ORAL QUESTION H-0379/08 for Question Time at the part-session in June 2008 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Lambert van Nistelrooij to the Commission

Subject: Mobile termination tariffs

On 4 April the Belgian courts (Case 2007/AR/3394) suspended a decision by the Belgian national post and telecommunications regulation body (IBPT) setting mobile termination tariffs. One of the main arguments put forward was the fact that large operators' economies of scale must be taken into account in setting mobile termination tariffs.

Does the Commission look upon the Belgian court's arguments as a guiding principle for its upcoming communication on mobile termination tariffs?

Does the Commission share the view that the telecommunications companies which are now largely responsible for competition in the mobile phone market – the 'challengers' – should be allowed enough time in the communication to bring themselves into line with any new rules?

Tabled: 21.05.2008

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