



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Question for Oral Answer B7-xxxx/2011

pursuant to Rule 115(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on European Union's policy approach to the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12)

**Herbert Reul**

on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

**Draft consolidated text**

**B7-0000**

**European Parliament resolution on on European Union's policy approach to the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12)**

*The European Parliament,*

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- having regard to Commission Communication COM (2011) 180 final of 6 April 2011 on the European Union's policy approach to the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12),
  - having regard to the agenda of the ITU WRC-12,
  - having regard to the Digital Agenda within Europe's strategy 2020,
  - having regard to *the* RSPG opinion on common policy objectives for WRC-12, **(am 1)**
  - having regard to its position on RSPP adopted **(1 word deleted)** 11 May 2011 (report of Mr Hökmark A7-0151/2011), **(am. 2)**
  - having regard to the conclusions of *the* Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council of last 27 May 2011 on WRC-12, **(am. 3)**
  - having regard to Articles 8a (4) and 9(1) of the Directive 2009/140/EC of 25 November 2009 amending Directive 2002/21/EC of 7 March 2002 on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services,
  - having regard to Rules 115 (5) and 110 (2) of its Rules of procedure,
- A. whereas the Conference 2012 will conclude with the adoption of modifications to the ITU Radio Regulations,
- B. whereas EU Member States shall ensure that international agreements to which they are part in the context of the ITU are in conformity with existing Union legislation, and in particular with the relevant rules and principles of the Union regulatory framework on electronic communications,
- C. *whereas spectrum is a scarce public resource which is critical to an increasing number of sectors, (am.4 )*

- D.** whereas *in particular*, as underlined in the Digital Agenda for Europe, wireless broadband *and communication services are important drivers for growth and European competitiveness on the global level, (am. 5 and 6)*
- E.** *whereas Europe will only be capable of fully exploiting the potential of a digital economy through creating a well-functioning internal digital market with a pan-European level playing field, (am. 7)*
- F.** whereas freeing up additional spectrum in a harmonised *manner* at a global and European level *is an important way to alleviate* capacity constraints in mobile networks *and to encourage new services and economic growth, (am. 8 and 9)*
- G.** whereas *a major* item of this conference *relies* on radio spectrum availability and in particular relate to *the* Digital Dividend in the 800 MHz band, *(am. 10 and 11)*
- H.** whereas several other items are relevant for EU policies (information society, transport, space policy, Galileo, internal market, environment, audiovisual policy, research...),
- I.** whereas each WRC establishes the agenda for the next conference,
1. Welcomes the communication of the Commission and agrees with the analysis made on the importance of the impact of the WRC-12 on EU policies;
  2. Believes that the EU shall speak with one voice in multilateral negotiations to promote its interests and to create global synergies and economies of scale in the use of spectrum; *therefore strongly encourages the Member States to fully endorse these policy orientations and to actively promote and defend them in the WRC-12; furthermore, believes that, as long as the Commission does not hold the right in ITU to speak on behalf of the Union, the Member State holding the Council presidency should, in close coordination with the Commission, speak for the Union; (am. 12)*
  3. Draws attention to the 25 individual agenda items of the WRC-12 and their potential impact for EU policies and objectives;
  4. *Calls on the Member States to safeguard* those objectives *and resist* any modification of the ITU Radio Regulations *that would* affect their scope and their substance; in this context, asks the Commission to ensure that the principles of the EU Treaty and of the 'acquis communautaire' are respected; *(am. 13)*
  5. Considers that the Commission shall assist Member States with technical and political support in their bilateral and multilateral negotiations with third countries *and cooperate with Member States* when international agreements *are negotiated, especially with those neighbouring third countries where interferences can occur due to different allocation plans; (am. 14, 15 and 16)*

6. Reminds its position on the RSPP and, in particular, ***with regards to the ITU's own study on IMT Advanced needs*** on the necessity to allocate sufficient and appropriate spectrum for mobile data traffic amounting to at least 1200 MHz ***overall*** by 2015 to support Union policy objectives and to best meet the increasing demand for mobile data traffic; ***recalls that any new measures should be transparent and should not distort competition or disadvantage newcomers to the telecommunications market; (am. 17 and 18)***
7. ***Urges*** Member States ***to support*** the Commission ***in promoting*** the inclusion of this relevant point in the agenda for the next WRC conference of 2016; ***reiterates in this regard the importance of the Union developing an inventory of its existing spectrum use and efficiency hereof as proposed in the RSPP; (am. 19 and 20)***
8. ***Reiterates its call to Member States and the Commission to pursue further to the ITU conclusions an ambitious harmonization agenda and calls on the Commission to assess and review the need for freeing additional spectrum band in order to make it possible with the necessary decisions by 2012 and 2016; (am. 21)***
9. Stresses that wireless broadband services contribute substantially to economic recovery and growth; sufficient ***and efficiently managed*** spectrum ***is necessary to respond to increasing*** consumer demand ***both in terms of capacity and coverage; (am. 22)***
10. ***Considers that the stronger role for the EU in spectrum policy calls for a stronger formal position of the Union in ITU and therefore strongly supports the re-examination of its status in the next ITU plenipotentiary conference in 2014; (am. 23)***
11. ***Underlines the importance of cooperation and coordination among the Member States in order for the EU to benefit from the full potential of the innovation opportunities in terms of radio spectrum technologies; (am. 24)***
12. ***Emphasizes the importance of the EU to act as a spearhead in radio spectrum technology and to set a global example of best practice and cohesion; (am. 25)***
13. ***Underlines the vulnerability of devices using radio spectrum, against cyber attacks, and stresses the need for a coordinated global approach towards strengthening cyber-security; (am. 26)***
14. Asks the Commission to report on the results and the achievements of the WRC-12;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States.