

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### EIDAS TL-Manager Training

An MCA official participated in the EIDAS TL-Manager Training Programme which was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in Brussels, Belgium. In depth training was given in regards to the TL-Manager and its functions. The progress related to the development of new features was presented prior to the training while feedback from participants was received. During the 1-day training session, several exercises were completed by the participants and any issues/queries were addressed by the organisers. The last hour of the session was dedicated to discussions and future plans for the TL-Manager and EIDAS.

### EU Postal Directive Committee Meeting

On the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, a member of the MCA attended the Postal Directive Committee (PDC) Meeting in Brussels, Belgium.

The PDC held discussions about:

- The future of the regulatory framework for postal services;
- The current situation of the regulations for cross-border e-commerce parcel deliveries;
- The European Commission studies on the postal sector;
- The issues concerning the Universal Postal Union (UPU); and
- On matters regarding statistics.

### BEREC – Market & Economic Analysis Expert Working Group Meeting

An official represented the MCA for BEREC's Market and Economic Expert Working Group (MEA EWG) meeting, which was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 in Brussels, Belgium.

The discussion focused on Article 76 of the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC), specifically on the conditions under which NRAs shall not impose SMP obligations on operators implementing co-investment offers aimed at the deployment of very high capacity networks (VHCNs).

In this regard, BEREC is set to publish a set of guidelines upon which NRAs shall carry out an assessment to determine whether, or not, a co-investment offer by an SMP operator would meet the specific cumulative conditions set in Article 76(1). Subject to these cumulative conditions being met, NRAs would have the power to roll-back SMP-based remedies on the SMP operator, pursuant to Article 68 (in regards to the parts of the new very high capacity network that are subject to the commitments). Experts went through the draft guidelines to address pending issues related to the conditions with which co-investment offers must comply when commitments associated with those offers are being assessed, namely the openness of the co-investment offer and the terms of the offer, that would need to be fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory, to allow other co-investors which are providers of electronic communications networks or services to compete effectively and sustainably in the long term, in downstream markets in which the undertaking designated as having significant market power is active.

The afternoon session focused on the envisaged revision of the EU Recommendation on Relevant Markets (hereafter referred to as the 'Recommendation'), with consultants from outlining market trends and developments that are most likely to influence which markets feature in the revised Recommendation.

WIK outlines the following factors that are deemed to be the most influential:

- I. The bigger role played by IoTs;
- II. The growth in Mobile Data usage;
- III. The increasingly prevalent tailor-made business connectivity solutions;
- IV. The role played by system integrators;
- V. The role played by physical infrastructure in enhancing competition; and
- VI. The new issues arising from the European Electronic Communications Code – namely co-investment, symmetric remedies, the eurorates and duct & pole access.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Report on Consultation and Decision concerning the Licensing Framework for the Terrestrial 2 GHz Band**

*Published On: Dec 23rd 2019 Decision*

### **Monthly Newsletter - November 2019**

*Published On: Dec 16th 2019 News*

### **Proposed Change to Regulation 51 of the Electronic Communications Networks and Services (General) Regulations (ECNSR) (SL. 399.28 of the Laws of Malta)**

*Published On: Dec 5th 2019 Consultation*