**Comments for ECO Workshop – opening remarks**

Thank you – delighted to be here

* Really important to find time for forward looking, strategic discussion;
* Especially in current climate when all too easy to focus on ‘here and now’

Last year ECC adopted its Strategic Plan for 2020-2025

* Address current challenges but also takes account of and anticipates future developments
* The strategy identified principles (reflecting the needs of all users, transmitter and receiver parameters)

One of these core principles is around spectrum sharing

* We all know spectrum sharing becoming increasingly important but I think we need to get a lot better at it.
* And ‘we’ is all of us – spectrum managers, spectrum users, international institutions etc.

What does this mean? It means:

* Understanding tools (databases, machine learning, blockchain – many items on agenda today)
* Developing frameworks (Flexible authorisations, LSA, Tiered access models)

But more than this – it means:

* Changing the way we think about sharing – needs to become the norm…
* Can’t have NIMBY thinking
* Higher freq bands offer a particular opportunity

How can we do this:

* Workshops such as this – talk about the issues
* Give spectrum users confidence in sharing
* Users coming together/working together to make it work
* Enable some of the future innovative applications and technologies to really exploit sharing opportunities

The spectrum world is changing faster than ever

* Sharing is a key part of this – we need to plan and be prepared for this
* Don’t automatically apply the solutions of the past to the challenges of the future.

I wish you all a very successful summit.