTS MCV 2100 MHz).*

CEPT should provide deliverables according to the following schedule:

Delivery date	Deliverable	Subject
21 March 2016	Draft Final Report from CEPT to the Commission	Description of work undertaken and interim results under this Mandate, subject to the outcome of the public consultation.
20 June 2016	Final Report from CEPT to the Commission, taking into account the outcome of the public consultation.	Description of work undertaken and final results under this Mandate.

In addition, CEPT is requested to report on the progress of its work pursuant to this Mandate to all the meetings of the Radio Spectrum Committee taking place during the course of the Mandate.

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

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