



**BIPT**

## BELGIAN INSTITUTE FOR POSTAL SERVICES AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

*PRESS RELEASE*

### BIPT sets out an indicative time schedule for the auction of the 800 MHz band for mobile broadband Internet (4G)

**Brussels, 5 June 2013 - Today BIPT announces an indicative time schedule for candidates thus hoping to be able to complete the digital dividend auction in 2013 still. This time schedule will allow the candidates to start their technical tests. In order to be able to allocate the digital dividend to telecommunications services within this time frame, the regulatory framework needs to be modified.**

According to the European Radio Spectrum Policy Programme, Member States should carry out the authorisation process in order for the 800 MHz band<sup>1</sup> to be available for electronic communications services. The allocation of the band (also known as "digital dividend") to electronic communications services is crucial to provide the population with high-speed mobile Internet.

To allow for the allocation in Belgium, first the regulatory framework needs to be changed. To that effect and at the request of Minister Vande Lanotte, BIPT launched a public consultation at the end of 2012 on a bill amending the Act on electronic communications (ECA) and a draft Royal Decree on the terms for allocation and use of the frequency band.

Parliament has voted on the amendments to the regulatory framework which shall be published in the Belgian Official Gazette shortly. BIPT will do everything in its power to organise the 800 MHz band auction as soon as possible after this publication.

For the time being BIPT already provides the candidates with the following **indicative** time schedule:

publication amendment Art. 30 ECA	June 2013
publication 800 MHz Royal Decree	June 2013
publication information memorandum for the candidates	July 2013
invitation for applications	second half of August 2013
lodging applications	second half of September 2013
auction	early November 2013
notification of the rights	early December 2013

As certain action points fall completely out of the brief of BIPT, it cannot be guaranteed at the moment that this indicative time schedule will indeed be adhered to.

It is also important for the potential candidates to be offered the possibility to perform technical tests in the 800 MHz band. For more information on these tests, interested parties may contact [auction2013@bipt.be](mailto:auction2013@bipt.be).

<sup>1</sup> The 791-821 MHz and 832-862 MHz frequency bands

For more detailed information (press):

Dirk Appelmans  
Spokesman  
Tel.: 02 226 87 67

More info: [www.bipt.be](http://www.bipt.be)

BIPT

Ellipse Building – Building C – Boulevard du Roi Albert-II, 35  
1030 Brussels

Tel.: 02 226 88 88

Fax: 02 226 88 77

[info@bipt.be](mailto:info@bipt.be)