

Letter of Understanding

between

the Electronic Communications Committee

and

the European Space Agency

This Letter of Understanding (LoU) is entered into by the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) and the European Space Agency (ESA), with its Headquarters located at 5-7, rue Mario-Nikis, 75015 Paris, France, both referenced hereunder as a "Signatory" or collectively as "Signatories", with a view to structure and strengthen their relationships and to foster a closer cooperation.

WHEREAS:

A. The ECC is a committee composed of governmental bodies, which was established by the CEPT, in order to consider and develop policies on electronic communications activities in European context, taking account of European and international legislations and regulations;

B. ESA is an intergovernmental organisation, whose purpose is to provide for and to promote, for exclusively peaceful purposes, cooperation among European States in space research and technology and their space applications, with a view to their being used for scientific purposes and for operational space applications systems;

C. The ECC is the recognised committee in Europe responsible for developing harmonisation measures, common policies and regulations regarding the use of radio spectrum and the satellite orbits across Europe. It also prepares common European proposals to represent European interests in the radio communication sector of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU);

D. As ESA space programmes require the availability of suitable spectrum for satellite control, data transmission and remote sensing, the ESA Frequency Management Office (FMO) is in charge of:

- o Ensuring that all the ESA space missions are compliant with the Radio Regulations, with the ECC Decisions and with any relevant national radio regulations;
- o Ensuring that proposed changes to the Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunications Conference or to ITU-R recommendations are in line with the current and future ESA space programmes requirements;

E. The Signatories have a common interest in ensuring the most efficient use and management of the radio spectrum for all radio applications;

agree to co-operate as follows:

1. The Signatories agree to seek, to the maximum extent possible, a common European approach concerning the use of the radio-frequency spectrum in Europe.
2. The Signatories may agree to exchange any relevant information, free of charge. Relevant working documents from either Signatory may be made available to the other Signatory on request. The dissemination by one Signatory of the documents received from the other Signatory will be limited to the members of the relevant part of the receiving Signatory, and solely for the purpose of the activities relating to the Signatory's work programme.

3. Any sharing of proprietary information between the Signatories will be subject to their respective policies and procedures relating to the disclosure of information.
4. All copyright, and other intellectual and industrial rights embodied in documents exchanged between the Signatories and any copies thereof, remain with the originating party and extend to all media in which the information may be embodied. Any reference to these documents shall be submitted to the agreement of the originating party prior communication to other bodies.
5. The ECC Chairman and the Head of the ESA Frequency Management Office (FMO) shall meet periodically at their convenience.
6. Participation of one nominated Observer, or a substitute, from ESA is normally permitted at meetings of the ECC, its Working Groups, Project Teams and Task Groups.
7. Participation of one nominated Observer, or a substitute, from ECC is normally permitted at meetings of the ESA FMO.
8. Observers shall, to the extent permitted by the relevant Signatory's organizational statutes and rules, be entitled to participate fully in discussions on relevant work items, and may submit written contributions, but shall not be party in the decision making process.
9. ESA, through its FMO, may submit proposals to the relevant CEPT/ECC Body. They will be considered under the normal CEPT/ECC process.
10. This LoU shall last for three years and may be renewed by mutual consent. On its expiry, the LoU shall be automatically renewed for further one-year periods unless otherwise agreed by the Signatories. The LoU can be terminated by either Signatory on giving three months written notice before the expiry date.
11. The practical contacts and decisions for the Application of this LoU will be taken between the ECC Chairman and the Head of the ESA FMO.
12. Any changes to this LoU must be made in writing by the Signatories.

Signed in two originals in the English language,

For the ECC

For ESA


Eric Fournier
Chairman ECC


Rolf Densing
Director of Operations

Date: 31 JAN. 2018

Date: 9. Jan. 2018