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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
No. Cion doc.: 5814/16 TELECOM 13 AUDIO 6 MI 61 CODEC 125
Subject: Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union
- Optional consultation of the Committee of the Regions¹

1. On 2 February 2016 the Commission submitted to the Council the Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union.²
2. The proposal, which is based on Article 114 TFEU, aims to coordinate the use of 700 MHz for wireless broadband electronic communication services and should contribute to the provision of high quality internet access to all Europeans, including in rural and remote areas. It is therefore likely to have a significant impact including at sub-national level.

¹ The sole purpose of this note is to decide on the consultation of another institution/body and not on the substance.

² Doc. 5814/16.

3. Article 114 TFEU provides for the European Parliament and for the Council to act in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and after consulting the Economic and Social Committee. Thus, in principle, the Opinion of the Committee of the Regions is not required. However, taking into account the subject matter in question, it would appear appropriate to also consult the Committee of the Regions on the present Proposal.

 4. The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to decide, in accordance with Article 19(7)(h) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, to consult the Committee of the Regions on the above Proposal and to request it to give its opinion as soon as possible.
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