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Dear Sirs

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 2007, in which you inform President Barroso and myself, as well as several of our colleagues, about your associations' concerns with regard to developments concerning the use of the "C-band" (3.4 to 4.2 GHz radio frequency band) in the course of preparations for the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference.

I believe that the operation of fixed satellite service (FSS) in the C-band is important and valuable, in particular for developing countries, where it often serves primary telecommunication functions. At the same time, I recognise that the wish of the terrestrial mobile industry to use this band is supported by the fact that this sector has shown itself to be a dynamic and successful industry and a strong driver of economic and social development.

In a Communication adopted on 2 July<sup>1</sup>, the Commission has expressed its formal position concerning the Community objectives for WRC-07 in the context of EU policies, in line with our institutional competences.

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<sup>1</sup> Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - The ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07). COM (2007) 371: [http://www.cc.cec/sg\\_vista/cgi-bin/repository/getdoc/COMM\\_PDF\\_COM\\_2007\\_0371\\_F\\_EN\\_ACTE.pdf](http://www.cc.cec/sg_vista/cgi-bin/repository/getdoc/COMM_PDF_COM_2007_0371_F_EN_ACTE.pdf)

*This document, of which you are no doubt aware, has been presented by the Commission to the Member States both at the political and technical level (Council of Ministers and CEPT, respectively). It establishes a position on the C-band, based on the results of consultation with industry and our own assessment, which in my view is equitable. The approach that we propose supports the long-term interests of both the terrestrial mobile and the fixed satellite sectors, and will ultimately give the greatest benefit to European citizens.*

*Beyond the preparations in Europe, the focus of negotiations will soon move to the WRC Conference itself. I would welcome continued discussions between my services and your associations up to and during this event, in order to ensure that we achieve the best result possible for European interests.*

*Yours sincerely*

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping loop followed by a horizontal line.