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Price: EUR 3

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Acts whose titles are printed in light type are those relating to day-to-day management of agricultural matters, and are generally valid for a limited period.

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2010/571/EU:

- ★ **Commission Decision of 24 September 2010 amending, for the purposes of adapting to scientific and technical progress, the Annex to Directive 2002/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards exemptions for applications containing lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls or polybrominated diphenyl ethers** (notified under document C(2010) 6403) ⁽¹⁾ 28

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II

(Non-legislative acts)

REGULATIONS

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 845/2010

of 23 September 2010

establishing a prohibition of fishing for bluefin tuna in Atlantic Ocean, east of 45° W, and Mediterranean by vessels flying the flag of Portugal

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EU) No 53/2010 of 14 January 2010 fixing for 2010 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in EU waters and, for EU vessels, in waters where catch limitations are required ⁽²⁾, lays down quotas for 2010.
- (2) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein have exhausted the quota allocated for 2010.
- (3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit fishing activities for that stock,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1***Quota exhaustion**

The fishing quota allocated to the Member State referred to in the Annex to this Regulation for the stock referred to therein for 2010 shall be deemed to be exhausted from the date set out in that Annex.

*Article 2***Prohibitions**

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein shall be prohibited from the date set out in that Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

*Article 3***Entry into force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 23 September 2010.

For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,

Lowri EVANS

Director-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 21, 26.1.2010, p. 1.

ANNEX

No	27/T&Q
Member State	Portugal
Stock	BFT/AE045W
Species	Bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>)
Zone	Atlantic Ocean, east of 45° W, and Mediterranean
Date	23.7.2010

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 846/2010**of 24 September 2010****establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 of 22 October 2007 establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) ⁽¹⁾,Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1580/2007 of 21 December 2007 laying down implementing rules for Council Regulations (EC) No 2200/96, (EC) No 2201/96 and (EC) No 1182/2007 in the fruit and vegetable sector ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 138(1) thereof,

Whereas:

Regulation (EC) No 1580/2007 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in Annex XV, Part A thereto,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The standard import values referred to in Article 138 of Regulation (EC) No 1580/2007 are fixed in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 25 September 2010.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 24 September 2010.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,*

Jean-Luc DEMARTY

*Director-General for Agriculture and
Rural Development*

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 299, 16.11.2007, p. 1.⁽²⁾ OJ L 350, 31.12.2007, p. 1.

ANNEX

Standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Third country code ⁽¹⁾	Standard import value
0702 00 00	MA	82,9
	MK	47,2
	TR	50,2
	XS	58,9
	ZZ	59,8
0707 00 05	TR	127,9
	ZZ	127,9
0709 90 70	TR	116,5
	ZZ	116,5
0805 50 10	AR	100,5
	CL	118,6
	IL	127,5
	TR	104,9
	UY	139,0
	ZA	106,2
	ZZ	116,1
0806 10 10	TR	120,9
	ZZ	120,9
0808 10 80	AR	63,5
	BR	68,3
	CL	91,6
	NZ	103,2
	US	128,5
	ZA	92,8
	ZZ	91,3
0808 20 50	CN	54,1
	ZA	88,6
	ZZ	71,4
0809 30	TR	149,8
	ZZ	149,8
0809 40 05	BA	53,5
	MK	45,0
	ZZ	49,3

⁽¹⁾ Nomenclature of countries laid down by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1833/2006 (OJ L 354, 14.12.2006, p. 19). Code 'ZZ' stands for 'of other origin'.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 847/2010**of 24 September 2010****on the issue of licences for importing rice under the tariff quotas opened for the September 2010 subperiod by Regulation (EC) No 327/98**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

be determined by establishing the allocation coefficient to be applied to the quantities requested under the quotas in question.

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 of 22 October 2007 establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) ⁽¹⁾,

(4) It is also clear from the notifications that, for the quotas with order numbers 09.4127 – 09.4128 – 09.4129 – 09.4117, the applications lodged in the first ten working days of September 2010 under Article 4(1) of the Regulation cover a quantity less than that available.

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1301/2006 of 31 August 2006 laying down common rules for the administration of import tariff quotas for agricultural products managed by a system of import licences ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 7(2) thereof,

(5) The quantities not used for the September subperiod of the quotas with order numbers 09.4127 – 09.4128 – 09.4129 – 09.4130 are transferred to the quota bearing the order number 09.4138 for the following subperiod under Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 327/98.

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 327/98 of 10 February 1998 opening and providing for the administration of certain tariff quotas for imports of rice and broken rice ⁽³⁾, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 5 thereof,

(6) The total quantities available for the following subperiod should therefore be fixed for the quotas with order numbers 09.4138 and 09.4168, in accordance with the first paragraph of Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 327/98.

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EC) No 327/98 opened and provided for the administration of certain import tariff quotas for rice and broken rice, broken down by country of origin and split into several subperiods in accordance with Annex IX to that Regulation.

(7) In order to ensure sound management of the procedure of issuing import licences, the present Regulation should enter into force immediately after its publication,

(2) September is the fourth subperiod for the quotas laid down in Article 1(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 327/98, the third subperiod for the quotas laid down in Article 1(1)(d) and the first subperiod for the quota laid down in Article 1(1)(e).

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

(3) The notifications presented under Article 8(a) of Regulation (EC) No 327/98 show that, for the quotas with order numbers 09.4118 – 09.4119 – 09.4168, the applications lodged in the first ten working days of September 2010 under Article 4(1) of the Regulation cover a quantity greater than that available. The extent to which import licences may be issued should therefore

1. For import licence applications for rice under the quotas with order numbers 09.4118 – 09.4119 – 09.4168 as referred to in Regulation (EC) No 327/98 lodged in the first ten working days of September 2010, licences shall be issued for the quantities requested, multiplied by the allocation coefficients set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

2. The total quantities available under the quotas with order numbers 09.4138 and 09.4168 as referred to in Regulation (EC) No 327/98 for the following subperiod are set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 299, 16.11.2007, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 238, 1.9.2006, p. 13.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 37, 11.2.1998, p. 5.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 24 September 2010.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Jean-Luc DEMARTY
Director-General for Agriculture and
Rural Development*

ANNEX

to be allocated for the September 2010 subperiod and quantities available for the following subperiod under Regulation (EC) No 327/98

- (a) Quota for wholly milled or semi-milled rice falling within CN code 1006 30 laid down in Article 1(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 327/98:

Origin	Order number	Allocation coefficient for the September 2010 subperiod	Total quantities available for the October 2010 subperiod (kg)
United States of America	09.4127	— ⁽¹⁾	
Thailand	09.4128	— ⁽¹⁾	
Australia	09.4129	— ⁽¹⁾	
Other origins	09.4130	— ⁽²⁾	
All countries	09.4138		4 127 145

⁽¹⁾ Applications cover quantities less than or equal to the quantities available: all applications are therefore acceptable.⁽²⁾ No quantity remaining available for this subperiod.

- (b) Quota for wholly milled or semi-milled rice falling within CN code 1006 30 laid down in Article 1(1)(d) of Regulation (EC) No 327/98:

Origin	Order number	Allocation coefficient for the September 2010 subperiod
Thailand	09.4112	— ⁽¹⁾
United States of America	09.4116	— ⁽¹⁾
India	09.4117	— ⁽²⁾
Pakistan	09.4118	9,553656 %
Other origins	09.4119	1,995380 %
All countries	09.4166	— ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ No quantity remaining available for this subperiod.⁽²⁾ Applications cover quantities less than or equal to the quantities available: all applications are therefore acceptable.

- (c) Quota for broken rice falling within CN code 1006 40 laid down in Article 1(1)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 327/98:

Origin	Order number	Allocation coefficient for the September 2010 subperiod	Total quantities available for the October 2010 subperiod (kg)
All countries	09.4168	1,402856 %	0

DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION

of 13 September 2010

appointing the members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 2010 to 20 September 2015

(2010/570/EU, Euratom)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 300(2) and 302 thereof, in conjunction with Article 7 of the Protocol on Transitional Provisions annexed to the Treaty on European Union, to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community,

Having regard to the proposals made by each Member State,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The term of office of the current members of the European Economic and Social Committee expires on 20 September 2010 ⁽¹⁾. Members of that Committee should therefore be appointed for a period of 5 years as from 21 September 2010.
- (2) Each Member State has submitted a list containing a number of candidates equal to the number of seats allocated to it by the Treaty, all such candidates being representatives of organisations of employers, of the

employed and of other parties representative of civil society, notably in socioeconomic, civic, professional and cultural areas. However, the Government of Romania will propose at a later stage one further candidate to complete the list according to the number of seats allocated by the Treaty,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The persons listed in the Annex to this Decision are hereby appointed members of the European Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 2010 to 20 September 2015.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 13 September 2010.

For the Council
The President
S. VANACKERE

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 2006/524/EC, Euratom of 11 July 2006 appointing Czech, German, Estonian, Spanish, French, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Luxembourg, Hungarian, Maltese, Austrian, Slovenian and Slovak members of the European Economic and Social Committee (OJ L 207, 28.7.2006, p. 30); Council Decision 2006/651/EC, Euratom of 15 September 2006 appointing Belgian, Greek, Irish, Cypriot, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Finnish, Swedish and British members and two Italian members of the European Economic and Social Committee (OJ L 269, 28.9.2006, p. 13); Council Decision 2006/703/EC, Euratom of 16 October 2006 appointing the Danish members of the European Economic and Social Committee (OJ L 291, 21.10.2006, p. 33); and Council Decision 2007/3/EC, Euratom of 1 January 2007 appointing the Bulgarian and Romanian members of the European Economic and Social Committee (OJ L 1, 4.1.2007, p. 6).

ПРИЛОЖЕНИЕ — ANEXO — PŘÍLOHA — BILAG — ANHANG — LISA — ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ — ANNEX — ANNEXE — ALLEGATO — PIELIKUMS — PRIEDAS — MELLÉKLET — ANNESS — BIJLAGE — ZAŁĄCZNIK — ANEXO — ANEXĂ — PRÍLOHA — PRILOGA — LIITE — BILAGA

Членове / Miembros / Členové / Medlemmer / Mitglieder / Liikmed / Μέλη / Members / Membres / Membri / Locekļi / Nariai / Tagok / Membri / Leden / Członkowie / Membros / Membri / Členovia / Člani / Jäsenet / Ledamöter

BELGIUM

M. Tony VANDEPUTTE

Administrateur délégué honoraire et conseiller général de la Fédération des entreprises de Belgique (FEB)

M. Robert de MÛELENAERE

Administrateur délégué à la Confédération de la construction

M. Yves VERSCHUEREN

Administrateur délégué d'Essenscia

M. Daniel MAREELS

Directeur général de Febelfin

M. Bernard NOËL

Secrétaire national de la CGSLB, syndicat libéral

M. Claude ROLIN

Secrétaire général ACV-CSC

M^{me} Bérengère DUPUIS

Conseiller — Services d'études, Confédération des syndicats chrétiens (CSC)

M. André MORDANT

Président honoraire de la Fédération générale du travail de Belgique (FGTB)

Dhr. Xavier VERBOVEN

Gewezen Algemeen Secretaris van het Algemeen Belgisch Vakverbond (ABVV)

M. Jean-François HOFFELT

Secrétaire général de la Fédération belge de l'économie sociale et des coopératives (Febecoop), président du Conseil national belge de la coopération et président du service externe pour la prévention et la protection au travail Arista

M. Yves SOMVILLE

Directeur du service d'études de la Fédération wallonne de l'agriculture (FWA)

Dhr. Ronny LANNOO

Adviseur-generaal UNIZO

BULGARIA

Ms Milena ANGELOVA

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), Bureau member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Secretary-General of the Асоциация на индустриалния капитал в България (АИКБ) (Bulgarian Industrial Capital Association, BICA)

Mr Bojidar DANEV

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Chairman of the Българска стопанска камара (БСК) (Bulgarian Industrial Association, BIA)

Ms Lena RUSENOVA

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Head Economist at the Конфедерацията на работодателите и индустриалците в България (КРИБ) (Confederation of Employers and Industrialists in Bulgaria, CEIB)

Mr Georgi STOEV

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), Deputy-Chairman of the Българска търговско-промишлена палата (БТПП) (Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, BCCI)

Mr Plamen DIMITROV

Chairman of the постоянната комисия по труд, доходи, жизнено равнище и индустриални отношения на ИСС (Standing Committee on Labour, Incomes, Standard of Living and Industrial Relations of the Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Vice-President of КНСБ (CITUB, Confederation of Independent Trade Unions of Bulgaria)

Mr Dimiter MANOLOV

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Vice-President of КТ „Подкрепа“ (Confederation of Labour 'Podkrepa')

Mr Veselin MITOV

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Confederation Secretary of КТ „Подкрепа“ (Confederation of Labour 'Podkrepa')

Mr Jeliuzko CHRISTOV

Member of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), member of the European Economic and Social Committee, President of КНСБ (CITUB, Confederation of Independent Trade Unions of Bulgaria)

Mr Lalko DULEVSKI

President of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), Head of the катедра в Университета за национално и световно стопанство (Human Resources and Social Protection Department at the University of National and World Economy)

Mr Plamen ZACHARIEV

Vice-President of the ICC (Bulgarian Economic and Social Council), President of the Национален център за социална рехабилитация (НЦСР) (National Centre for Social Rehabilitation, NCSR)

Mr Lyubomir HADJIYSKI

Member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Marketing Manager for the auditing firm Grant Thornton Bulgaria

Ms Diliана SLAVOVA

Executive Director of the Национален млечен борд (National Milk Board) and the Национална асоциация на млечно-преработвателите (National Association of Milk Producers), member of the European Commission High-Level Group on Milk

CZECH REPUBLIC

Vladimíra DRBALOVÁ

Ředitelka Sekce mezinárodních organizací a evropských záležitosti Svazu průmyslu a dopravy ČR

Josef ZBOŘIL

Člen představenstva Svazu průmyslu a dopravy ČR

Marie ZVOLSKÁ

Specialistka odboru poradenských služeb Svazu českých a moravských výrobních družstev

Ivan VOLEŠ

Poradce prezidenta Hospodářské komory ČR pro mezinárodní vztahy

Helena ČORNEJOVÁ

Vedoucí sociálně-ekonomického oddělení Českomoravské konfederace odborových svazů

Zdeněk MÁLEK

Manažer ČMKOS pro sociální dialog a poradce ČMKOS

Lucie STUDNIČNÁ

Mezinárodní tajemnice Odborového svazu KOVO

Dana ŠTECHOVÁ

Poradkyně, Oddělení ČMKOS pro evropské a další mezinárodní vztahy

Roman HAKEN

Místopředseda Rady vlády ČR pro nestátní neziskové organizace a předseda jejího Výboru pro spolupráci s regiony

Ludvík JÍROVEC

Člen Hospodářské komory ČR, člen Agrární komory ČR, expert v COPA-COGECA/Brusel

Jaroslav NĚMEC

Ředitel Arcidiecézní charity Praha

Pavel TRANTINA

Manažer projektů a spolupráce s EU v České radě dětí a mládeže, expert UNDP pro tvorbu zákona o dobrovolnictví v Bosně a Hercegovině

DENMARK

Ms Dorthe ANDERSEN

Director EU policy, Confederation of Danish Employers

Ms Sinne Alsing CONAN

Director of European Affairs, Confederation of Danish Industry

Mr Nils Juhl ANDREASEN

Managing Director, Danish Confederation of Employers' Associations in Agriculture (SALA)

Ms Marie-Louise KNUPPERT

Secretary of International Relations, Danish Confederation of Trade Unions

Mr Peder Munch HANSEN

EU-Advisor, Danish Confederation of Trade Unions

Mr Søren KARGAARD

International Consultant, FTF — Confederation of Professionals in Denmark

Mr Ask Abildgaard ANDERSEN

Policy Officer, Disabled Peoples Organisations Denmark

Ms Benedicte FEDERSPIEL

Senior Advisor, Danish Consumer Council

Ms Mette Pia KINDBERG

Vice Chair Person, Women's Council in Denmark

GERMANY

Mr Peter CLEVER

Mitglied der Hauptgeschäftsführung der Bundesvereinigung der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände (BDA)

(Member of the Executive Board of the National Union of German Employers' Associations (BDA))

Mr Bernd DITTMANN

Bereichsleiter Europa, Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie (BDI)

(Vice President and Executive Director Europe — Federation of German Industries (BDI))

Mr Göke FRERICHS

Präsidiumsmitglied im Bundesverband des Deutschen Großhandel, Außenhandel, Dienstleistungen (BGA)

(Board member, German Federation for Wholesale and Foreign Trade (BGA))

Mr Thomas ILKA

Leiter der Vertretung des Deutschen Industrie- und Handelskammertages (DIHK) bei der EU

(Director of the Representation to the EU of the Federation of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK))

Mr Adalbert KIENLE

Stellvertretender Generalsekretär des Deutschen Bauernverbandes (DBV)

(Deputy General Secretary, German Farmers' Association (DBV))

Mr Volker PETERSEN

Stellvertretender Generalsekretär im Deutschen Raiffeisenverband e.V. (DRV)

(Deputy Secretary-General of the Association of German Agricultural Credit Cooperatives (DRV))

Mr Joachim WÜRMEILING

Mitglied der Hauptgeschäftsführung des Gesamtverbandes der deutschen Versicherungswirtschaft e.V. (GDV)
(Member of the Executive Board of the German Insurance Association (GDV))

Mr Joachim FRIED

Leiter Wirtschaft, Politik und Regulierung bei der Deutschen Bahn
(Director of Economics, Policy and Regulation, German Railways)

Ms Gabriele BISCHOFF

Bereichsleiterin Europapolitik beim Bundesvorstand des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes (DGB)
(Director of European Policy — Federal Executive of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB))

Mr Claus MATECKI

Mitglied des Geschäftsführenden Bundesvorstandes des Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes (DGB)
(Member of the National Executive of the German Trade Union Confederation (DGB))

Mr Armin DUTTINÉ

Leiter des EU-Verbindungsbüros ver.di
(Director of the EU liaison office, German United Services Union (ver.di))

Mr Horst MUND

Bereichsleiter Internationales IG Metall
(Director of International Department, IG Metall)

Mr Alexander GRAF VON SCHWERIN

Berater Europäische Angelegenheiten beim Konzern Duisburger Versorgungs- und Verkehrsgesellschaft mbH (DVV Konzern)
(European Affairs Adviser, DVV Konzern)

Mr Hans-Joachim WILMS

Europabeauftragter bei der IG Bauen — Agrar — Umwelt (IG Bau)
(European Affairs Officer, German Trade Union for Construction, Agriculture and the Environment (IG BAU))

Mr Egbert BIERMANN

Mitglied des Geschäftsführenden Hauptvorstandes der IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie (IG BCE)
(Member of the Executive Board of German Mining, Chemical and Energy Industrial Union (IG BCE))

Ms Michaela ROSENBERGER

Stellvertretende Vorsitzende Gewerkschaft Nahrung — Genuss — Gaststätten
(Deputy Chair of the German Trade Union of Food, Beverages, Tobacco, Hotel and Catering and Allied Workers)

Mr Jürgen KEßLER

Vorstandsvorsitzender Verbraucherzentrale Berlin
(Chairman of the Board, Berlin Consumers' Association)

Mr Bernd SCHLÜTER

Berater bei der Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege (BAGFW)
(Advisor, Federal Association of Non-Statutory Welfare Services (BAGFW))

Ms Renate HEINISCH

Mitglied im Bundesvorstand der Senioren-Organisationen (BAGSO)
(Member of the Federal Association of German Senior Citizens' Organisations (BAGSO))

Mr Frank STÖHR

Zweiter Bundesvorsitzender dbb Beamtenbund und Tarifunion
(Vice-President, Federal Board of Management, German Civil Service Federation)

Mr Lutz RIBBE

Direktor, Stiftung Europäisches Naturerbe (Euronatur)
(Director, European Nature Heritage Fund (Euronatur))

Mr Prof. Dr Gerd WOLF

Beauftragter der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft Deutscher Forschungszentren (HGF)
(Representative of the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres (HGF))

Mr Holger SCHWANNECKE
Generalsekretär des Zentralverbandes des Deutschen Handwerks (ZDH)
(General Secretary, Central Association of German Craft Trades (ZDH))

Mr Arno METZLER
Hauptgeschäftsführer des Bundesverbandes der Freien Berufe (BFB)
(Chief Executive and Head of Brussels Office, German National Association of Liberal Professions (BFB))

ESTONIA

Ms Eve PÄÄRENDSON
Estonian Employers' Confederation, Director of International Relations

Ms Reet TEDER
Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, policy director

Ms Mare VIIES
Estonian Employees' Unions' Confederation; Tallinn University of Technology, Researcher at Centre for Economic Research at TUT

Ms Liina CARR
Estonian Trade Union Confederation, International Secretary

Mr Kaul NURM
Estonian Farmers' Federation, managing director

Ms Mall HELLAM
NGO Network of Estonian Nonprofit Organizations, member of the supervisory board; Executive Director of Open Estonia Foundation

Mr Meelis JOOST
Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, Foreign relations and European policy officer

IRELAND

Ms Heidi LOUGHEED
Head of IBEC Europe

Mr David CROUGHAN
Head of Economics and Taxation, IBEC

Mr Thomas McDONOGH
Chairman, Thomas McDonogh and Sons Ltd

Mr Jim McCUSKER
Previously General Secretary of NIPSA

Mr Manus O'RIORDAN
Head of Research, SIPTU (rtd)

Ms Sally Anne KINAHAN
Assistant General Secretary, ICTU

Ms Jillian VAN TURNHOUT
Chief Executive, Children's Rights Alliance, Former President National Youth Council of Ireland

Mr Pdraig WALSH
COPA President and former IFA President

Ms Siobhán EGAN
Policy and Advocacy Officer, BirdWatch Ireland

GREECE

M^{me} Irini Ivoni PARI
Fédération des industries grecques (SEB)

M. Dimitris DIMITRIADIS
Confédération nationale de commerce hellénique (ESEE)

M. Georgios DRAKOPOULOS
Association des entreprises helléniques de tourisme (SETE)

M^{me} Anna BREDIMA
Association des armateurs grecs (E.E.E.)

M. Christos POLYZOGOPOULOS
Confédération générale grecque des ouvriers (GE.S.E.E.)

M. Eleftherios PAPADOPOULOS
Confédération générale grecque des ouvriers (GE.S.E.E.)

M. Georgios DASSIS
Confédération générale grecque des ouvriers (GE.S.E.E.)

M. Spyridon PAPASPYROS
Fédération des fonctionnaires

M. Nikolaos LIOLIOS
Confédération hellénique des coopératives agricoles (PASEGES)

M^{me} Evangelia KEKELEKI
Centre de protection des consommateurs (KEPKA)

M. Panagiotis GKOFAS
Confédération générale grecque de commerçants et artisans (GSBEE)

M. Ioannis VARDAKASTANIS
Confédération nationale de personnes handicapées (ESAmA)

SPAIN

Sr. Rafael BARBADILLO LÓPEZ
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sra. Lourdes CAVERO MESTRE
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sr. José María ESPUNY MOYANO
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sra. Margarita LÓPEZ ALMENDÁRIZ
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sr. Ángel PANERO FLÓREZ
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sr. José Isaías RODRÍGUEZ GARCÍA-CARO
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sr. José SARTORIOUS ÁLVAREZ DE BOHORQUES
Miembro de la Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales (CEOE)

Sr. José María ZUFIAUR
Presidente de la Fundación Educación y Trabajo

Sra. Isabel CAÑO AGUILAR
Directora de la Oficina de UGT en Bruselas

Sr. Juan MENDOZA CASTRO
Colaborador de UGT para Asuntos Internacionales

Sra. Joana AGUDO
Presidenta del Comité Coordinador de los Consejos Sindicales Interregionales de Comisiones Obreras (CC.OO.)

Sr. Juan MORENO PRECIADO

Responsable de la Oficina de la Confederación Sindical de Comisiones Obreras (CC.OO.) en Bruselas

Sr. Luis Miguel PARIZA CASTAÑOS

Secretaría de Política Internacional de la Confederación sindical de Comisiones Obreras (CC.OO.)

Sra. Laura GONZÁLEZ TXABARRI

Miembro del Comité Ejecutivo de ELA

Sr. Javier SÁNCHEZ ANSÓ

Responsable de Relaciones Internacionales, Estructuras Agrarias y Desarrollo Rural de la Comisión Ejecutiva de la Coordinadora de Organizaciones de Agricultores y Ganaderos (COAG)

Sr. Miguel Ángel CABRA DE LUNA

Función ejercida: Vocal de Relaciones Internacionales de la Confederación Empresarial Española de la Economía Social (CEPES)

Sr. Gabriel SARRÓ IPARRAGUIRRE

Director de la Organización de Productores Asociados de Grandes Atuneros Congeladores (OPAGAC)

Sr. José Manuel ROCHE RAMO

Secretario de Relaciones Internacionales de UPA

Sr. Pedro Raúl NARRO SÁNCHEZ

Director de Asuntos Europeos de ASAJA

Sr. Carlos TRÍAS PINTO

Director en la Asociación General de Consumidores (ASGECO); Director en la Unión de Cooperativas de Consumidores y Usuarios de España (UNCCUE)

Sr. Bernardo HERNÁNDEZ BATALLER

Secretario General de la Asociación de Usuarios de la Comunicación (AUC)

FRANCE

M^{me} Emmanuelle BUTAUD-STUBBS

Déléguée générale de l'Union des industries textiles (UIT)

M. Bernard HUVELIN

Vice-président de la Fédération française du bâtiment (FFB)

M. Stéphane BUFFETAUT

Directeur chargé des relations institutionnelles, Veolia Environnement

M. Henri MALOSSE

Directeur, conseiller institutionnel pour les affaires européennes auprès de la présidence de l'ACFCI

M. Philippe de BRAUER

Président de la commission internationale de la Confédération générale des petites et moyennes entreprises (CGPME)

M. Jean-Pierre CROUZET

Vice-président de la CGAD, président de la Confédération nationale de la boulangerie française, membre du conseil national de l'Union professionnelle artisanale (UPA)

M. Henri BRICHART

Président de la Fédération nationale des producteurs de lait

M. Éric PIGAL

Délégué national de la Confédération française de l'encadrement/Confédération générale des cadres (CFE-CGC), en charge de la coordination du Comité économique et social européen, du CESE français et du Conseil économique et social régional

M. Jacques LEMERCIER

Président de l'international UNI Europa Poste&logistique — membre de la commission exécutive confédérale, Force ouvrière (FO)

M^{me} Laure BATUT

Assistante confédérale au secteur international et Europe, Force ouvrière (FO)

M. Jean-Pierre COULON

Secrétaire confédéral en charge des affaires européennes et internationales de la Confédération française des travailleurs chrétiens (CFTC)

M^{me} Béatrice OUIN

Chargée de mission au sein du service international et Europe de la Confédération française démocratique du travail (CFDT)

M. Gérard DANTIN

Chargé de mission au sein du service international et Europe de la Confédération française démocratique du travail (CFDT)

M^{me} An LENOUIL-MARLIERE

Conseillère à l'espace Europe/international de la Confédération générale du travail (CGT)

M. Denis MEYNENT

Conseiller à l'espace Europe/international de la Confédération générale du travail (CGT)

M^{me} Reine-Claude MADER-SAUSSAYE

Présidente de la Confédération de la consommation, du logement et du cadre de vie (CLCV)

M. Édouard de LAMAZE

Avocat à la Cour, ancien délégué interministériel aux professions libérales, ancien membre du CEC, Union nationale des professions libérales (UNAPLE)

M. Julien VALENTIN

Agriculteur, responsable des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication (NTIC), Centre national des jeunes agriculteurs (CNJA)

M. Gilbert BROS

Vice-président de l'Assemblée permanente des chambres d'agriculture (APCA)

Président de la Chambre d'agriculture de Haute-Loire

M^{me} Évelyne PICHENOT

Présidente de la délégation pour l'Union européenne du Conseil économique, social et environnemental (CESE) français

Membre du CESE français

M. Joseph GUIMET

Administrateur de l'Union nationale des associations familiales (UNAF), président du groupe de l'UNAF au CESE français

M. Jean-Paul PANZANI

Membre du comité exécutif, président de la Fédération nationale de la mutualité française (FNMF)

M. Georges CINGAL

Administrateur de France nature environnement

M. Thierry LIBAERT

Professeur, université de Louvain, maître de conférences en communication à l'Institut d'études politiques (IEP) catholique de Paris, membre de la commission gouvernance au Grenelle de l'environnement

ITALY

Mr Mario CAMPLI

Coordinatore politiche europee Legacoop

Mr Luigi CAPRIOGLIO

Consigliere nazionale della Confederazione Italiana Dirigenti e Alte Professionalità (CIDA)

Mr Francesco CAVALLARO

Segretario generale della CISAL (Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Autonomi Lavoratori)

Mr Carmelo CEDRONE

Professore incaricato di Politica Economica Europea, Univ. La Sapienza Roma — Componente del «Team Europe» — Collaboratore del Dipartimento Europeo ed Internazionale UIL (Unione Italiana del Lavoro) — Membro del Comitato Centrale UIL — Componente del Consiglio Direttivo del Movimento Europeo

Mr Franco CHIRIACO

Presidente del Sindacato Unitario Nazionale Inquilini ed Assegnatari (SUNIA) — Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro (CGIL)

Mr Roberto CONFALONIERI

Segretario generale CONFEDIR (Confederazione dei Dirigenti Italiani e delle Alte Professionalità) — Consigliere CNEL (Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del Lavoro)

Mr Gianfranco DELL'ALBA

Direttore della Delegazione di Confindustria presso l'Unione Europea

Mr Pietro Francesco DE LOTTO

Direttore Generale di Confartigianato Vicenza

Mr Giancarlo DURANTE

Direttore Centrale dell'Associazione Bancaria Italiana, Responsabile dell'area Sindacale e del Lavoro

Mr Emilio FATOVIC

Vice Segretario Generale CONFESAL

(Confederazione Generale dei Sindacati Autonomi dei Lavoratori) con delega al privato

Mr Giuseppe GUERINI

Presidente Nazionale Federsolidarietà

Mr Edgardo Maria IOZIA

Segretario Nazionale Unione Italiana Lavoratori Credito Esattorie e Assicurazioni (UILCA) — Presidente UNI Europa Finanza

Mr Giuseppe Antonio Maria IULIANO

Dipartimento Politiche internazionali CISL (Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori), Coordinatore di aree — Responsabile per l'Europa centro-orientale e per l'America latina

Mr Luca JAHIER

Presidente del Consiglio nazionale delle Associazioni Cristiane Lavoratori Italiani (ACLI) e responsabile relazioni internazionali

Mr Antonio LONGO

Presidente dell'Associazione Movimento Difesa del Cittadino — Direttore della testata giornalistica «Diritti & Consumi»

Mr Sandro MASCIA

Responsabile Ufficio di Rappresentanza della Confagricoltura di Bruxelles

Mr Stefano PALMIERI

Responsabile dell'Ufficio Europa della CGIL (Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro) a Bruxelles

Mr Antonello PEZZINI

Imprenditore tessile-tecnico. Confindustria Bergamo

Mr Antonio POLICA

Dirigente Confederale UGL (Unione Generale del Lavoro)

Mr Virgilio RANOCCHIARI

Responsabile della Delegazione Fiat per l'Europa

Mr Maurizio REALE

Responsabile della Rappresentanza per le Relazioni con le Istituzioni Comunitarie — Coldiretti

Ms Daniela RONDINELLI

Responsabile Ufficio Internazionale FISASCAT CISL (Federazione Italiana Sindacati Addetti Commerciali Affitti Turismo — Confederazione Italiana Sindacati dei Lavoratori)

Mr Corrado ROSSITTO

Presidente Nazionale della Confederazione Italiana di Unione delle Professioni Intellettuali (CIU)

Mr Claudio ROTTI

Presidente AICE (Associazione Italiana Commercio Estero)

CYPRUS

Μιχάλης Αντωνίου (Mr Michalis ANTONIOU)

Βοηθός Γενικός Διευθυντής (Deputy Director General)

Ομοσπονδία Εργοδοτών και Βιομηχάνων (ΟΕΒ) (Cyprus Employers and Industrialists Federation)

Ανδρέας Λουρουτζιάτης (Mr Andreas LOUROUTZIATIS)

Αντιπρόεδρος Κυπριακού Εμπορικού και Βιομηχανικού Επιμελητηρίου (ΚΕΒΕ) (Vice-President, Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

Κυπριακό Εμπορικό και Βιομηχανικό Επιμελητήριο (ΚΕΒΕ) (Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

Ανδρέας Παυλικκάς (Mr Andreas PAVLIKKAS)

Υπεύθυνος Γραφείου Ερευνών και Μελετών (Head of Research and Studies Department)

Παγκύπρια Εργατική Ομοσπονδία (ΠΕΟ) (Pancyprian Federation of Labour)

Δημήτρης Κιττένης (Mr Dimitris KITTENIS)

Τέως Γενικός Γραμματέας (Former Secretary-General)

Συνομοσπονδία Εργαζομένων Κύπρου (ΣΕΚ) (Cyprus Workers' Confederation)

Κωστάκης Κωνσταντινίδης (Mr Costakis CONSTANTINIDES)

Μέλος Κυπριακού Συνδέσμου Καταναλωτών (Member, Cyprus Consumers' Association)

Μιχάλης Λύτρας (Mr Michalis LITRAS)

Γενικός Γραμματέας (Secretary-General)

Παναγροτικής Ένωσης Κύπρου (Panagrarian Union of Cyprus)

LATVIA

Mr Vitālijs GAVRILOVS

Latvijas Darba devēju konfederācijas (LDDK) prezidents

Mr Gundars STRAUTMANIS

Latvijas Tirdzniecības un rūpniecības kameras (LTRK) viceprezidents un LTRK Padomes loceklis

Mr Pēteris KRĪGERS

Latvijas Brīvo arodbiedrību savienības (LBAS) priekšsēdētājs

Ms Ariadna ĀBELTIŅA

Latvijas Brīvo arodbiedrību savienības (LBAS) ārējo sakaru koordinētāja starptautiskos jautājumos

Mr Armands KRAUZE

Lauksaimnieku organizāciju sadarbības padomes (LOSP) valdes priekšsēdētājs

Ms Gunta ANČA

Latvijas Cilvēku ar īpašām vajadzībām sadarbības organizācijas SUSTENTO valdes priekšsēdētāja

Mr Andris GOBIŅŠ

Eiropas Kustības Latvijā (EKL) prezidents

LITHUANIA

Mr Alfredas JONUŠKA

Director General, Siauliai Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Crafts

Mr Stasys KROPAS

President, Association of Lithuania Banks; Vice-president, Lithuanian business confederation ICC Lithuania

Mr Gintaras MORKIS

Deputy Director General, Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists

Ms Gražina GRUZDIENĖ

Chairman, Trade Union of Lithuanian Food Producers

Ms Daiva KVEDARAITĖ

Head of Information Centre, Lithuanian Trade Union Solidarumas

Ms Inga PREIDIENĖ
Vice-chairperson, Youth Organization, Lithuanian Labour Federation

Mr Mindaugas MACIULEVIČIUS
Director, Agricultural cooperative 'Lietuviško ūkio kokybė'

Mr Zenonas Rokas RUDZIKAS
Member, Lithuanian Academy of Sciences; Leading researcher, Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astronomy, Vilnius University

Ms Indrė VAREIKYTĖ
Member, Lithuanian Board of Education; Member, Youth Committee in the Tripartite Council of the Republic of Lithuania

LUXEMBOURG

M^{me} Viviane GOERGEN
Secrétaire générale adjointe de la Confédération luxembourgeoise des syndicats chrétiens (LCGB)

M. Raymond HENCKS
Membre du comité exécutif de la Confédération générale de la fonction publique (CGFP)

M. Paul RECKINGER
Président honoraire de la Chambre des métiers du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg

M. Jean-Claude REDING
Président de la Confédération syndicale indépendante du Luxembourg (OGBL)

M^{me} Josiane WILLEMS
Directrice de la Centrale paysanne luxembourgeoise (CPL)

M. Christian ZEYEN
General Manager d'ArcelorMittal

HUNGARY

Antal CSUPORT
Managing director, National Association of Strategic and Public Utility Companies

Tamás NAGY
Chairman, National Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives and Producers

Dr. Péter VADÁSZ
Co-chairman, Confederation of Hungarian Employers and Industrialists

János VÉRTES
Co-chairman in charge of international relations, National Federation of Traders and Caterers

József KAPUVÁRI
Member of the Board, National Confederation of Hungarian Trade Unions

Dr. Ágnes CSER
Co-chairman, LIGA Confederation

Dr. Miklós PÁSZTOR
Expert, National Federation of Workers' Council

Dr. János WELTNER
Expert, Trade Union Block of Intellectual Employers

Dr. Etele BARÁTH
Hon. university professor, Hungarian Society for Urban Planning

Kinga JOÓ
Expert, HÖÖK a Hallgatókért Foundation

Dr. Lajos MIKULA
Expert, Agricultural and Rural Youth Association

Ákos TOPOLÁNSZKY
Expert, 'SOURCE' Mental Helpers Association

MALTA

Ms Grace ATTARD
President, National Council of Women (NCW)

Ms Anna Maria DARMANIN
Council Member, Confederation of Malta Trade Unions (CMTU)

Mr Vincent FARRUGIA
Director General, Malta Chamber of Small and Medium Enterprises (GRTU)

Mr Stefano MALLIA
Vice President, Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry (MCCEI)

Mr Michael PARNIS
Deputy General Secretary, General Workers Union

NETHERLANDS

Ms Johanna Anna VAN DEN BANDT-STEL
Head of the Brussels Office of VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland

Ms Melanie Irmgard BOUWKNEGT
Economic Policy Advisor at CNV

Ms Marjolijn BULK
Policy Advisor International Affairs at FNV

Mr Joost Peter VAN IERSEL
Member of the EESC

Mr Willem Wolter MULLER
Advisor International Affairs at MHP

Mr Nicolaas Clemens Maria VAN NIEKERK
Freelance management advisor/supervisor

Mr Frank VAN OORSCHOT
Senior Specialist International Affairs at LTO

Mr Ullrich SCHRÖDER
Permanent Delegate Brussels at MKB-Nederland

Mr Martin SIECKER
International Manager at FNV

Mr Joannes Gertrudis Wilhelmina SIMONS
Emeritus Professor Transport Economics Free University of Amsterdam, Member of the EESC

Mr Dick WESTENDORP
Emeritus General Director Consumers Union

Ms Anna Antonia Maria VAN WEZEL
Member of the EESC

AUSTRIA

Ms Waltraud KLASNIC

Landeshauptmann a. D.

Dr Johannes KLEEMANN

Mitglied des Wirtschafts- und Sozialausschusses in den Mandatsperioden 2002-2006 und 2006-2010

Mag. Dipl. Ing. Johann KÖLTRINGER

Hauptabteilungsleiter des Österreichischen Raiffeisenverbandes

Mag. Christa SCHWENG

Referentin der Wirtschaftskammer Österreich, Abteilung für Sozialpolitik und Gesundheit

Mag. Thomas DELAPINA

Geschäftsführer des Beirats für Wirtschafts- und Sozialfragen; Sekretär in der Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte für Wien

Mag. Wolfgang GREIF

Gewerkschaft der Privatangestellten, Druck, Journalismus, Papier; Bereichsleiter Europa, Konzerne und internationale Beziehungen

Mr Thomas KATTNIG

Gewerkschaft der Gemeindebediensteten; Leiter des Referats für Internationale Verbindungen

Dr Christoph LECHNER

Leiter der Abteilung Verfassungsrecht und Allgemeine und Internationale Sozialpolitik in der Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte für Niederösterreich

Mag. Oliver RÖPKE

Leiter des Europabüros des ÖGB

Mr Alfred GAJDOSIK

Vorsitzender-Stellvertreter der Gewerkschaft VIDA

Mag. Gerfried GRUBER

Referent der Landwirtschaftskammer Österreich

Dr Anne-Marie SIGMUND

Europabeauftragte des Bundeskomitees Freie Berufe Österreichs

POLAND

Mr Krzysztof OSTROWSKI

Consultant, Business Centre Club — Association of Employers

Mr Andrzej MALINOWSKI

President, Confederation of Polish Employers

Ms Anna NIETYKSZA

Member, Confederation of Polish Employers

Mr Marek KOMOROWSKI

Counsellor, Polish Confederation of Private Employers Lewiatan

Mr Jacek Piotr KRAWCZYK

Vice-president, Polish Confederation of Private Employers Lewiatan

Mr Jan KLIMEK

Vice-president, Polish Craft Association

Mr Tadeusz KLIŚ

Vice-president, Polish Craft Association

Ms Dorota GARDIAS

Secretary General, Trade Union Forum

Mr Wiesław SIEWIERSKI
President, Trade Union Forum

Mr Andrzej ADAMCZYK
Secretary of the international affairs, Independent and Self-Governing Trade Union Solidarność

Mr Marian KRZAKLEWSKI
Member of the National Commission, Independent and Self-Governing Trade Union Solidarność

Mr Andrzej CHWILUK
Vice-president of the Trade Unions of Miners, All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions

Mr Tomasz Dariusz JASIŃSKI
Specialist of the international affairs, All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions

Mr Stanisław Józef RÓŻYCKI
Vice-president of the Council of Education and Science of the Polish Teachers' Union, All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions

Mr Krzysztof BALON
Secretary of the Research programme Council, Working Community of Associations of Social Organisations WRZOS

Mr Krzysztof KAMIENIECKI
Vice-president, Institute for Sustainable Development Foundation

Ms Marzena MENDZA-DROZD
Member of the Board, Forum of Non-Government Initiatives' Association, All-Poland Federation of Non-Governmental Organisations

Mr Krzysztof PATER
Member of the Scout Court, Polish Scouting and Guiding Association

Ms Jolanta PLAKWICZ
Member, Polish Women's Lobby

Mr Władysław SERAFIN
President, National Union of Farmers, Circles and Agricultural Organizations

Ms Teresa TISZBIEREK
Vice-president, Association of the Voluntary Fire Brigades of the Republic of Poland

PORTUGAL

Mr Manuel Eugénio PIMENTEL CAVALEIRO BRANDÃO
Confederação da Indústria Portuguesa (CIP)
(Confederation of Portuguese Industry)

Mr Luís Miguel CORREIA MIRA
Confederação dos Agricultores de Portugal (CAP)
(Portuguese Farmers' Confederation)

Mr Pedro D'ALMEIDA FREIRE
Confederação do Comércio e Serviços de Portugal (CCP)
(Portuguese Trade and Services Confederation)

Mr Paulo BARROS VALE
Associação Empresarial de Portugal (AEP)
(Portuguese Business Association)

Mr Mário David FERREIRINHA SOARES
Confederação Geral dos trabalhadores Portugueses (CGTP)
(General Confederation of Portuguese Workers)

Mr Carlos Manuel ALVES TRINDADE
Confederação Geral dos Trabalhadores Portugueses (CGTP)
(General Confederation of Portuguese Workers)

Mr Alfredo Manuel VIEIRA CORREIA
União Geral de Trabalhadores (UGT)
(General Workers' Union)

Mr Victor Hugo DE JESUS SEQUEIRA
União Geral de Trabalhadores (UGT)
(General Workers' Union)

Mr Jorge PEGADO LIZ
Associação Portuguesa para a Defesa do Consumidor (DECO)
(Portuguese Consumer Protection Association)

Mr Carlos Alberto PEREIRA MARTINS
Conselho Nacional das Ordens Profissionais (CNOP)
(National Council of Professional Bodies)

Mr Francisco João BERNARDINO DA SILVA
Confederação Nacional das Cooperativas Agrícolas e do Crédito Agrícola de Portugal, CCRL (CONFAGRI)
(Portuguese National Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives and Agricultural Credit, limited-liability cooperative confederation)

Rev. Vítor José MELÍCIAS LOPES
União das Misericórdias Portuguesas (UMP)
(Union of Portuguese Charitable Institutions)

ROMANIA

Dl Petru Sorin DANDEA
Vicepreședinte, Confederația Națională Sindicală „Cartel ALFA”
(Vice-President of the National Trade Union Confederation ‘Cartel ALFA’)

Dl Dumitru FORNEA
Secretar confederal, Confederația Sindicală Națională MERIDIAN
(Confederal secretary of the National Trade Union Confederation — Meridian)

Dl Minel IVAȘCU
Secretar general, Blocul Național Sindical
(Secretary-General of the National Trade Union Bloc (BNS))

Dl Sorin Cristian STAN
Secretar general, Confederația Națională a Sindicatelor Libere din România (FRĂȚIA)
(Secretary-General of the National Confederation of Romanian Free Trade Unions (FRĂȚIA))

Dl Sabin RUSU
Secretar general, Confederația Sindicatelor Democratice din România
(Secretary-General of the Confederation of Romanian Democratic Trade Unions)

Dl Eugen Mircea BURADA
Președinte executiv, Consiliul Național al Patronatului Român
(Executive President, National Council of Romanian Employers)

Dna Ana BONTEA
Director, Departamentul Juridic și Dialog Social — Consiliul Național al Întreprinderilor Private Mici și Mijlocii din România
(Director of the Legislative and Social Dialogue Department, National Council of Small and Medium-Sized Private Enterprises in Romania)

DI Mihai MANOLIU
Secretar general, Alianța Confederațiilor Patronale din România
(Secretary-General, Alliance of Romanian Employers' Confederations)

DI Aurel Laurențiu PLOSCEANU
Președinte, Asociația Română a Antreprenorilor de Construcții
(President of the Romanian Construction Entrepreneurship Association)

DI Ștefan VARFALVI
Președinte executiv, UGIR
(Executive President of UGIR)

DI Cristian PÂRVULESCU
Președinte, Asociația Pro Democrația
(President of the Pro-Democracy Association)

DI Ionuț SIBIAN
Director, Fundația pentru Dezvoltarea Societății Civile
(Director, Civil Society Development Foundation)

DI Sorin IONIȚĂ
Director de cercetare, Societatea Academică din România
(Director of research, Academic Society of Romania)

DI Radu NICOSEVICI
Președinte, Academia de Advocacy
(Chairman of the Advocacy Academy)

SLOVENIA

Mr Cveto STANTIČ
Predstavnik velikega gospodarstva (representative of large business)

Mr Dare STOJAN
Predstavnik malega gospodarstva (representative of small business)

Mr Andrej ZORKO
Izvršni sekretar Zveze svobodnih sindikatov Slovenije (Executive Secretary of the ZSSS (Free Trade Unions of Slovenia))

Mr Dušan REBOLJ
Predsednik Konfederacije sindikatov Pergam Slovenije (President of Pergam Trade Union Federation (KSS Pergam))

Mr Bojan HRIBAR
Predstavnik sindikatov javnega sektorja (representative of the public sector trade unions)

Mr Igor HROVATIČ
Direktor Kmetijsko gozdarske zbornice Slovenije (Director of the Agriculture and Forestry Federation)

Mr Primož ŠPORAR
Predstavnik organizacije SKUP – Skupnost privatnih zavodov (representative of SKUP — Community of Private Institutes)

SLOVAKIA

Ján ORAVEC
Prezident Združenia podnikateľov Slovenska (ZPS)

Michal PINTÉR
Člen Republikovej únie zamestnávateľov (RÚZ), riaditeľ, U.S. Steel Košice, s.r.o.

Igor ŠARMÍR

Riaditeľ odboru potravinárstva a obchodu Slovenskej poľnohospodárskej a potravinárskej komory, tajomník Únie potravinárov SR

Vladimír MOJŠ

Predseda Hospodárskeho a sociálneho výboru (HSV), viceprezident Konfederácie odborových zväzov SR

Dušan BARČÍK

Viceprezident Konfederácie odborových zväzov SR pre výrobné OZ, predseda Integrovaného odborového zväzu

Ján GAŠPERAN

Viceprezident Konfederácie odborových zväzov SR pre nevýrobné OZ, predseda OZ pracovníkov školstva a vedy na Slovensku

Juraj STERN

Prezident Slovenskej spoločnosti pre zahraničnú politiku (SFPA)

Viliam PÁLENÍK

Prezident Inštitútu zamestnanosti

Tomáš DOMONKOS

Vedecký pracovník Ekonomického ústavu Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV)

FINLAND

Mr Filip Mikael HAMRO-DROTZ

asiantuntija Elinkeinoelämän keskusliitto EK

Ms Ulla SIRKEINEN

erityisasiantuntija Elinkeinoelämän keskusliitto EK

Ms Marja-Liisa PELTOLA

osastopäällikkö Keskuskauppakamari

Mr Simo Markus PENTTINEN

kansainvälisten asioiden päällikkö Akava ry

Mr Reijo Veli Erik PAANANEN

EU-asiantuntija Suomen Ammattiliittojen Keskusjärjestö SAK ry

Ms Leila KURKI

työllisyyspoliittinen asiantuntija Toimihenkilökeskusjärjestö STTK ry

Ms Pirkko Marjatta RAUNEMAA

kuluttajaekonomisti ja elintarvikeasiantuntija Kotitalous- ja kuluttaja-asioiden neuvottelukunta/Kuluttajat — Konsumenterna ry

Mr Seppo Ilmari KALLIO

johtaja Maa- ja metsätaloustuottajain Keskusliitto MTK ry

Mr Thomas PALMGREN

kansainvälisten asioiden asiamies Suomen yrittäjät

SWEDEN

Ms Ellen Paula NYGREN

Ombudsman, Landsorganisation i Sverige (LO) (Swedish Trade Union Confederation)

Mr Frank Thomas ABRAHAMSSON

Vice-president, Landsorganisation i Sverige (LO) (Swedish Trade Union Confederation)

Mr Thomas Mikael JANSON

International Secretary, Tjänstemännens centralorganisation (TCO) (Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees)

Mr Paul Henrik LIDEHÅLL

International Secretary, Sveriges akademikers centralorganisation (SACO) (Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations)

Mr Ulf Christian ARDHE

Director, Svenskt näringsliv (Confederation of Swedish Enterprise)

Ms Annika Kristina BRÖMS

Deputy Director, Svenskt näringsliv (Confederation of Swedish Enterprise)

Mr Thord Stefan BACK

Manager Sustainable Logistics, Transportgruppen (The Transport Group)

Mr Erik SVENSSON

Director, ALMEGA

Mr Staffan Mats Vilhelm NILSSON

Member of the EESC, President Group III

Lantbrukarnas riksförbund (LRF) (Federation of Swedish Farmers)

Ms Ingrid Eva-Britt KÖSSLER

President, The Swedish Breastcancer Association

Handikappförbundens samarbetsorgan (Swedish Disability Federation)

Ms Inger Kristina Elisabeth PERSSON

Chairman, Sveriges konsumenter (Swedish Consumers' Association)

Ms Ariane Elisabeth RODERT

EU Policy Advisor, Forum for frivilligt socialt arbete (National Forum for Voluntary Social Work)

UNITED KINGDOM

Mr George LYON

Legal Counsel — Northgate Information Solutions UK Ltd

Ms Brenda KING

Chief Executive, ACDiversity

Mr David SEARS

Consultant

Mr Jonathan PEEL

Director, Jonathan Peel EU Communications Ltd

Mr Bryan CASSIDY

Consultant

Mr Peter MORGAN

Chairman, Association of Lloyd's Members

Ms Madi SHARMA

Entrepreneur

Mr Brendan BURNS

Management Consultant & Financial Investor

Mr Peter COLDRICK

Part-time adviser to General Secretary, ETUC

Mr Brian CURTIS
Retired; Former Regional Organiser; National Union of Rail, Maritime & Transport Workers (RMT)

Ms Sandy BOYLE
Retired; Former Director, AMICUS (Trade Union)

Ms Christine BLOWER
General Secretary, National Union of Teachers (NUT)

Ms Monica TAYLOR
Member of UNITE (Trade Union) Executive Council

Mr Nicholas CROOK
International Officer, UNISON (Trade Union)

Ms Judy McKNIGHT
Retired; Former General Secretary NAPO (Trade Union)

Ms Kathleen Walker SHAW
Head of European Office, Britain's General Union (GMB)

Ms Rose D'SA
Consultant in EU, Commonwealth and International Law

Ms Jane MORRICE
Deputy Chief Equality Commissioner; Equality Commission Northern Ireland

Ms Maureen O'NEILL
Director, Faith in Older People

Mr Michael SMYTH
Economist, University of Ulster

Mr Richard ADAMS
Senior Partner, Community Viewfinders Ltd

Mr Stuart ETHERINGTON
Chief Executive Officer, National Council for Voluntary Organisations

Mr Tom JONES
Self-employed Farmer

Mr Sukhdev SHARMA
Chairman of Board of Directors, Calderdale and Huddersfield Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 September 2010

amending, for the purposes of adapting to scientific and technical progress, the Annex to Directive 2002/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards exemptions for applications containing lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls or polybrominated diphenyl ethers

(notified under document C(2010) 6403)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2010/571/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Directive 2002/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 January 2003 on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 5(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Directive 2002/95/EC prohibits the use of lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) in electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) put on the market after 1 July 2006. Exemptions from that prohibition are listed in the Annex to that Directive. Those exemptions need to be reviewed in order to adapt them to scientific and technical progress.
- (2) As a result of the review of the exemptions, certain applications containing lead, mercury, cadmium or hexavalent chromium should continue to be exempted from the prohibition since the elimination of these hazardous substances in those specific applications is still scientifically or technically impracticable. It is therefore appropriate to maintain those exemptions.
- (3) As a result of the review of the exemptions, for certain applications containing lead, mercury, or cadmium the elimination or substitution of the use of those substances has become scientifically or technically possible. It is therefore appropriate to delete those exemptions.
- (4) As a result of the review of the exemptions, for certain applications containing lead, mercury or cadmium, the elimination or substitution of the use of those substances will become scientifically or technically possible in the foreseeable future. It is therefore appropriate to set expiry dates for those exemptions.
- (5) As a result of the review of the exemptions, for certain applications containing mercury, partial elimination or substitution of the use of that substance is scientifically or technically possible. It is therefore appropriate to reduce the amount of mercury that may be used in those applications.
- (6) As a result of the review of the exemptions, for certain applications containing mercury, in the foreseeable future only the partial and gradual elimination or substitution of the use of that substance is scientifically or technically possible. It is therefore appropriate to gradually reduce the amount of mercury that may be used in those applications.
- (7) In certain cases it is technically impossible to repair EEE with spare parts other than original ones. Therefore, in those cases only, the use of spare parts containing lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, or polybrominated diphenyl ethers, which benefited from an exemption, should be allowed in the repair of EEE, which was placed on the market before that exemption expired or was terminated.
- (8) Commission Regulation (EC) No 244/2009 of 18 March 2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for non-directional household lamps ⁽²⁾ and Commission Regulation (EC) No 245/2009 of 18 March 2009 implementing Directive 2005/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to ecodesign requirements for fluorescent lamps without integrated ballast, for high intensity discharge lamps, and for ballasts and luminaires able to operate such lamps, and repealing Directive 2000/55/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽³⁾ provide for indicative benchmarks as concerns the use of mercury in lamps. Although the mercury content of lamps was identified as a significant environmental parameter in Regulations (EC) No 244/2009 and (EC) No 245/2009, it was considered more appropriate to regulate it in Directive 2002/95/EC, which covers also lamp types exempted from those regulations.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 37, 13.2.2003, p. 19.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 76, 24.3.2009, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 76, 24.3.2009, p. 17.

- (9) As a result of the analysis undertaken for measures laid down in Regulation (EC) No 244/2009, for certain applications containing mercury, partial elimination or substitution of the use of this substance is scientifically or technically possible without negative environmental, health and/or consumer safety impacts that outweigh the benefits of substitution. It is therefore appropriate to reduce the mercury content for those applications in line with Regulation (EC) No 244/2009.
- (10) It is necessary to make substantial changes to the Annex to Directive 2002/95/EC. Therefore, for reasons of clarity, the whole Annex should be replaced.
- (11) Pursuant to Article 5(2) of Directive 2002/95/EC, the Commission has consulted the relevant parties.
- (12) Directive 2002/95/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.

- (13) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 18 of Directive 2006/12/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Annex to Directive 2002/95/EC is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 24 September 2010.

For the Commission
Janez POTOČNIK
Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 114, 27.4.2006, p. 9.

ANNEX

ANNEX

Applications exempted from the prohibition in Article 4(1)

Exemption		Scope and dates of applicability
1	Mercury in single capped (compact) fluorescent lamps not exceeding (per burner):	
1(a)	For general lighting purposes < 30 W: 5 mg	Expires on 31 December 2011; 3,5 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011 until 31 December 2012; 2,5 mg shall be used per burner after 31 December 2012
1(b)	For general lighting purposes ≥ 30 W and < 50 W: 5 mg	Expires on 31 December 2011; 3,5 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
1(c)	For general lighting purposes ≥ 50 W and ≤ 150 W: 5 mg	
1(d)	For general lighting purposes ≥ 150 W: 15 mg	
1(e)	For general lighting purposes with circular or square structural shape and tube diameter < 17 mm	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 7 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
1(f)	For special purposes: 5 mg	
2(a)	Mercury in double-capped linear fluorescent lamps for general lighting purposes not exceeding (per lamp):	
2(a)(1)	Tri-band phosphor with normal lifetime and a tube diameter > 9 mm (e.g. T2): 5 mg	Expires on 31 December 2011; 4 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
2(a)(2)	Tri-band phosphor with normal lifetime and a tube diameter ≥ 9 mm and ≥ 17 mm (e.g. T5): 5 mg	Expires on 31 December 2011; 3 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
2(a)(3)	Tri-band phosphor with normal lifetime and a tube diameter ≥ 17 mm and ≤ 28 mm (e.g. T8): 5 mg	Expires on 31 December 2011; 3,5 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
2(a)(4)	Tri-band phosphor with normal lifetime and a tube diameter > 28 mm (e.g. T12): 5 mg	Expires on 31 December 2012; 3,5 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2012
2(a)(5)	Tri-band phosphor with long lifetime ($\geq 25\,000$ h): 8 mg	Expires on 31 December 2011; 5 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
2(b)	Mercury in other fluorescent lamps not exceeding (per lamp):	
2(b)(1)	Linear halophosphate lamps with tube > 28 mm (e.g. T10 and T12): 10 mg	Expires on 13 April 2012
2(b)(2)	Non-linear halophosphate lamps (all diameters): 15 mg	Expires on 13 April 2016

	Exemption	Scope and dates of applicability
2(b)(3)	Non-linear tri-band phosphor lamps with tube diameter > 17 mm (e.g. T9)	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 15 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
2(b)(4)	Lamps for other general lighting and special purposes (e.g. induction lamps)	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 15 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
3	Mercury in cold cathode fluorescent lamps and external electrode fluorescent lamps (CCFL and EEFL) for special purposes not exceeding (per lamp):	
3(a)	Short length (≥ 500 mm)	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 3,5 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
3(b)	Medium length (> 500 mm and < 1 500 mm)	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 5 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
3(c)	Long length (> 1 500 mm)	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 13 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
4(a)	Mercury in other low pressure discharge lamps (per lamp)	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 15 mg may be used per lamp after 31 December 2011
4(b)	Mercury in High Pressure Sodium (vapour) lamps for general lighting purposes not exceeding (per burner) in lamps with improved colour rendering index $R_a > 60$:	
4(b)-I	$P < 155$ W	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 30 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
4(b)-II	155 W < $P < 405$ W	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 40 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
4(b)-III	$P > 405$ W	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 40 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
4(c)	Mercury in other High Pressure Sodium (vapour) lamps for general lighting purposes not exceeding (per burner):	
4(c)-I	$P < 155$ W	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 25 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
4(c)-II	155 W < $P < 405$ W	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 30 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
4(c)-III	$P > 405$ W	No limitation of use until 31 December 2011; 40 mg may be used per burner after 31 December 2011
4(d)	Mercury in High Pressure Mercury (vapour) lamps (HPMV)	Expires on 13 April 2015
4(e)	Mercury in metal halide lamps (MH)	

	Exemption	Scope and dates of applicability
4(f)	Mercury in other discharge lamps for special purposes not specifically mentioned in this Annex	
5(a)	Lead in glass of cathode ray tubes	
5(b)	Lead in glass of fluorescent tubes not exceeding 0,2 % by weight	
6(a)	Lead as an alloying element in steel for machining purposes and in galvanized steel containing up to 0,35 % lead by weight	
6(b)	Lead as an alloying element in aluminium containing up to 0,4 % lead by weight	
6(c)	Copper alloy containing up to 4 % lead by weight	
7(a)	Lead in high melting temperature type solders (i.e. lead-based alloys containing 85 % by weight or more lead)	
7(b)	Lead in solders for servers, storage and storage array systems, network infrastructure equipment for switching, signalling, transmission, and network management for telecommunications	
7(c)-I	Electrical and electronic components containing lead in a glass or ceramic other than dielectric ceramic in capacitors, e.g. piezoelectronic devices, or in a glass or ceramic matrix compound	
7(c)-II	Lead in dielectric ceramic in capacitors for a rated voltage of 125 V AC or 250 V DC or higher	
7(c)-III	Lead in dielectric ceramic in capacitors for a rated voltage of less than 125 V AC or 250 V DC	Expires on 1 January 2013 and after that date may be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 1 January 2013
8(a)	Cadmium and its compounds in one shot pellet type thermal cut-offs	Expires on 1 January 2012 and after that date may be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 1 January 2012
8(b)	Cadmium and its compounds in electrical contacts	
9	Hexavalent chromium as an anticorrosion agent of the carbon steel cooling system in absorption refrigerators up to 0,75 % by weight in the cooling solution	
9(b)	Lead in bearing shells and bushes for refrigerant-containing compressors for heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) applications	
11(a)	Lead used in C-press compliant pin connector systems	May be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 24 September 2010
11(b)	Lead used in other than C-press compliant pin connector systems	Expires on 1 January 2013 and after that date may be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 1 January 2013

	Exemption	Scope and dates of applicability
12	Lead as a coating material for the thermal conduction module C-ring	May be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 24 September 2010
13(a)	Lead in white glasses used for optical applications	
13(b)	Cadmium and lead in filter glasses and glasses used for reflectance standards	
14	Lead in solders consisting of more than two elements for the connection between the pins and the package of microprocessors with a lead content of more than 80 % and less than 85 % by weight	Expires on 1 January 2011 and after that date may be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 1 January 2011
15	Lead in solders to complete a viable electrical connection between semiconductor die and carrier within integrated circuit flip chip packages	
16	Lead in linear incandescent lamps with silicate coated tubes	Expires on 1 September 2013
17	Lead halide as radiant agent in high intensity discharge (HID) lamps used for professional reprography applications	
18(a)	Lead as activator in the fluorescent powder (1 % lead by weight or less) of discharge lamps when used as speciality lamps for diazoprinting reprography, lithography, insect traps, photochemical and curing processes containing phosphors such as SMS ((Sr,Ba) ₂ MgSi ₂ O ₇ :Pb)	Expires on 1 January 2011
18(b)	Lead as activator in the fluorescent powder (1 % lead by weight or less) of discharge lamps when used as sun tanning lamps containing phosphors such as BSP (BaSi ₂ O ₅ :Pb)	
19	Lead with PbBiSn-Hg and PbInSn-Hg in specific compositions as main amalgam and with PbSn-Hg as auxiliary amalgam in very compact energy saving lamps (ESL)	Expires on 1 June 2011
20	Lead oxide in glass used for bonding front and rear substrates of flat fluorescent lamps used for Liquid Crystal Displays (LCDs)	Expires on 1 June 2011
21	Lead and cadmium in printing inks for the application of enamels on glasses, such as borosilicate and soda lime glasses	
23	Lead in finishes of fine pitch components other than connectors with a pitch of 0,65 mm and less	May be used in spare parts for EEE placed on the market before 24 September 2010
24	Lead in solders for the soldering to machined through hole discoidal and planar array ceramic multilayer capacitors	
25	Lead oxide in surface conduction electron emitter displays (SED) used in structural elements, notably in the seal frit and frit ring	
26	Lead oxide in the glass envelope of black light blue lamps	Expires on 1 June 2011
27	Lead alloys as solder for transducers used in high-powered (designated to operate for several hours at acoustic power levels of 125 dB SPL and above) loudspeakers	Expired on 24 September 2010

	Exemption	Scope and dates of applicability
29	Lead bound in crystal glass as defined in Annex I (Categories 1, 2, 3 and 4) of Council Directive 69/493/EEC ⁽¹⁾	
30	Cadmium alloys as electrical/mechanical solder joints to electrical conductors located directly on the voice coil in transducers used in high-powered loudspeakers with sound pressure levels of 100 dB (A) and more	
31	Lead in soldering materials in mercury free flat fluorescent lamps (which e.g. are used for liquid crystal displays, design or industrial lighting)	
32	Lead oxide in seal frit used for making window assemblies for Argon and Krypton laser tubes	
33	Lead in solders for the soldering of thin copper wires of 100 µm diameter and less in power transformers	
34	Lead in cermet-based trimmer potentiometer elements	
36	Mercury used as a cathode sputtering inhibitor in DC plasma displays with a content up to 30 mg per display	Expired on 1 July 2010
37	Lead in the plating layer of high voltage diodes on the basis of a zinc borate glass body	
38	Cadmium and cadmium oxide in thick film pastes used on aluminium bonded beryllium oxide	
39	Cadmium in colour converting II-VI LEDs (< 10 µg Cd per mm ² of light-emitting area) for use in solid state illumination or display systems	Expires on 1 July 2014

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 326, 29.12.1969, p. 36.

Note: For the purposes of Article 5(1)(a) of Directive 2002/95/EC, a maximum concentration value of 0,1 % by weight in homogeneous materials for lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) and of 0,01 % by weight in homogeneous materials for cadmium shall be tolerated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

of 20 September 2010

on regulated access to Next Generation Access Networks (NGA)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2010/572/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 292 thereof,

Having regard to Directive 2002/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 March 2002 on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (Framework Directive)⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 19(1) thereof,

Having regard to the opinions of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) and of the Communication Committee (COCOM),

Whereas:

- (1) The EU single market for electronic communications services, and in particular the development of very high-speed broadband services, is key to creating economic growth and achieving the goals of the Europe 2020 Strategy. The fundamental role of telecommunications and broadband deployment in terms of EU investment, job creation and overall economic recovery was notably highlighted by the European Council in the conclusions of its March 2009 meeting. One of the seven flagship initiatives of Europe 2020 is the development of the 'Digital Agenda for Europe', which was presented in May 2010.
- (2) The Digital Agenda for Europe sets targets for the deployment and take up of fast and very fast broadband, and foresees a number of measures to foster the deployment of Next Generation Access Networks (NGA) based on optical fibre and to support the substantial investments required in the coming years. The present Recommendation, which is to be seen in this context, aims at promoting efficient investment and innovation in new and enhanced infrastructure, taking due account of the risks incurred by all investing undertakings and the need to maintain effective competition, which is an important driver of investment over time.

- (3) National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) under Article 16(4) of Directive 2002/21/EC are developing regulatory responses to the challenges raised by the transition from copper to fibre-based networks. The relevant markets in this connection are the markets for wholesale network infrastructure access (Market 4) and wholesale broadband access (Market 5). Consistency of regulatory approaches taken by NRAs is of fundamental importance to avoiding distortions of the single market and to creating legal certainty for all investing undertakings. It is therefore appropriate to provide guidance to NRAs aimed at preventing any inappropriate divergence of regulatory approaches, while allowing NRAs to take proper account of national circumstances when designing appropriate remedies. The appropriate array of remedies imposed by an NRA should reflect a proportionate application of the ladder of investment principle.
- (4) The scope of this Recommendation primarily covers remedies to be imposed upon operators designated with Significant Market Power (SMP) on the basis of a market analysis procedure carried out under Article 16 of Directive 2002/21/EC. However, where it is justified on the grounds that duplication of infrastructure is economically inefficient or physically impracticable, Member States may also impose obligations of reciprocal sharing of facilities on undertakings operating an electronic communications network in accordance with Article 12 of that Directive which would be appropriate to overcome bottlenecks in the civil engineering infrastructure and terminating segments.
- (5) Demand and supply conditions are expected to change significantly at both wholesale and retail level following the deployment of NGA networks. Therefore new remedies may need to be imposed, and a new combination of active and passive access remedies on Markets 4 and 5 may be necessary.
- (6) Regulatory certainty is key to promoting efficient investments by all operators. Applying a consistent regulatory approach over time is important to give investors confidence for the design of their business plans. In order to mitigate the uncertainty associated with periodical market reviews, NRAs should clarify to the greatest extent possible how foreseeable changes in market circumstances might affect remedies.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 33.

- (7) Where new fibre networks are installed on greenfield sites, NRAs should revise and, if necessary, adjust existing regulatory obligations to make sure they apply independently of the network technology deployed.
- (8) The deployment of NGA networks is likely to lead to important changes in the economics of service provision and the competitive situation.
- (9) In such context, NRAs should carefully examine the emerging conditions of competition resulting from the deployment of NGAs. NRAs should define sub-national geographic markets in accordance with Commission Recommendation 2007/879/EC of 17 December 2007 on relevant product and service markets within the electronic communications sector susceptible to *ex ante* regulation in accordance with Directive 2002/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services ⁽¹⁾ if they can clearly identify substantially and objectively different conditions of competition which are stable over time. In situations where it cannot be concluded that the different competition conditions would justify the definition of sub-national geographic markets, it could nevertheless be appropriate for NRAs to respond to diverging competitive conditions between different areas within a geographically defined market, for instance due to the presence of several alternative infrastructures or infrastructure-based operators, by imposing differentiated remedies and access products.
- (10) The transition from copper-based to fibre-based networks may change the conditions of competition in different geographic areas and may necessitate a review of the geographical scope of Markets 4 and 5 or of Market 4 and 5 remedies in cases where such markets or remedies have been segmented on the basis of competition from local loop unbundling (LLU).
- (11) Where SMP is found within Market 4 an appropriate set of remedies should be applied.
- (12) Access to civil engineering infrastructure is crucial for the deployment of parallel fibre networks. It is therefore important that NRAs obtain the necessary information to assess whether and where ducts and other local loop facilities are available for the purpose of deploying NGA networks. NRAs should use their powers under Directive 2002/21/EC to obtain all relevant information on location, capacity and availability of such facilities. Alternative operators should ideally have the possibility to deploy their fibre networks at the same time as the SMP operator, sharing the costs of civil engineering works.
- (13) Mandating access to civil engineering will be effective only if the SMP operator provides access under the same conditions to its own downstream arm and to third-party access seekers. NRAs should build on their experience in developing procedures and tools for LLU to put in place the necessary business processes concerning ordering and operational access to civil engineering facilities. Mandating the publication by the SMP operator of an adequate reference offer, as soon as possible after it has been requested by an access seeker, is proportionate to the objective of encouraging efficient investment and infrastructure competition. Such reference offer should specify the conditions and procedures of access to the civil engineering infrastructure, including access prices.
- (14) Cost-oriented prices imply a reasonable return on capital employed. When investments in non-replicable physical assets such as civil engineering infrastructure are not specific to the deployment of NGA networks (and do not entail a similar level of systematic risk), their risk profile should not be considered to be different from that of existing copper infrastructure.
- (15) Where possible NRAs should work towards ensuring that newly-built facilities of the SMP operator are designed so as to allow several operators to deploy their fibre lines.
- (16) In a Fibre to the Home (FTTH) context duplication of the terminating segment of the fibre loop will normally be costly and inefficient. To allow for sustainable infrastructure competition, it is therefore necessary that access be provided to the terminating segment of the fibre infrastructure deployed by the SMP operator. To ensure efficient entry, it is important that access is granted at a level in the network of the SMP operator which enables entrants to achieve minimum efficient scale to support effective and sustainable competition. Where necessary specific interfaces could be required to ensure efficient access.
- (17) Transparency and non-discrimination obligations are required to ensure the effectiveness of access to the terminating segment. Where so requested, the publication by the SMP operator of an adequate reference offer within a short timeframe is necessary in order to allow access seekers to make investment choices.
- (18) NRAs need to ensure that access prices reflect the costs effectively borne by the SMP operator, including due consideration of the level of investment risk.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 344, 28.12.2007, p. 65.

- (19) Networks based on multiple fibre lines can be deployed at a marginally higher cost than single fibre networks, while allowing alternative operators each to control their own connection up to the end-user. These are likely to be conducive to long-term sustainable competition in line with the objectives of the EU regulatory framework. It is thus desirable that NRAs use their powers to facilitate the deployment of multiple fibre lines in the terminating segment, taking into account in particular demand and costs involved.
- (20) Alternative operators, some of whom have already deployed their own networks to connect to the unbundled copper loop of the SMP operator, need to be provided with appropriate access products in order to continue to compete in an NGA context. For FTTH these may consist of access to civil engineering infrastructure, to the terminating segment, to the unbundled fibre loop (including dark fibre) or of wholesale broadband access, as the case may be. Where remedies imposed on Market 4 lead to effective competition in the corresponding downstream market, in the whole market or in certain geographic areas, other remedies could be withdrawn in the market or areas concerned. Such withdrawal would be indicated, for instance, if the successful imposition of physical access remedies were to render additional bitstream remedies redundant. Moreover, in exceptional circumstances, NRAs could refrain from imposing unbundled access to the fibre loop in geographic areas where the presence of several alternative infrastructures, such as FTTH networks and/or cable, in combination with competitive access offers on the basis of unbundling, is likely to result in effective competition on the downstream level.
- (21) Obligations imposed under Article 16 of Directive 2002/21/EC are based on the nature of the problem identified, without regard to the technology or the architecture implemented by an SMP operator. Therefore the fact of whether an SMP operator deploys a point-to-multipoint or point-to-point network topology should not as such affect the choice of remedies, keeping in mind the availability of new unbundling technologies to deal with potential technical problems in this respect. NRAs should be able to adopt measures for a transitional period mandating alternative access products which offer the nearest equivalent constituting a substitute to physical unbundling, provided that these are accompanied by the most appropriate safeguards to ensure equivalence of access and effective competition⁽¹⁾. In any event, NRAs should in such cases mandate physical unbundling as soon as technically and commercially feasible.
- (22) Where unbundled access to the fibre loop is mandated, the existing LLU reference offer should be amended to include all relevant access conditions including financial conditions relative to the unbundling of the fibre loop, according to Annex II to Directive 2002/19/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽²⁾. Such amendment should be published without unnecessary delay to create the necessary degree of transparency and planning security for access seekers.
- (23) The deployment of FTTH will normally entail considerable risks, given its high deployment costs per household and the currently still limited number of retail services requiring enhanced characteristics (such as higher throughput) which can only be delivered via fibre. Investments into fibre depend for their amortisation on the take-up of new services provided over NGA networks in the short and medium terms. The costs of capital of the SMP operator for the purpose of setting access prices should reflect the higher risk of investment relative to investment into current networks based on copper.
- (24) Diversifying the risk of deployment may lead to more timely and more efficient deployment of NGA networks. NRAs should therefore assess pricing schemes proposed by the SMP operator to diversify the risk of the investment.
- (25) Where SMP operators offer lower access prices to the unbundled fibre loop in return for up-front commitments on long-term or volume contracts, these should not be regarded as unduly discriminatory where NRAs are satisfied that the lower prices appropriately reflect an actual reduction of the investment risk. However, NRAs should ensure that such pricing arrangements do not lead to a margin-squeeze preventing efficient market entry.
- (26) Margin squeeze can be demonstrated by showing that the SMP operator's own downstream operations could not trade profitably on the basis of the upstream price charged to its competitors by the upstream operating arm of the SMP operator ('equally efficient competitor' test). Alternatively, a margin squeeze can also be demonstrated by showing that the margin between the price charged to competitors on the upstream market for access and the price which the downstream arm of the SMP operator charges in the downstream market is insufficient to allow a reasonably efficient service provider in the downstream market to obtain a normal profit (reasonably efficient competitor test). In the specific

⁽¹⁾ See also recital 60 of Directive 2009/140/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 337, 18.12.2009, p. 37).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 7.

context of *ex ante* price controls aiming to maintain effective competition between operators not benefiting from the same economies of scale and scope and having different unit network costs, a 'reasonably efficient competitor test' will normally be more appropriate. Moreover the assessment of any margin squeeze should be performed over an appropriate timeframe. To foster predictability, NRAs should properly specify in advance the methodology they will follow to identify the imputation test, the parameters to be used and the remedial mechanisms in case of established margin squeeze.

- (27) Networks based on multiple fibre lines ensure that access seekers can obtain full control over fibre lines, without having to duplicate costly investments or risking discriminatory treatment in case of mandated single fibre unbundling. Networks based on multiple fibre lines are therefore likely to lead to more timely and more intense competition on the downstream market. Co-investment into NGA networks can reduce both the costs and the risk incurred by an investing undertaking, and can thus lead to more extensive deployment of FTTH.
- (28) Arrangements for co-investment in FTTH based on multiple fibre lines may in certain conditions lead to a situation of effective competition in the geographic areas covered by the co-investment. These conditions relate in particular to the number of operators involved, the structure of the jointly controlled network and other arrangements between the co-investors which aim at ensuring effective competition on the downstream market. In such a situation, if competitive conditions in the areas concerned are substantially and objectively different from those prevailing elsewhere, this could justify the definition of a separate market where, after the market analysis according to Article 16 of Directive 2002/21/EC, no SMP is found.
- (29) NRAs should assess the costs of sub-loop unbundling. NRAs should, where appropriate, organise a prior consultation of alternative operators potentially interested in sharing street cabinets, and on this basis determine where street cabinets should be adapted and how costs should be allocated.
- (30) When imposing sub-loop unbundling remedies, NRAs should adopt appropriate backhaul measures to make such remedies effective. Access seekers should be able to select the solution best fitting their requirements, whether dark fibre (and where relevant copper), Ethernet backhaul or duct access. NRAs could, where necessary, take measures pertaining to the adequate size of the street cabinets owned by the SMP operator.
- (31) The transparency of access conditions to sub-loops can best be ensured by their inclusion in the existing LLU Reference Offer. It is important that this transparency requirement applies to all items necessary for the provision of sub-loop unbundling, including backhaul and ancillary services to allow continuity of existing competitive offerings. The reference offer should incorporate all pricing conditions to allow entrants to calculate the business case for sub-loop unbundling.
- (32) Consistent with the pricing of local loop unbundling, the pricing of all items necessary for the provision of sub-loop unbundling is to be cost-oriented and in line with current methodologies used for pricing access to the unbundled copper loop. The replacement of copper by fibre up to an intermediary distribution point represents an important investment entailing some risk, even though the risk is deemed to be lower than for FTTH networks, at least in densely populated areas, in view of the relative deployment costs per household involved and the uncertainty of demand for improved or up-graded services.
- (33) NRAs should apply non-discrimination principles in order to avoid any timing advantage for the retail arm of the SMP operator. The latter should be obliged to update its wholesale bitstream offer before it launches new retail services based on fibre to allow competing operators enjoying access a reasonable period to react to the launch of such products. Six months is considered a reasonable period to make the necessary adjustments, unless other effective safeguards exist which guarantee non-discrimination.
- (34) It is expected that wholesale broadband access products based on fibre may be technically configured in ways that allow for more flexibility and enhanced service characteristics compared to copper-based bitstream products. To foster retail product competition it is important that such different service characteristics are reflected in various regulated NGA-based products, including business grade services.
- (35) Different bitstream products, capable of being distinguished downstream in terms of for instance bandwidth, reliability, quality of services or other parameters, might be delivered via a given NGA network.

- (36) New access remedies will need to be carefully specified, for instance with respect to technical protocols and interfaces serving the interconnection of optical networks or the scope and characteristics of new bitstream remedies. NRAs should cooperate with each other, international standards bodies and industry stakeholders to develop common technical standards in this regard.
- (37) Where *ex ante* price regulation is applied, wholesale bitstream access prices should be derived by means of cost-orientation. NRAs could use other appropriate price control methodologies including, e.g. retail-minus, where there are sufficient competitive constraints on the downstream retail arm of the SMP operator. NRAs should set different prices for different bitstream products to the extent that such price differences can be justified by the underlying costs of service provision so as to enable all operators to benefit from sustained price differentiation at both wholesale and retail levels. The risk incurred by the SMP operator should be duly taken into account in setting the access price.
- (38) Effective physical access remedies might render, in certain areas, the imposition of an obligation of wholesale broadband access unnecessary for achieving effective competition on the downstream market. In particular, where the SMP operator has deployed an FTTH network and effective access to the unbundled fibre loop is available to alternative operators (in particular in point-to-point deployments), an NRA may consider that such access is sufficient to ensure effective competition on the downstream market, especially in densely populated areas. Refraining from imposing an obligation of wholesale broadband access under such circumstances may result in better investment incentives for all operators and foster timely deployment.
- (39) Where there is a proven track record that functional separation or similar arrangements have resulted in fully equivalent access to NGA networks by alternative operators and the downstream arm of the SMP operator, and where there are sufficient competitive constraints on the SMP operator's downstream arm, NRAs have more flexibility when designing remedies for wholesale broadband access. In particular, the price of the bitstream product could be left to the market. However, careful monitoring as well as performance of an appropriate margin-squeeze test as set out above would be essential to avoid anti-competitive outcomes.
- (40) Operators currently enjoying access have a legitimate interest to have an appropriate time to prepare for the changes that substantially affect their investments and their business case. In the absence of a commercial agreement NRAs should ensure that there is an appropriate migration path put in place. Such migration path should be transparent and developed at the necessary level of detail so that operators currently enjoying access can prepare for the changes, including rules for any necessary joint work by access seekers and the SMP operator as well as for the precise modalities of decommissioning points of interconnection. Existing SMP obligations should be maintained for an appropriate transitional period. This transitional period should be aligned with the standard investment period for the unbundling of a local loop or local sub-loop which is in general 5 years. In case the SMP operator provides equivalent access at the MDF, the NRA may decide to set a shorter period.
- (41) Where the SMP operator envisages to replace part of its existing copper access network with fibre and plans to de-commission currently used points of interconnection, NRAs should obtain the relevant information from the SMP operator, and should under Article 9(1) of Directive 2002/19/EC ensure that undertakings enjoying access to the SMP operator's network receive all necessary information in timely fashion to adjust their own networks and network extension plans accordingly. NRAs should define the format and level of detail of such information, while ensuring that such information is used only for the purpose it is intended to serve and that the confidentiality of information is ensured throughout the process,

HAS ADOPTED THIS RECOMMENDATION:

Aim and Scope

1. The aim of this Recommendation is to foster the development of the single market by enhancing legal certainty and promoting investment, competition and innovation in the market for broadband services in particular in the transition to next generation access networks (NGAs).
2. This Recommendation sets out a common approach for promoting the consistent implementation of remedies with regard to NGAs, on the basis of a market analysis procedure pursuant to Directives 2002/19/EC and 2002/21/EC.
3. Where in the context of market analysis procedures carried out under Article 16 of Directive 2002/21/EC NRAs consider the imposition of regulatory remedies, they should design effective remedies in accordance with the aforementioned Directives and the common approach set out in this Recommendation. The regulatory framework provides NRAs with a range of remedies, allowing them to design appropriate measures to tackle market failures and achieve intended regulatory objectives in each Member State. NRAs should take into account

arrangements entered into by operators aimed at diversifying the risk of deploying optical fibre networks to connect homes or buildings, and at promoting competition.

Consistent approach

4. NRAs should use their powers under Article 5 of Directive 2002/21/EC to ensure that the SMP operator provides all information necessary for designing appropriate regulatory remedies in the transition to NGAs, such as information on planned changes to its network topology or on availability of ducts.
5. The review of Markets 4 and 5 of Recommendation 2007/879/EC should take account of NGA networks and should be performed in a coordinated and timely manner by each NRA. NRAs should ensure that remedies mandated in Markets 4 and 5 are consistent with each other.
6. Where the relevant market analyses indicate that the market conditions remain broadly constant, NRAs should apply a consistent regulatory approach over appropriate review periods. Where possible, NRAs should explain in their decisions how they intend to adapt remedies in Markets 4 and 5 in future market reviews in reaction to likely changes in market circumstances.
7. When applying symmetric measures under Article 12 of Directive 2002/21/EC granting access to an undertaking's civil engineering infrastructure and terminating segment, NRAs should take implementing measures under Article 5 of Directive 2002/19/EC.
8. Where fibre is deployed in the access network on greenfield sites, NRAs should not require the SMP operator additionally to deploy a parallel copper network in order to meet its existing obligations, including universal service obligations, but allow for the provision of any existing regulated products or services by functionally equivalent products or services over fibre.

Geographical variation

9. NRAs should examine differences in conditions of competition in different geographical areas in order to determine whether the definition of sub-national geographic markets or the imposition of differentiated remedies are warranted. Where divergences in the conditions of competition are stable and substantial, NRAs should define sub-national geographic markets in

accordance with Recommendation 2007/879/EC. In other cases, NRAs should monitor whether the deployment of NGA networks and the subsequent evolution of competitive conditions within a geographically defined market warrant the imposition of differentiated remedies.

10. Where in the past sub-national geographic markets or remedies have been identified in Market 5 that depend on access products in Market 4, which may become redundant owing to NGA deployment, such segmentations or remedies should be reviewed.

Definitions

11. For the purpose of this Recommendation, the following definitions should apply:

'Next generation access (NGA) networks' (NGAs) means wired access networks which consist wholly or in part of optical elements and which are capable of delivering broadband access services with enhanced characteristics (such as higher throughput) as compared to those provided over already existing copper networks. In most cases NGAs are the result of an upgrade of an already existing copper or co-axial access network.

'Civil engineering infrastructure' means physical local loop facilities deployed by an electronic communications operator to host local loop cables such as copper wires, optical fibre and co-axial cables. It typically refers, but is not limited to, subterranean or above-ground assets such as sub-ducts, ducts, manholes and poles.

'Duct' means an underground pipe or conduit used to house (fibre, copper or coax) cables of either core or access networks.

'Manholes' means holes, usually with a cover, through which a person may enter an underground utility vault used to house an access point for making cross-connections or performing maintenance on underground electronic communications cables.

The 'Metropolitan Point of Presence' (MPoP) means the point of inter-connection between the access and core networks of an NGA operator. It is equivalent to the Main Distribution Frame (MDF) in the case of the copper access network. All NGA subscribers' connections in a given area (usually a town or part of a town) are centralised to the MPoP on an Optical Distribution Frame (ODF). From the ODF, NGA loops are connected to the core network equipment of the NGA operator or of other operators, possibly via intermediate backhaul links where equipment is not co-located in the MPoP.

The 'distribution point' means an intermediary node in an NGA network from where one or several fibre cables coming from the MPoP (the feeder segment) are split and distributed to connect to end-users' premises (the terminating or drop segment). A distribution point generally serves several buildings or houses. It can be located either at the base of a building (in case of multi-dwelling units), or in the street. A distribution point hosts a distribution frame mutualising the drop cables, and possibly un-powered equipment such as optical splitters.

The 'terminating segment' means the segment of an NGA access network which connects an end-user's premises to the first distribution point. The terminating segment thus includes vertical in-building wiring and possibly horizontal wiring up to an optical splitter located in a building's basement or a nearby manhole.

'FTTH' or 'fibre-to-the-home' is an access network consisting of optical fibre lines in both the feeder and the drop segments of the access network, i.e. connecting a customer's premises (the home or in multi-dwelling units the apartment) to the MPoP by means of optical fibre. For present purposes, FTTH shall refer to both 'fibre-to-the-home' and 'fibre-to-the-building' (FTTB)

'Multiple fibre FTTH' is a form of fibre deployment in which the investor deploys more fibre lines than needed for its own purposes in both the feeder and the drop segments of the access network in order to sell access to additional fibre lines to other operators, notably in the form of indefeasible rights of use (IRU).

'Co-investment in FTTH' means an arrangement between independent providers of electronic communications services with a view to deploying FTTH networks in a joint manner, in particular in less densely populated areas. Co-investment covers different legal arrangements, but typically co-investors will build network infrastructure and share physical access to that infrastructure.

Access to wholesale physical network infrastructure (Market 4)

12. Where SMP is found on Market 4, NRAs should impose an appropriate set of remedies taking into account in particular the principles set out below.

Access to civil engineering infrastructure of the SMP operator

13. Where duct capacity is available, NRAs should mandate access to civil engineering infrastructure. Access should be provided in accordance with the principle of equivalence as set out in Annex II.
14. NRAs should ensure that access to existing civil engineering infrastructure is provided at cost-oriented prices in accordance with Annex I.

15. Where there is a request for a reference offer for access to civil engineering infrastructure, NRAs should mandate such offer as soon as possible. The reference offer should be in place not later than 6 months after such request has been made.
16. NRAs should, in accordance with market demand, encourage, or, where legally possible under national law, oblige the SMP operator, when building civil engineering infrastructure, to install sufficient capacity for other operators to make use of these facilities.
17. NRAs should work with other authorities with a view to establishing a data-base containing information on geographical location, available capacity and other physical characteristics of all civil engineering infrastructure which could be used for the deployment of optical fibre networks in a given market or market segment. Such data-base should be accessible to all operators.

Access to the terminating segment in the case of FTTH

18. Where an SMP operator deploys FTTH, NRAs should, in addition to mandating access to civil engineering infrastructure, mandate access to the terminating segment of the access network of the SMP operator, including wiring inside buildings. For this purpose, NRAs should oblige the SMP operator to provide detailed information on its access network architecture and, following consultation with potential access seekers on viable access points, determine where the distribution point of the terminating segment of the access network should be for the purpose of mandating access, in accordance with Article 12(1) of Directive 2002/19/EC. In making such determination, NRAs should take into account the fact that any distribution point will need to host a sufficient number of end-user connections to be commercially viable for the access seeker.
19. The SMP operator should be obliged to provide access to the distribution points in accordance with the principle of equivalence as set out in Annex II. Where there is a request for a reference offer for access to the terminating segment, NRAs should mandate such offer as soon as possible. The reference offer should be in place not later than 6 months after such request has been made.
20. NRAs should ensure that access to the terminating segment is provided at cost-oriented prices in accordance with Annex I.
21. NRAs should, in accordance with market demand, encourage, or, where legally possible under national law, oblige the SMP operator to deploy multiple fibre lines in the terminating segment.

Unbundled access to the fibre loop in the case of FTTH

22. In accordance with the principles provided for in Directive 2002/19/EC ⁽¹⁾, where the SMP operator deploys FTTH, NRAs should in principle mandate unbundled access to the fibre loop. Any exception could be justified only in geographic areas where the presence of several alternative infrastructures, such as FTTH networks and/or cable, in combination with competitive access offers is likely to result in effective competition on the downstream level. The imposition of unbundled access to the fibre loop should be accompanied by appropriate measures assuring co-location and backhaul. Access should be given at the most appropriate point in the network, which is normally the Metropolitan Point of Presence (MPoP).
23. NRAs should mandate unbundled access to the fibre loop irrespective of the network architecture and technology implemented by the SMP operator.
24. The existing LLU reference offer should be complemented as soon as possible to include unbundled access to the fibre loop. Directive 2002/19/EC Annex II sets a minimum list of conditions that must be part of the reference offer for LLU, and which should apply *mutatis mutandis* to unbundled access to the fibre loop. The reference offer should be in place as soon as possible and in any case not later than 6 months after an NRA has imposed the obligation to grant access.
25. The price of access to the unbundled fibre loop should be cost-oriented. NRAs should duly take into account additional and quantifiable investment risk incurred by the SMP operator when setting the price of access to the unbundled fibre loop. In principle, this risk should be reflected in a premium included in the cost of capital for the relevant investment as set out in Annex I.
26. NRAs should also assess pricing schemes proposed by the SMP operator to diversify the risk of investment. NRAs should agree to such schemes only where they are satisfied that the SMP operator has provided all relevant information related to the investment, and only if such schemes do not have discriminatory or exclusionary effect. Criteria for assessing such pricing schemes are set out in Annex I.
27. In such cases NRAs should ensure that a sufficient margin remains between wholesale and retail prices to allow for market entry by an efficient competitor. NRAs should thus verify the SMP operator's pricing behaviour by applying a properly specified margin-squeeze test over an appropriate timeframe. NRAs should specify in advance the methodology they will follow for identifying the impu-

tation test, the parameters for the margin-squeeze test and the remedial mechanisms in case of established margin-squeeze.

28. Where the conditions of competition in the area covered by the joint deployment of FTTH networks based on multiple fibre lines by several co-investors are substantially different, i.e. such as to justify the definition of a separate geographic market, NRAs should examine, in the course of their market analysis, whether, in the light of the level of infrastructure competition resulting from the co-investment, a finding of SMP is warranted with regard to that market. In this context, NRAs should in particular examine whether each co-investor enjoys strictly equivalent and cost-oriented access to the joint infrastructure and whether the co-investors are effectively competing on the downstream market. They should also examine whether the co-investors install sufficient duct capacity for third parties to use and grant cost-oriented access to such capacity.

Access obligations in the case of FTTN

29. NRAs should impose an obligation of unbundled access to the copper sub-loop. A copper sub-loop unbundling remedy should be supplemented by backhaul measures, including fibre and Ethernet backhaul where appropriate, and by ancillary remedies ensuring its effectiveness and viability, such as non-discriminatory access to facilities for co-location, or in their absence, equivalent co-location. The reference offer should be in place as soon as possible and in any case not later than 6 months after an NRA has imposed the obligation to grant access.
30. When NRAs impose copper sub-loop unbundling, the SMP operator should be required to complement the existing LLU reference offer with all necessary items. The price of access to all items should be cost-oriented in accordance with Annex I.

Wholesale broadband access (Market 5)

31. Where SMP is found on Market 5, wholesale broadband access remedies should be maintained or amended for existing services and their chain substitutes. NRAs should consider wholesale broadband access over VDSL as a chain substitute to existing wholesale broadband access over copper-only loops.
32. NRAs should oblige the SMP operator to make new wholesale broadband access products available in principle at least 6 months before the SMP operator or its retail subsidiary markets its own corresponding NGA retail services, unless there are other effective safeguards to guarantee non-discrimination.

⁽¹⁾ See in particular recital 19.

33. NRAs should mandate the provision of different wholesale products that best reflect in terms of bandwidth and quality the technological capabilities inherent in the NGA infrastructure so as to enable alternative operators to compete effectively, including for business grade services.
34. NRAs should cooperate with each other in order to define appropriate technical specifications for wholesale broadband access products provided over NGAs and provide information to international standards bodies in order to facilitate the development of relevant industry standards.
35. NRAs should in principle impose cost orientation on mandated wholesale broadband access products in accordance with Annex I, taking into account differences in bandwidth and quality of the various wholesale offers.
36. NRAs should analyse whether an obligation of cost orientation on mandated wholesale broadband access is necessary to achieve effective competition in case functional separation or other forms of separation have proved effectively to guarantee equivalence of access. In the absence of cost orientation NRAs should monitor the SMP operator's pricing behaviour by applying a properly specified margin-squeeze test.
37. Where NRAs consider that, in a given geographic area, there is effective access to the unbundled fibre loop of the SMP operator's network and that such access is likely to result in effective competition on the downstream level, NRAs should consider removing the obligation of wholesale bitstream access in the area concerned.
38. In examining whether SMP is present NRAs should, in the case of co-investment, be guided by the principles set out in paragraph 28.
39. Existing SMP obligations in relation to Markets 4 and 5 should continue and should not be undone by changes to the existing network architecture and technology, unless agreement is reached on an appropriate migration path between the SMP operator and operators currently enjoying access to the SMP operator's network. In the absence of such agreement, NRAs should ensure that alternative operators are informed no less than 5 years, where appropriate taking into account national circumstances, before any de-commissioning of points of interconnection such as the local loop exchange. This period may be less than 5 years if fully equivalent access is provided at the point of interconnection.
40. NRAs should put in place a transparent framework for the migration from copper to fibre-based networks. NRAs should ensure that the systems and procedures put in place by the SMP operator, including operating support systems, are designed so as to facilitate the switching of alternative providers to NGA-based access products.
41. NRAs should use their powers under Article 5 of Directive 2002/21/EC to obtain information from the SMP operator concerning any network modification plans that are likely to affect the competitive conditions in a given market or sub-market. Where the SMP operator envisages to replace part of its existing copper access network with fibre and plans to de-commission currently used points of interconnection, NRAs should under Article 9(1) of Directive 2002/19/EC ensure that undertakings enjoying access to the SMP operator's network receive all necessary information in timely fashion to adjust their own networks and network extension plans accordingly. NRAs should define the format and level of detail of such information, and ensure that strict confidentiality of the information disclosed is respected.
42. This Recommendation is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 September 2010.

Migration

39. Existing SMP obligations in relation to Markets 4 and 5 should continue and should not be undone by changes to the existing network architecture and technology, unless

For the Commission
Neelie KROES
Vice-President

ANNEX I

Pricing principles and risk**1. COMMON PRINCIPLES FOR THE PRICING OF NGA ACCESS**

Under Article 8(2) of Directive 2002/21/EC, NRAs are to promote competition in the provision of electronic communications networks, electronic communications services and associated facilities and services, inter alia, by encouraging efficient investment in infrastructure. In determining the cost base used for cost-orientation obligations, pursuant to Article 13(1) of Directive 2002/19/EC, NRAs should consider whether duplication of the relevant NGA access infrastructure is economically feasible and efficient. Where this is not the case, the overriding aim is to create a genuine level playing field between the downstream arm of the SMP operator and alternative network operators. A consistent regulatory approach may therefore imply that NRAs use different cost bases for the calculation of cost-oriented prices for replicable and non-replicable assets, or at least adjust the parameters underpinning their cost methodologies in the latter case.

In cases where investment into NGAs depends for its profitability on uncertain factors such as assumptions of significantly higher ARPUs or increased market shares, NRAs should assess whether the cost of capital reflects the higher risk of investment relative to investment into current networks based on copper. Additional mechanisms serving to allocate the investment risk between investors and access seekers and to foster market penetration could also be used, such as long-term access pricing or volume discounts. Such pricing mechanisms should be reviewed by the NRA in accordance with the criteria set out in sections 7 and 8 below.

In order to enforce cost-orientation obligations, NRAs should impose accounting separation pursuant to Article 11 of Directive 2002/19/EC. Separated accounts for the NGA infrastructure and/or service elements to which access is mandated should be set up in such a manner that the NRA can (i) identify the cost of all relevant assets for the determination of access prices (including depreciation and valuation changes) and (ii) monitor effectively whether the SMP operator grants access under the same conditions and prices to other market participants as to its own downstream arm. Such monitoring should include the performance of margin-squeeze tests. Costs should be allocated on the basis of objective criteria amongst the various wholesale and retail products which rely on such inputs, to avoid double counting.

NRAs should estimate the incremental costs required to provide access to the facilities concerned. Such costs relate to the ordering and provisioning of access to civil engineering infrastructure or fibre; operating and maintenance costs for IT systems; and operating costs associated with wholesale product management. These costs should be allocated on a proportionate basis between all undertakings enjoying access, including the downstream arm of the SMP operator.

2. PRICING OF ACCESS TO CIVIL ENGINEERING INFRASTRUCTURE

Access to existing civil engineering infrastructure of the SMP operator on Market 4 should be mandated at cost-oriented prices. NRAs should regulate access prices to civil engineering infrastructure consistently with the methodology used for pricing access to the unbundled local copper loop. NRAs should ensure that access prices reflect the costs effectively borne by the SMP operator. NRAs should in particular take into account actual lifetimes of the relevant infrastructure and possible deployment economies of the SMP operator. Access prices should capture the proper value of the infrastructure concerned, including its depreciation.

When setting the price for access to civil engineering infrastructure, NRAs should not consider the risk profile to be different from that of copper infrastructure, except where the SMP operator had to incur specific civil engineering costs — beyond the normal maintenance costs — to deploy an NGA network.

3. PRICING OF ACCESS TO THE TERMINATING SEGMENT IN THE CASE OF FTTH

NRAs should set prices for access to the distribution point consistently with the methodology used for pricing access to the unbundled local copper loop. NRAs should ensure that access prices reflect the costs effectively borne by the SMP operator, including, where appropriate, a higher risk premium to reflect any additional and quantifiable risk incurred by the SMP operator.

4. PRICING OF ACCESS TO FIBRE AT THE MPOP IN THE CASE OF FTTH (UNBUNDLED FIBRE LOOP)

When setting access prices to the unbundled fibre loop, NRAs should include a higher risk premium to reflect any additional and quantifiable investment risk incurred by the SMP operator. The risk premium should be estimated in accordance with the methodology set out in section 6 below. Additional price flexibility could be granted in accordance with sections 7 and 8 below.

Under the principle of non-discrimination, the price charged to the SMP operator's downstream arm should be the same as the price charged to third parties.

5. PRICING OF ACCESS TO THE COPPER SUB-LOOP IN THE CASE OF FTTN

NRAs should impose cost-based access to all items necessary to allow sub-loop unbundling, including backhaul measures and ancillary remedies, such as non-discriminatory access to facilities for co-location, or in their absence, equivalent co-location.

Regulated access prices should not be higher than the cost incurred by an efficient operator. For this purpose, NRAs may consider to evaluate these costs using bottom-up modelling or benchmarks, where available.

When setting the price for access to the copper sub-loop, NRAs should not consider the risk profile to be different from that of existing copper infrastructure.

6. CRITERIA FOR SETTING THE RISK PREMIUM

Investment risk should be rewarded by means of a risk premium incorporated in the cost of capital. The return on capital allowed *ex ante* for investment into NGA networks should strike a balance between on the one hand providing adequate incentives for undertakings to invest (implying a sufficiently high rate of return) and promoting allocative efficiency, sustainable competition and maximum consumer benefits on the other (implying a rate of return that is not excessive). To do so, NRAs should, where justified, include over the pay-back period of the investment a supplement reflecting the risk of the investment in the WACC calculation currently performed for setting the price of access to the unbundled copper loop. The calibration of revenue streams for calculating the WACC should take into account all dimensions of capital employed, including appropriate labour costs, building costs, anticipated efficiency gains and the terminal asset value, in accordance with recital 20 of Directive 2002/19/EC.

NRAs should estimate investment risk, inter alia, by taking into account the following factors of uncertainty: (i) uncertainty relating to retail and wholesale demand; (ii) uncertainty relating to the costs of deployment, civil engineering works and managerial execution; (iii) uncertainty relating to technological progress; (iv) uncertainty relating to market dynamics and the evolving competitive situation, such as the degree of infrastructure-based and/or cable competition; and (v) macroeconomic uncertainty. These factors may change over time, in particular due to the progressive increase of retail and wholesale demand met. NRAs should therefore review the situation at regular intervals and adjust the risk premium over time, considering variations in the above factors.

Criteria such as the existence of economies of scale (especially if the investment is undertaken in urban areas only), high retail market shares, control of essential infrastructures, OPEX savings, proceeds from the sale of real estate as well as privileged access to equity and debt markets are likely to mitigate the risk of NGA investment for the SMP operator. These aspects should also be periodically reassessed by NRAs when reviewing the risk premium.

The above considerations apply in particular to investment into FTTH. Investment into FTTN, on the other hand, which is a partial upgrade of an existing access network (such as for example VDSL), normally has a significantly lower risk profile than investment into FTTH, at least in densely populated areas. In particular, there is less uncertainty involved about the demand for bandwidth to be delivered via FTTN/VDSL, and overall capital requirements are lower. Therefore, while regulated prices for WBA based on FTTN/VDSL should take account of any investment risk involved, such risk should not be presumed to be of a similar magnitude as the risk attaching to FTTH based wholesale access products. When setting risk premia for WBA based on FTTN/VDSL, NRAs should give due consideration to these factors, and should not in principle approve the pricing schemes set out in sections 7 and 8 below. NRAs should publicly consult on their methodology to determine the risk premium.

7. CRITERIA TO ASSESS LONG-TERM ACCESS PRICING IN CASE OF FTTH

Access prices adjusted for risk based on long-term access may vary as a function of time over which access commitments are made. Long-term access contracts would be priced at a lower level per access line than short term access contracts. Long-term access prices should only reflect the reduction of risk for the investor and therefore cannot be lower than the cost-oriented price to which no higher risk premium reflecting the systematic risk of the investment is added. Under long-term contracts, entrants would acquire full control of physical assets, also offering them the possibility to engage in secondary trading. Short-term contracts would be available without long commitments and thus normally be priced higher per access line, with access prices reflecting the potential value attaching to the flexibility of such form of access which benefits the access seeker.

Long-term access pricing may however be abused by the SMP operator over time to sell its retail services at prices lower than those for its regulated wholesale services (since it would charge its own downstream retail arm low long-term commitment prices), thereby in effect foreclosing the market. Furthermore, alternative providers with smaller customer bases and unclear business perspectives face higher levels of risk. They might be unable to commit to purchasing over a long period. They might thus have to stagger their investment and purchase regulated access at a later stage.

For these reasons, long-term access pricing would be acceptable only if NRAs ensure that the following conditions are met:

- (a) long-term commitment prices only reflect the reduction of risk for the investor; and
- (b) over an appropriate timeframe there is a sufficient margin between wholesale and retail prices to allow for market entry by an efficient competitor in the downstream market.

8. CRITERIA TO ASSESS VOLUME DISCOUNTS IN CASE OF FTTH

Access prices adjusted for risk based on volume discounts reflect the fact that investment risk decreases with the total number of fibre loops already sold in a given area. Investment risk is closely tied to the number of fibre loops which remain unused. The higher the share of used fibre loops, the lower the risk. Access prices could therefore vary in accordance with the volume purchased. A single level of discount should be authorised, available at a uniform price per line to all qualifying operators. NRAs should identify the volume of lines which should be purchased to get access to such volume discount, taking into account the estimated minimum operating scale necessary for an access seeker efficiently to compete in the market and the need to maintain a market structure with a sufficient number of qualifying operators to ensure effective competition. The volume discount should only reflect the reduction of risk for the investor and therefore cannot result in access prices which are lower than the cost-oriented price to which no higher risk premium reflecting the systematic risk of the investment is added. Considering that the risk premium should normally decrease following the overall increase of retail and wholesale demand met, the volume discount should also decrease accordingly and may no longer be justified once retail and wholesale demand are met at high levels.

A volume discount should only be accepted by NRAs provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) a single level volume discount is calculated per area as appropriately sized by the NRA taking account of national circumstances and network architecture, and applies equally to all access seekers which, in the area concerned, are willing to purchase at least the volume of lines giving access to the discount; and
 - (b) the volume discount only reflects the reduction of risk for the investor; and
 - (c) over an appropriate timeframe there is a sufficient margin between wholesale and retail prices to allow for market entry by an efficient competitor.
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ANNEX II

Application of the principle of equivalence for access to the civil engineering infrastructure of the SMP operator for the purpose of rolling out NGA networks

1. PRINCIPLE OF EQUIVALENCE

Access to civil engineering infrastructure of the SMP operator can represent an important input for the deployment of NGA networks. In order to create a level playing field among entrants and the SMP operator, it is important that such access is provided on a strictly equivalent basis. NRAs should require the SMP operator to provide access to its civil engineering infrastructure under the same conditions to internal and to third-party access seekers. In particular the SMP operator should share all necessary information pertaining to infrastructure characteristics, and apply the same procedures for access ordering and provisioning. Reference offers and service level agreements are instrumental to ensuring a proper application of the principle of equivalence. Conversely, it is important that any asymmetric knowledge the SMP operator possesses of the rollout plans of third-party access seekers is not used by the SMP operator to gain undue commercial advantage.

2. INFORMATION ON THE CIVIL ENGINEERING INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE DISTRIBUTION POINTS

The SMP operator should provide third-party access seekers with the same level of information on its civil engineering infrastructure and distribution points as is available internally. This information should cover the organisation of the civil engineering infrastructure as well as the technical characteristics of the different elements of which the infrastructure consists. Where available, the geographical location of these elements, including ducts, poles and other physical assets (e.g. maintenance chambers) should be provided, as well as the available space in ducts. The geographical location of distribution points and a list of connected buildings should also be provided.

The SMP operator should specify all intervention rules and technical conditions relating to access and use of its civil engineering infrastructure and distribution points, and of the different elements the infrastructure consists of. The same rules and conditions should apply to third-party access seekers as to internal access seekers.

The SMP operator should provide the tools for ensuring proper information access, such as easily accessible directories, data bases or web portals. Information should be regularly updated, so as to take account of the infrastructure's evolution and development and of further information collected, in particular on the occasion of fibre deployment projects by the SMP operator or other access seekers.

3. ORDERING AND PROVISIONING OF ACCESS

The SMP operator should implement the procedures and tools necessary for ensuring efficient access and use of its civil engineering infrastructure and distribution points, and the different elements the infrastructure consists of. In particular, the SMP operator should provide third-party access seekers with end-to-end ordering, provisioning and fault management systems equivalent to those provided to internal access seekers. This should include measures aimed at de-congesting currently used ducts.

Requests for information, access and use of the civil engineering infrastructure, the distribution points and the different elements the infrastructure consists of by third-party access seekers should be processed within the same delays as equivalent requests by internal access seekers. The same level of visibility on the progress of the requests should also be provided, and negative answers should be objectively justified.

The information systems of the SMP operator should keep track records of the handling of requests which should be available to the NRA.

4. SERVICE LEVEL INDICATORS

In order to ensure that access and use of the civil engineering infrastructure of the SMP operator is provided on an equivalent basis, service level indicators should be defined and calculated for both internal and third-party access seekers. Service level indicators should measure the responsiveness of the SMP operator to perform those actions necessary to provide access to its civil engineering infrastructure. Target service levels should be agreed with access seekers.

Service level indicators should include delays for replying to requests for information on availability of elements of infrastructure, including ducts, poles, other physical assets (e.g. manholes), or distribution points; delays for replying to a request for feasibility to use elements of infrastructure; a measure of responsiveness to handle requests for access and use of elements of infrastructure; a measure of responsiveness for fault resolution processes.

The calculation of the service level indicators should be performed at regular, fixed intervals and submitted to third-party access seekers. The NRA should control that service levels delivered to third-party access seekers are equivalent to those delivered internally by the SMP operator. The SMP operator should commit to adequate compensation in case of failure to comply with target service levels agreed with third-party access seekers.

5. REFERENCE OFFER

The different items required to provide equivalent access to the civil engineering infrastructure of the SMP operator should be published in a reference offer, if a request for such an offer has been made by an access seeker. At a minimum, the reference offer should contain the relevant procedures and tools for retrieving civil engineering asset information; describe the access and usage conditions to the different elements which make up the civil engineering infrastructure; describe the procedures and tools for access ordering, provisioning and fault management; and fix target service levels and the penalties for breach of those service levels. Internal access provision should be based on the same terms and conditions as contained in the reference offer provided to third-party access seekers.

6. MONITORING BY THE NRA

NRAs should ensure that the principle of equivalence is effectively applied. For this purpose they should make sure that upon request, a reference offer for access to civil engineering infrastructure is provided to third party access seekers in due time. Also in addition to service level reports, NRAs should ensure that SMP operators keep track of all elements necessary to monitor compliance with the equivalence of access requirement. This information should allow NRAs to run regular controls, verifying that the required level of information is provided to third-party access seekers by the SMP operator and that the procedures for access ordering and provisioning are correctly applied.

In addition, NRAs should ensure that a fast-track ex-post procedure is available to settle disputes.

7. ASYMMETRY OF INFORMATION

The incumbent has prior knowledge of third-party access seekers' deployment plans. To prevent such information from being used to gain undue competitive advantage, the SMP operator in charge of operating the civil engineering infrastructure should not share such information with its downstream retail arm.

NRAs at a minimum should ensure that those persons involved in the retail arm activities of the SMP operator may not participate in company structures of the SMP operator responsible, directly or indirectly, for managing access to civil engineering infrastructure.

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