



ECC Decision (13)02

ECC Decision on the withdrawal of ECC Decision (03)02

Approved 21 June 2013

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1 INTRODUCTION

In 2013, the ECC Decision (03)02 related to the designation of the frequency band 1479.5-1492 MHz for use by satellite digital audio broadcasting systems was reviewed and it was concluded that this Decision was suitable for withdrawal as it was not in line with the decision to harmonise the use of the band 1452-1492 MHz for terrestrial mobile/fixed communications networks supplemental downlink (MFCN SDL) within the CEPT.

2 BACKGROUND

WARC-92 allocated the band 1452-1492 MHz on a primary basis for use by the broadcasting satellite service for the purposes of digital sound broadcasting via satellite and envisaged the use of complementary terrestrial sound broadcasting. In addition to that the ITU-R Resolution 528 limits the broadcasting satellite service (sound) use to the band 1467-1492 MHz. After the adoption of the MA02 Special Arrangement, for the use of the band 1452-1479.5 MHz by terrestrial digital audio broadcasting, WG FM initiated the work to prepare a new ECC Decision in order to designate the 1479.5-1492 MHz band for satellite digital audio broadcasting use within CEPT.

The introductory text of ECC/DEC/(03)02 states that new satellite systems within the broadcasting satellite service (BSS) are planned to be introduced in Europe to offer digital audio broadcast services for individual users via personal, portable and vehicular receive-only terminals. These new satellite systems are identified as providing satellite digital audio broadcasting (S-DAB) services. The aim of ECC/DEC/(03)02 was to provide a common approach for CEPT administrations for the harmonised designation of the band 1479.5-1492 MHz for the use by S-DAB systems. Whilst two satellite systems today operate under the initial WARC-92 allocation outside Europe, the adoption of this Decision has not led to any substantial development in this frequency band by the broadcasting-satellite service within CEPT.

Late 2010, CEPT decided to undertake a review of the use of 1452-1492 MHz with the aim to change this situation and enable the use of those 40 MHz for new services and applications that could bring substantial social and economic benefits for Europe. To that end, CEPT developed ECC Report 188 to determine the most appropriate future use of the 1452-1492 MHz band in CEPT. The conclusion of the Report, which is based on an impact analysis, is that the most appropriate regulatory framework for the future use of the 1452-1492 MHz band in CEPT is the harmonisation of this band for mobile broadband/mobile supplemental downlink, while allowing individual countries to adapt to specific national circumstances in part of the band for terrestrial broadcasting and other terrestrial applications. This regulatory framework brings the highest benefits for CEPT, with those benefits being maximised when mobile supplemental downlink is deployed under this framework. The implementation of this regulatory framework consists of an ECC Decision designating the band for mobile/fixed communications networks supplemental downlink (MFCN SDL) and defining the least restrictive technical conditions (LRTC) with a harmonised band plan for the 1452-1492 MHz band. Consistently, ECC Report 188 also recommended the withdrawal of ECC/DEC/(03)02.

3 REQUIREMENT FOR AN ECC DECISION

The ECC Rules of Procedure foresee that the withdrawal of a Decision is subject to the same procedure as the development and adoption of a new Decision.

ECC DECISION OF 21 JUNE 2013 ON WITHDRAWAL OF ECC/DEC/(03)02

“The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering

- a) that the existing ECC Decision ECC/DEC/(03)02 is no longer required and suitable at CEPT level;
- b) that ECC Report 188 concluded on the most appropriate regulatory framework for the future use of the band 1452-1492 MHz in CEPT;
- c) that ECC Report 188 further concluded that ECC/DEC/(03)02 should be withdrawn;

DECIDES

1. to withdraw the ECC Decision ECC/DEC/(03)02 of 17 October 2003 on the designation of the frequency band 1479.5-1492 MHz for use by satellite digital audio broadcasting systems;
2. that this ECC Decision enters into force on 21 June 2013.