



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 1 June 2012

10567/12

**Interinstitutional File:
2011/0187 (COD)**

**TELECOM 114
COMPET 355
MI 386
CONSOM 82
CODEC 1473**

NOTE

from: Presidency
to: Council
No. Cion prop.: 12639/1/11 TELECOM 99 COMPET 352 MI 355 CONSOM 116 CODEC 1182
REV 1

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on
roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union (Recast)
- Information from the Presidency

On 28 March 2012, the COREPER approved the political agreement reached with the European Parliament on the revised Roaming Regulation (recast). Both the Parliament and the Council have subsequently formally adopted the new Regulation on 10 and 30 May 2012 respectively. The new Roaming Regulation will be published in the Official Journal on 30 June and will enter into force on 1 July 2012.

The aim of the new Roaming Regulation will continue to be the protection of consumers when travelling abroad without fearing unjustified high telephone bills and to stimulate more competition in the EU roaming market. The new Regulation will also strengthen consumer protection, for instance when EU customers use their mobile phone outside the EU.

The Roaming Regulation will make it significantly cheaper for the EU customers and businesses when using mobile telephony and mobile internet services in other EU Member States. The Roaming Regulation imposes a ceiling limiting the prices mobile operators are allowed to charge for calls, text messages (SMS) and mobile internet (including mobile broadband) usage in the EU. The purpose of the measures is to achieve more competition and to decrease prices for using mobile phones and laptops in another Member State so that roaming prices approach the price levels, which apply in the national home markets.

Furthermore, two structural measures will be introduced. Firstly, mobile operators should give access to their networks so that more operators can enter the roaming market. Secondly, consumers will have the possibility from 1 July 2014 to choose an alternative operator for roaming services without changing their number. The technical requirements for the implementation of these measures will be specified by the Commission based on input from the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC).

In 2016, the Commission will analyse the market situation in a review, prior to the foreseen removal of retail price caps in June 2017. If the market has not delivered lower prices, the Commission will make appropriate proposals to address this situation.
