

Brussels 24 September 2015

Broadcast Networks Europe (BNE) met today with Vice President Andrus Ansip and welcomes Ansip's intention to implement the Lamy report

BNE welcomes Vice President Ansip's view that "Digital terrestrial television is an important means of distribution of audiovisual services in the EU and people like it," and his acknowledgement that "DTT needs certainty so that changes can take place which enables access both for broadcasters and mobile sector."

This meeting came as the European Union is preparing legislation on the future use of the UHF Band and in advance of crucial International decisions to be taken at the upcoming World Radiocommunications Conference in November regarding frequencies for terrestrial broadcasting.

BNE explained how DTT networks are supporting the Digital Single Market objectives: the modern digital infrastructure is the largest and leading TV distribution platform in Europe, serving 250 million Europeans, and is a strategic Pillar of the European Audiovisual model, whereby 80% of European content is financed by broadcasters.

The terrestrial broadcasting sector is under major pressure because of the intended release of a major part of the radio spectrum, the 700 MHz band, to the telecom sector. Therefore, BNE called for a careful European transition plan with a realistic timetable and long term security for the remaining spectrum consistent with the recommendations of the High Level Group, chaired by the former EU Commissioner for Trade Pascal Lamy.

Olivier Huart, Chairman of BNE, emphasized that "broadcasters need long term certainty of spectrum access in order to invest to release the 700 MHz band. Therefore the Lamy recommendations should now be implemented".

Looking at the future, Olivier Huart concluded that "the Digital Single Market needs a strong European content sector. DTT plays and will continue to play an instrumental role in the creation, funding and distribution of this content and hence DTT should be at the centre of the Digital Single Market agenda".

ABOUT BNE

[BNE](#) is a trade organization for Terrestrial Broadcast Network Operators for Radio and TV in Europe based in Brussels. The 17 BNE members are operating in 21 European countries. Members are Arqiva (UK), Cellnex Telecom (Spain), České Radiokomunikace (Czech Republic), Digea (Greece), Digita (Finland), ETV (Serbia), Elettronica Industriale (Italy), Media Broadcast (Germany), Norkring (Norway), OiV (Croatia), ORS (Austria), Swisscom Broadcast (Switzerland), Radiocom (Romania), Rai Way (Italy), 2RN (Ireland), TDF (France) and Teracom (Sweden). In addition Terrestrial Network Operators in Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, and Monaco are represented by their respective parent (and BNE member) company

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