Association of Wireless Production Technologies e.V.

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APWPT position for ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 (WRC-27) in Shanghai

I. WRC-27 agenda item 1.12

– WRC-27 agenda item 1.12 is to consider a possible spectrum allocation to the mobile-satellite service for both space-to-Earth and Earth-to-space transmissions for the future development of low-data-rate non-geostationary mobile-satellite systems (LDR MSS). Several spectrum bands are being looked at under this agenda item including 1880-1920 MHz.

– The 1880-1920 MHz band is a key spectrum resource for DECT. The 1880-1900 MHz band is identified for DECT in many countries across the world, and in Europe is harmonised for DECT under Council Directive 91/287/EEC. Other countries make spectrum available for DECT in the 1900-1920 MHz band.

– Coexistence studies presented in ITU-R Working Party 4C show that there is a risk of harmful interference from LDR MSS transmission into DECT, particularly from Earth-based LDR MSS terminals, with protection distances of 2.5 km to protect indoor DECT use and up to 5 km to protect outdoor DECT. LDR MSS terminals can be mobile (used while in motion), portable (used at a fixed location, moved and used at a new location) or fixed/installed.

– DECT technology is an application of the mobile service and is heavily used for audio PMSE applications across a wide range of indoor and outdoor events and productions. Given the separation distances required to protect DECT from harmful interference from LDR MSS, our view is that coexistence between LDR MSS and PMSE is not feasible and protection of DECT from harmful interference cannot be ensured. Any regulatory action should be limited to the extent necessary to protect the mobile service, including DECT, in the 1880-1920 MHz band.

II. Resolution 814 (WRC-23), Preliminary agenda for the 2031 world radiocommunication conference agenda item 2.14

– The existing regulatory framework – including the GE06 Agreement, the additional secondary allocation to the mobile service adopted at WRC 23, and Decision (EU) 2017/899 on the use of the 470-790 MHz band within the European Union – already provides administrations with ample flexibility to introduce new applications, securing that the primary broadcasting service (DTT) is protected and that incumbent PMSE use, in line with RR FN No. 5.296, is not adversely affected.

– Given that flexibility provided by the existing regulations, the inclusion of agenda item 2.14 on the WRC-31 agenda is unnecessary, and therefore our position is that Resolution 235 (WRC-23) can be suppressed.

– **Europe / European Union:**

– The 470-694 MHz band remains the only spectrum resource capable of sustaining the European Single Market across culture, creative industries, sports, education, journalism, media, and events. It is the core spectrum globally relied upon by cultural, creative, media, and live production sectors. Its continued availability and protection are therefore vital to preserving Europe's cultural landscape and audiovisual ecosystem as well as its associated economic and societal benefits.

– Recent proposals by some stakeholders to modify Resolution 235 (WRC-23) create an unacceptable level of regulatory uncertainty and risk for the European Union as it undermines Europe's sovereignty in technology, media, creativity, and culture.

– APWPT emphasizes that Europe's innovation capacity and strategic sovereignty in professional audio and PMSE are at risk if Member States pursue divergent or uncoordinated spectrum policies. Such fragmentation threatens to weaken the European Single Market and limit the ability of European stakeholders to compete in global markets serving culture, sports, education, media, and events.