

## ***RADIONET3***

## **TRIPS OF WP7**

### **RADIO ASTRONOMICAL SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT**

**SUBJECT** Meeting CEPT CPG-PTD

**DATE** 6 May 2013

**PLACE** Berlin, Germany

**PARTICIPANTS** Wim van Driel (CRAF)

## **BACKGROUND:**

At the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) an Agenda Item was defined for the next WRC in 2015, whose objectives include the identification of additional frequency bands in the range 470 MHz to 6 GHz to be allocated to International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) for the development of terrestrial mobile broadband application.

Some of the frequency bands considered for the new IMT allocations are shared with, immediately adjacent to or nearby 14 bands used for radio astronomical observations. This indicates there are potential threats to some of the most commonly used radio astronomy bands from these potential allocations.

At a European level, the CEPT (European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations) is charged with coordinating proposals for new IMT frequency allocations, compatibility studies between the IMT and other spectrum users like the Radio Astronomy Service, and preparing European positions for WRC-15, where final decision on frequency allocations will be made.

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

CRAF, which represents the interests of the European radio astronomy community in matters of spectrum management (a.k.a. frequency protection), is following closely all developments towards the selection of possible IMT frequency bands that may cause interference in radio astronomy bands.

At the CEPT meeting in Berlin, discussions continued on the suitability of proposed new IMT frequency bands. Not surprisingly, all potential IMT bands whose consideration was still being debated at the start of the meeting were included by the end of the meeting - there was always someone in favour of a specific band, even though others were against.

Contacts were made with the ESA representative for the Earth Exploration Satellite Service (passive), whose concerns for radio interference overlap and complement those of the Radio Astronomy Service in the so-called passive bands, in which all transmissions are prohibited, in particular the 21-cm band of neutral hydrogen.

## **NEXT STEPS:**

Continued participation in meetings of CEPT PTD and related meetings (International Telecommunication Union Joint Task Group 4-5-6-7, Working Party 7D radio astronomy), initiation of and participation in compatibility studies between the Radio Astronomy Service and International Mobile Telecommunications in proposed frequency bands.