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NOTE

from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
No. Cion prop.:	16176/11 CADREFIN 117 POLGEN 177 REGIO 111 ENER 345 TRANS 292 TELECOM 161 COMPET 472 MI 533 ECO 129 REV 1 + REV4
No. prev. doc.	9411/12 TELECOM 78 CADREFIN 227 CODEC 1147
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Connecting Europe Facility - <i>Input from the Working Party on Telecommunications and the Information Society to the Budget Committee on articles 4 and 7 of the draft CEF Regulation</i>

Delegations find in Annex the outcome of the work of the Working Party on Telecommunications and the Information Society on the text on which this WP has been invited to submit an input contribution to the Budget Committee. This is without prejudice to further discussions in WP TELE.

CEF Regulation, Article 4
Specific Sectoral Objectives

1. Without prejudice to the general objectives set out in Article 3, the CEF shall contribute to achieving the following specific sectoral objectives:

[(a) In the field of transport [...]]

[(b) In the field of energy [...]]

(c) In the ~~field of telecommunications networks~~ **sector** the ~~CEF Connecting Europe Facility~~ shall provide for actions to support projects of common interest pursuing the ~~following objectives, as further specified in article 2 of Regulation (EU) No xxxx/2012 [INFSO Guidelines]~~.

~~(i) accelerating the deployment of fast and ultrafast broadband networks networks and their uptake, including by small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), to be measured by the level of broadband and ultrafast broadband coverage and the number of households having subscribed for broadband connections for above 100 Mbps;~~

~~(ii) promoting the interconnection and interoperability of national public services online as well as access to such networks, to be measured by the percentage of citizens and businesses using public services on-line and the availability of such services across borders.~~

CEF regulation, Article 7

Eligibility and conditions for financial assistance

1. Only actions contributing to projects of common interest according to Regulations (EU) No XXX/2012 [TEN-T Guidelines], (EU) No XXX/2012 [Guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure] and No XXX/2012 [INFSO Guidelines] as well as programme support actions as defined in Article 2(5) shall be eligible for support through Union financial aid in the form of grants, financial instruments and procurement.

[2. In the field of transport [...]]

[3. In the field of energy [...]]

4. In the ~~field of~~ telecommunication **sector**, all actions implementing the projects of common interest and programme support actions set out in the Annex of the Regulation (EU) No XXXX/2012 [INFSO Guidelines] shall be eligible to receive Union financial aid in the form of a [grant, procurement and financial instruments under this Regulation].

[[At least xx% of the amount of] the financial envelope referred to in Article 5(1)(c) shall be allocated to the support of pre-identified priorities and areas of intervention as listed in Part III of the Annex to this Regulation.]¹

¹ **The issue of the functional link will be subject to further discussions in the Telecom Working Party.**

ANNEX

PART III: LIST OF PREIDENTIFIED PRIORITIES AND AREAS OF INTERVENTION IN THE ~~FIELD OF~~ TELECOMMUNICATIONS **SECTOR**²

[...]

² Since the content of the Annex is closely linked to the issue of the functional link (see, footnote for Article 7(4)) as well as to the discussions on the Commission Proposal for a Regulation on guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks and repealing Decision NO 1336/97/EC (hereinafter "INFSO guidelines"), Part III of the Annex will be subject to further discussions in the Telecom Working Party.