

WIK Investment Workshop 2017

Regulatory tools to boost Gigabit broadband

7 March 2017

Hotel Le Châtelain, Brussels

Programme

09.30-09.45 **The Commission's proposals: Regulatory models for high capacity networks**

In this session, the European Commission explains its proposals to adapt the market review process to place more emphasis on investment in infrastructure and take account of commercial agreements, co-investment and wholesale-only offers. What is the rationale behind the changes? How do they fit together, and how would the new process differ from existing reviews?

Chair: *Iris Henseler-Unger, WIK*

Anthony Whelan, Director for Electronic Communications, DG Connect, European Commission

09.45-10.00 **A view from the European Parliament's rapporteur**

In this session, Pilar del Castillo MEP, the rapporteur on the Electronic Communications Code for the European Parliament's ITRE Committee, will discuss her response to the Commission's proposals, in the run up to the Parliament's first reading debate.

Chair: *Iris Henseler-Unger, WIK*

Pilar del Castillo, MEP, E-comms Code Rapporteur

10.00-10.30 **Physical infrastructure access: a critical assessment based on EU case studies**

A key pillar in the Commission's drive to boost infrastructure competition are the proposals to make duct access a core 'horizontal' remedy (where practicable). WIK-Consult has been conducting research on the terms of access to ducts and poles and their practical effects across sample European markets. In this session, we present first results from this research and make recommendations on the relevance and effective implementation of physical infrastructure access.

Chair: *Iris Henseler-Unger, WIK*

Thomas Plückebaum & Ilsa Godlovitch, WIK

Andrea Weißenfels, EWE Tel

Q&A

10.30-11.00 BREAK

11.00-12.15 **Session 1**

Co-investment and commercial agreements: practical cases

The proposed e-communications Code envisages that NRAs should pay greater attention to reflecting – and fostering – commercial wholesale arrangements and co-investment within the market review process. In this session we hear about practical experience on co-investment models and commercial wholesale agreements, to gauge the challenges, advantages and role in fostering competition in high capacity broadband

Chair: *Christian Wernick, WIK*

Ben Wreschner, Vodafone

Johan Keetelaar, ACM

Philippe Distler, ARCEP

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12.15-13.15 **Session 2**

Separation and wholesale-only models

The proposed Code suggests that wholesale-only models may hold attractions as a means to foster more stable competition in circumstances where end-to-end infrastructure competition is unlikely to emerge. In this session, we explore practical examples of separation in incumbent operators and regional investors focused on FTTH/P deployment.

Chair: Karl-Heinz Neumann, WIK, Senior Adviser

Steve Unger, Ofcom

Per-Olof Gustafsson, Stokab

13.15-14.15 LUNCH

14.15-15.45 **Session 3**

Implications for the Electronic Communications Code

What should be the balance between symmetric and asymmetric, infrastructure and service competition, commercial and regulated settlements in the revised Code? Drawing on lessons from the morning's presentations, in this session we will discuss the proposals for an adapted market review process and remedies in the proposed electronic communications code. We will start by hearing the views of trade associations and then proceed to an interactive debate with participants.

Chair: Ilsa Godlovitch, WIK

Luc Hindryckx, ECTA

Matthias Kurth, Cable Europe

Erzsebet Fitori, FTTH Council Europe

Lise Fuhr, ETNO

Interactive session with participants chaired by WIK

15.45-16.00 **Conclusions and wrap-up**

Ilsa Godlovitch, WIK

Iris Henseler-Unger, WIK