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PRESS RELEASE

BEREC publishes reports on OTT services and the Internet of Things, as well as guidance on the new international

I roaming rules

BEREC held its first Plenary meeting of 2016 meeting in Rotterdam on 25-26 February, during which it adopted a <u>report on OTT services</u>, and one on <u>enabling the Internet of Things</u>. Both reports followed a public consultation in late 2015, and both will serve as BEREC inputs into the Commission's review of the regulatory framework for electronic communications (in addition to <u>BEREC's opinion on the review</u>, published in December 2015).

BEREC adopted <u>guidance for operators and regulators on the application of the new</u> <u>international roaming rules</u> adopted last year in the Telecoms Single Market Regulation. BEREC also adopted an <u>analysis of the wholesale roaming market</u>, which will inform the European Commission's review and proposals for new wholesale roaming price caps,

A full list of documents adopted at the Plenary is available here .

The Plenary meeting was preceded by a workshop focused on the development of guidelines on the implementation of the net neutrality rules in the Telecoms Single Market Regulation, which BEREC is required to produce by 30 August 2016. The workshop provided the opportunity for BEREC to hear from high-level academic, legal and technical experts in the field of net neutrality. Discussions centred around the extent to which different commercial practices (including zero-rating) are consistent with the new rules, permissible traffic management, the role and nature of specialised services, and how regulators should assess the quality of Internet Access Services. BEREC intends to publish draft guidelines for public consultation following its second Plenary meeting on 2-3 June 2016.

This was the first BEREC Plenary under the chairmanship of Wilhelm Eschweiler, Vice-President of German regulator BNetzA.

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Note to the editor:

BEREC is composed of a Board of Regulators consisting of the Heads of the 28 national regulatory authorities (NRAs). BEREC advises the European Commission and its member NRAs, and assists the European Parliament and Council, on issues related to the application of the EU regulatory framework for electronic communications. BEREC seeks to ensure fair competition and consistency of regulation in the internal market for electronic communications, for the benefit of European consumers. In particular, it provides expert advice on market definitions, analysis and remedies, on the definition of transnational markets, and on cross- border disputes and numbering issues. BEREC also provides expert opinions on emerging challenges including the promotion of broadband, net neutrality and converging markets, and plays an active role in public discussions on these issues.