

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1993/1214(CNS)	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Radiocommunications: allocation of radiofrequencies, World Conference WRC-99		
Subject 3.30.04 Radiocommunications, broadcasting		

Key players	
European Parliament	
Council of the European Union	

Key events			
09/09/1993	Legislative proposal published	COM(1993)0382	Summary
25/10/1993	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/09/1999	Additional information		Summary
06/08/2004	Additional information		Summary
15/09/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1993/1214(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 000
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	ITRE/3/04983; ITRE/6/21006; ECON/3/04986

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(1993)0382 OJ C 266 01.10.1993, p. 0011	10/09/1993	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		COM(1997)0304	18/06/1997	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SEC(1998)0839	12/05/1998	EC	

Radiocommunications: allocation of radiofrequencies, World Conference WRC-99

OBJECTIVE: To lay down the rules for the Community's new approach in the field of radio frequencies. CONTENTS: 1. This proposal for a decision lays down the rules contained in the new approach to the coordination of radio frequencies in the Community. This approach is based on the idea that in the case of radio frequencies the adoption of Community legislation is not dictated by Community interests, insofar as the action taken by the competent international organisations meets the needs of the Community and its Member States. 2. However, the Commission may take initiatives to secure the involvement of the Community, commensurate with its powers and responsibilities, in the international organisations dealing with radio communications. The Member States are called on to support the Commission whenever it takes such initiatives. 3. Every year the Council adopts a work programme containing guidelines on the positions to be adopted by Member States within the framework of the international organisations responsible for radio frequency allocation (the European Radiocommunications Committee and the European Radiocommunications Office). 4. Measures adopted within those organisations and corresponding to the guidelines in the Council work programme must be implemented by Member States by a specified deadline. The procedure for implementing those measures is decided by the Commission, assisted by the Community Telecommunications Committee. Subsequently, the Member States notify the Commission of the measures which they have adopted at national level. The Commission then publishes these measures in the Official Journal of the European Communities. 5. The Commission may call on the European Radiocommunications Committee and the European Radiocommunications Office to undertake certain technical tasks (for example, the identification and allocation of the appropriate frequency bands required by the Community for the development of pan-European services and the free movement of telecommunications terminal equipment). 6. By 31 December 1994 at the latest, the Commission must submit a report on the application of this decision to the European Parliament and the Council. Source: European Commission - Info92 08/95 ?

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In accordance with the Council's views on the Europe-wide cooperation on radiofrequencies, the Member States of the EU work out European common proposals for WRCs (World radiocommunications conferences) in the CEPT (European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications administrations). The WRC-97, which will be held in Geneva from 27 October 1997 to 21 November 1997, will deal with an extensive agenda of technically detailed issues, for which nearly 160 European Common Proposals have been adopted by the CEPT. Considering that the availability of radio frequencies is a "sine qua non" for the further development of the Community's radiocommunications sector, the purpose of the present communication is to inform Council and Parliament about the issues at stake at WRCs, to identify how WRC decisions relate to Community policy on radiocommunications, and to propose the following improvements: - the Community should be more closely involved in the WRC process in order to liaise with industry, raise political awareness and assist in establishing and maintaining contacts with third countries in order to ensure that WRC results are fully compatible with the Community acquis; - the Commission or the Member States should call for the establishment of a common Community position: a) in case Member States disagree amongst themselves on proposals submitted to the conference; b) when one or more Member States disagree with other CEPT countries on such proposals; c) when CEPT proposals do not comply with Community interests; d) when a common Community position can contribute to strengthen the CEPT proposals in discussions with third countries; - industry at Community level should be more vocal in contributing to the development of positions to be worked out by the CEPT and should participate at WRCs where there is a need for on-the-spot consultation; - the positions worked out prior to and at the conference itself should be appropriately endorsed by industry and political instances. ?

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Those attending the last World Radiocommunications Conference in 1997 (WRC-97) adopted a resolution on the agenda for the forthcoming conference in 1999 (WRC-99). It comprises over 40 separate issues and includes issues of particular relevance in a Community context, such as terrestrial mobile communications, radionavigation-satellite, aeronautical mobile, and maritime mobile services, mobile satellite and fixed satellite services, broadcasting and Earth observation. This communication follows up on the Council conclusions of 22/09/97, which invite the Commission to ensure that Community interests are taken into account in the production of European positions for WRCs, to carry out consultations with interested parties with the aim to identify frequency requirements for agreed Community policies and industrial needs, and to participate in bilateral contacts with third countries and regions with the aim to assess the respective positions prior to the conference. The overall objective of the present communication and Community action with regard to the WRCs and WRC-99 particularly is to ensure that WRC decisions comply with relevant Community policies and that the positions to be worked out for WRCs appropriately balance commercial and general interests and are endorsed by political instances.?

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This proposal, in accordance with Article 185 of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure, was deemed to have lapsed. It will be the subject of consideration by the new Parliament (5th legislature).?

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As this proposal is no longer of topical interest, it has been withdrawn by the Commission.