Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications

BEREC

Invitation

to the 3rd BEREC Stakeholder Forum Meeting

15 October 2015, Brussels

BEREC would like to invite all interested parties to attend the 3rd meeting of the BEREC Stakeholder Forum, which will take place on **15 October 2015**, in Brussels, at Sheraton Brussels Airport Hotel. This will be the third time that BEREC hosts the Forum, and once more the objective will be to strengthen the dialogue between the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) with primary responsibility for overseeing the day-to-day operation of the markets for electronic communications networks and services established in the EU member states, and the relevant stakeholders on issues of strategic importance.

The Forum was established with a view to providing a direct interactive platform for discussion between BEREC and its stakeholders. This platform supports the traditional consultation process, which takes place before the adoption of final versions of BEREC documents.

Agenda and speakers

In addition to providing a platform for discussion on the Review of the Regulatory Framework (the Review), the Forum will also host a debate on the draft BEREC 2016 Work Programme (2016 WP). It is expected that the 2016 WP will be consulted on in the period leading up to the Forum, which will allow for an oral hearing at the Forum, as was achieved successfully in 2014. BNetzA, as the incoming BEREC Chair for 2016, will have a central role during the first session of the morning, and it is expected that various stakeholders will present their opinions and responses to the 2016 WP.

It is proposed that the second session of the morning will focus on a potential 'industrial revolution' that will have a significant, positive impact on a wide range of industry sectors, including energy, transport, manufacturing and health. It is described by terms such as 'Machine-to-Machine Communication' (M2M) or 'Internet of Things' (IoT) and involves a large number of devices communicating with one another primarily across the Internet using fixed and mobile access networks.

The BEREC NGN Expert Working Group (EWG) is currently drafting a report on Machine-to-Machine Communications (including issues related to IoT), intended to be consulted on in Q3 2015. Therefore, it is timely to provide a platform for stakeholders to voice their opinions on this important issue during the Forum in October. AGCOM (as Drafting Team Leader of the NGN EWG Workstream) will play a lead role for this discussion.

The afternoon sessions will be entirely devoted to an open discussion on matters relating to the digital ecosystem. This year's Forum will be of particular importance as it comes at a time when the European Commission has launched its Digital Single Market (DSM) Strategy, part of which will, of course, be the Review . At the 23rd BEREC Plenary (Bergen), the European Commission gave a presentation on the DSM strategy and confirmed that the Review will focus on access and connectivity; services and end-users' rights; US role and changes; and governance of the sector.

The Commission indicated that it will request a BEREC input to the process, covering a retrospective evaluation of the current Framework as well as suitable legislative changes. A

BEREC Opinion will have to be adopted at the 25th BEREC Plenary (London) in December. Therefore the Forum will provide a timely opportunity for BEREC to discuss with stakeholders these issues.

Günther Oettinger, Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society, is expected to attend the afternoon session and give a keynote address.

This session will also feature a moderated panel discussion with speakers from international companies representing the digital ecosystem; networking and telecommunications equipment and services industry, the traditional telecommunications industry, and the broader software and cloud-computing services and products industry.

Riga, 30 July 2015