**Outline impact assessment L band**

**Stage 1 : identification of the issue**

In Europe, this band is divided in segments:

* Terrestrial segment: 1452–1479.5MHz (27.5MHz)
* Satellite segment: 1479.5–1492MHz (12.5MHz)

The band is co-primary allocated to Broadcasting, Fixed and Mobile Services (except aeronautical mobile Service).

The use of the terrestrial segment of the L-band is governed by the Maastricht Special Arrangement, 2002, as revised in Constanţa in 2007. The Constanţa revision of the Maastricht agreement opens the band (originally identified for T-DAB) for mobile multimedia systems and provides a significant flexibility to administrations in terms of technology use in this band at a national basis.

The satellite segment of the L-Band has been designated for use by Satellite Digital Audio Broadcasting Systems by ECC Decision (03)02. This Decision shall be reviewed inter alia on the basis of market demand at least every 10 years according to Decides-2 of ECC Decision (03)02.

Although the revision of the Maastricht agreement in Constanţa in 2007 extended the utilization of the band to mobile multimedia systems and allowed a more flexible utilization, and there are some countries that have provided authorisations for terrestrial sound broadcast, the L-Band remains unused in most European countries to this day, as the appropriate usage has not emerged yet.

Uses other than broadcasting:

In nine countries, the band is currently used by applications operated in services different from sound broadcasting: Fixed Service (6), Mobile Service (3), Ground and Wall probing Radar (1), Radio Astronomy (1), Aeronautical Mobile Service (aeronautical telemetry) (1). These uses are generally limited to a sub-part of the 1452-1492 MHz band. The whole band is assigned in one country, with a technology neutral licence.

Some of those countries indicated in their answers that these above mentioned different uses will continue until an already fixed date (1) or once digital radio will be implemented (2) or until the band is used by multimedia services (1).

For five Administrations, the above mentioned different uses are for military operations.

**Stage 2: identification and description of the policy issues and objectives**

The Project Team shall assess, with the support of an impact analysis, which future use(s) of the 1452-1492 MHz band would be the most appropriate for CEPT.

This objective will be reached through the comparison of the possible regulatory options based on the following criteria:

*Note: the following list is expected to be finalised at the 2nd FM50 meeting, September 2011.*

- Compatibility with the current regulatory framework,

- Possibility to combine/share with other applications/uses,

- Extent (maximisation) of social and economic benefits,

- Timeframe for availability of equipment on a large scale - status of standardisation

- Potential for economy of scale (need and potential for harmonisation within and outside CEPT),

**Stage 3: regulatory options**

Regulatory options, based on various combinations of candidate applications, will be assessed (stage 6).

Regulatory options resulting from the combination of more than one applications should be assessed only if:

* it is supported by at least one administration;
* all minimum spectrum needs (as provided in the application description) of the applications are met either by combination of those applications (possibly with the use of other bands) or by sharing the same band

*Note: the following list is expected to be finalised at the 2nd FM50 meeting, September 2011.*

Considered applications:

* Terrestrial broadcasting
* Mobile broadband
* Mobile multimedia downlink
* Satellite broadcasting (including hybrid terrestrial/satellite network)
* PMSE
* PPDR
* BDA2GC

**Stage 4: collect data**

The table crossreferencing the candidate applications and the objectives is provided in Annex 1. It mentions where inputs are needed, either in form of factual information or in form of an analysis for completing the table.

**Stage 5: impact on competition**

[Not relevant here since the different applications correspond to different economic actors. To be reconsidered according to agreed options]

**Stage 6: assess the impact and choose the best option**

Assessment of the regulatory options will be built on the elements available and of the study of the applications with respect to the criteria.

**Stage 7: monitoring and evaluation**

This may be out of the scope of FM50.

ANNEX 1

Table crossreferencing candidate applications and objectives: (to be updated)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Compatibility with current framework | Availability of equipment on a large scale – status of standardisation | Combination/sharing with other applications | Social and economic benefit | Maximisation of economies of scale by harmonisation | Compatibility with other uses within and outside CEPT |
| Terrestrial broadcasting | Info available | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info available |
| Satellite broadcasting | Info available | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info available |
| Mobile Multimedia DL | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied |
| Wireless mobile broadband | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied |
| PMSE | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied |
| PPDR | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied |
| BDA2GC | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied | Info needed / To be studied |