Stakeholders forum for the technical implementation of separate roaming services, 7 December 2012, Brussels (14.30 - 17.30), deadline for registration: 6 December 2012

The new Roaming Regulation 531/2012 on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union ("the Roaming Regulation") introduced structural measures aiming at enhancing competition in the EU roaming market. Specifically, it introduced an obligation for operators to allow their customers, as of 1 July 2014, to purchase roaming as a separate service, thereby increasing consumer's choice and awareness of roaming prices.

The Regulation also requires the Commission, by means of implementing act, to adopt detailed rules on certain information obligations and on a technical solution for the implementation of the separate sale. In order to drive these issues forward and to ensure consistent and simultaneous implementation across the Union the Commission, in cooperation with BEREC, is establishing a cooperation platform for market players and relevant stakeholders (the Forum).

The first meeting of the Forum will take place on 7 December 2012 in Brussels at 14.30 (till 17.30) in Commission premises: 102 rue de la Loi (metro Maelbeek). The overall aim of the Forum is to facilitate the timely implementation of decoupling obligations set in the new Roaming Regulation.

The aim of the meeting among stakeholders is to agree on the structure and working methods of the forum and decide on the next steps. Please find attached Terms of Reference for your consideration. The kick-off meeting of cooperation platform for the separate sale of roaming services identified the need to outline technical requirements (general structure/template) as a starting point before organising the work of the three expert subgroups proposed in the Terms of Reference. Thus the main agenda points of the first meeting will be presentation of the technical requirements document and organisation of the 3 expert groups.

For logistical reasons and to ensure effective participation, we have to limit participation to 1 person from company/organisation. It is important that representative can actively participate in the Forum and is willing to work with other stakeholders to ensure that momentum is maintained at EU and national levels. Please note that composition of the 3 experts group will be decided after the first Forum and company/organisation could in principle participate in the work of all 3 groups.

Registration is available until 6 December 2012 the latest. Please note that the working language is English and no interpretation facilities are foreseen at the meetings. Travel and/or accommodation costs will be borne by the participants.

If a stakeholder would like to attend the Stakeholders Forum, should send the email to Mr. Ramunas Linartas, e-mail: Ramunas.Linartas@ec.europa.eu.

The Forum is open to all stakeholder groups: MNO, MVNO, vendors, aggregators, consumer organisations and European standardisation bodies.