



Press release ERG

ERG (09) 44

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

13 October 2009

MAXIMISING INTERNAL MARKET IN ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

OUTCOMES OF THE 30TH ERG PLENARY (LUCERNE, 8-9 OCTOBER)

During their Plenary session, national regulators agreed to hold a public consultation on a draft common position on NGN future charging mechanisms. The main conclusion of the draft document is that bill and keep is more promising than CPNP (calling party network pays) as a regulatory regime for termination for the long term. The consultation period will close on 10 December 2009.

Another important outcome of the Plenary is the adoption of the ERG report on transition from sector-specific regulation to competition law. The report considers transitional issues arising from the progressive withdrawal of SMP obligations and notes the importance of a smooth transition from ex ante regulation.

The Plenary also agreed on best practice to be adopted for the elaboration and monitoring of common positions.

It also adopted its annual update of the overview of regulatory accounting methodologies in use, concentrating on the markets listed in the Commission's recommendation.

The Plenary also approved for publication the MTR snapshot from 1st July 2009. To improve transparency the Plenary also agreed that the next report (January 2010) would also publish the MTRs by operator.

The draft work programme 2010 was also approved for public consultation. The consultation period will close on 6 November 2009. The theme of the work programme is "Maximising internal market in electronic communications and applying institutional change". It is planned to adopt the final work programme at the December Plenary.

The Commission emphasized the importance of ensuring the independence of NRAs in their day to day operations and outlined some concerns it had lately in this regard. The Plenary echoed these views.



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All documents will be available on the ERG website: <http://erg.ec.europa.eu> and <http://www.irg.eu>.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

The European Regulators Group (ERG) was created to act as an advisory group to help the European Commission develop the internal market for electronic communications and services and ensure the consistent application of the regulatory Framework.

The ERG takes into account in its work the objectives given to NRAs in Article 8 of the Framework Directive (2002/21/EC) to promote competition, contribute to the development of the internal market and promote the interests of EU citizens.

The ERG consists of European National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs). Its full members are the twenty-seven EU Member States whilst the four EFTA States (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) and three EU Candidate States (Turkey, Croatia and Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia) participate as observers.

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