**Expert Questionnaire**

**Regional Assessment on Electromagnetic field (EMF) levels and risk communication challenges in the Europe Region**

*The “Regional Assessment on Electromagnetic field (EMF) levels and risk communication challenges in the Europe Region” is an important part of the implementation of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on “broadband infrastructure, broadcasting and spectrum management”. The assessment builds upon the recently published paper on “*[*Implementing 5G for Good: does EMF matter*](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Documents/Events/2020/5GTech/%28final_clean%29%20Background%20Paper%20-%20Implementing%205G%20for%20Good_Does%20EMF%20Matter_Haim%20Mazar.pdf)*?” developed in the context of the* [*ITU Regional Forum for Europe on 5G strategies, policies and implementation held on 22-23 October 2020*](https://www.itu.int/go/EUR_5G_20) *where Member States clearly expressed the need for coordinated action at the international level in this field, with particular reference to the deployment of 5G.*

*This questionnaire aims at:*

1. *gathering information among European administrations on the potential impact of the national legislations (amongst other) on deployment of 5G technologies with regards to the protection of the health of the general public from exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF).*
2. *gathering information on the associated administrative procedures for the verification of compliance with this legislation prior to putting in operation (e.g. building, planning permission procedures), on the pace of the roll-out of future 5G mobile networks, on the number/density of antenna sites, on the quality of present and future networks and on the costs of these networks.*
3. *better understanding the current situation in the countries under scope of this questionnaire with regards to the acceptability of the topic by the public, with particular regard to current developments of 5G and in relation to the misinformation spike in the context of COVID-19 in 2020. The questionnaire also seeks to gather information on risk communication strategies at the country level, if any, and identify challenges encountered by government administrations and NRAs in this regard.*

*The questionnaire is targeted towards the Admin and Admin-related administrations of the 46 countries of Europe Region. A full list is available at:* [*https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/MemberCountriesinEurope.aspx*](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/MemberCountriesinEurope.aspx)

*The elaboration of the responses in a Report will synthetise the experiences of the countries with the intention of assisting administrations in adopting policies, legislations and best practices to more effectively address the rollout of mobile broadband networks, in particular 5G networks. Moreover, the report will seek to identify best practices on risk communication strategies to cope with the rising misinformation on this important topic.*

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| **Country Name:** | |
| **Name of Institution:**  **Type of Institution:** | |
| Questions  (\*please note that sub-questions are aimed at guiding the reply and therefore need no specific answer) | Replies |
| **EMF national regulation**  **1)** Has your country adopted a regulatory framework for EMF based on the regulatory framework of the EU (*Directive 2013/35/EU of the European Parliament and Council recommendation 1999/519/EC: Council Recommendation of 12 July 1999 on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0 Hz to 300 GHz)*) or has the country drafted its own EMF regulations? Please provide the website where the regulation can be found.  **2)** Have the revised 2020 Guidelines by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) with respect to reference levels been adopted in the national legislation as the relevant EMF Exposure Limits? If not, what is the timeline to adopt ICNIRP 2020 Guidelines.  **3)** Are EMF regulations deviating from ICNIRP 2020 Guidelines? If so, please indicate Reference Levels.  **4)** Considering ICNIRP 2020 and ICNIRP 1998 Guidelines, have there been any reported limitations from operators with regards to the deployment of 5Gtechnologies?   1. Do operators face challenges in planning and densifying their networks (if applicable, differentiate “dense urban”, “urban”, and “rural” environments)? 2. Can operators plan their network without taking into consideration the sites in use and EMF generated by competitors in the neighbourhood? 3. Does the regulatory framework on EMF create obstacles for site sharing and cooperation between operators? 4. Is there any urgent need for adoption of ICNIRP 2020 Guidelines with regards to 5G technologies operating above 10GHz? 5. Please add other issues that are not covered by the questions above. |  |
| **Approval procedures prior to building / planning permission**  **5)** Based on the current regulatory framework what is the permit granting procedure for the deployment of antennas in your country?   1. Do multiple permits for cellular antennas need to be granted by different authorities? 2. What is the average duration of an authorization process? 3. Is there any regulatory obstacle/obligation, including EMF, in the deployment process of antennas/base stations?   **6)** Is there any legal process to present complaints on permits?  a) who has the right to object (local residents, environmental organizations, interest groups, others)?  b) what are the most common complaints, if any (e.g. breach of planning regulations, building law, , aesthetic regulations)?  c) is there any specific complaint relating to adverse health effects? |  |
| **Measurement of EMF**  **7)** Are you facing any challenges with availability and/or applicability of EMF measurement standards concerning 5G technologies?   1. Please list EMF measurement standards used for base stations compliance assessment? 2. Are you aware of the recent publications on 5G EMF compliance assessment?    1. [K Suppl. 9: 5G technology and human exposure to RF EMF](https://www.itu.int/rec/dologin_pub.asp?lang=s&id=T-REC-K.Sup9-201905-I!!PDF-E&type=items)    2. [K.121: Guidance on the environmental management for compliance with radio frequency EMF limits for radiocommunication base stations](https://www.itu.int/rec/dologin_pub.asp?lang=e&id=T-REC-K.121-201612-I!!PDF-E&type=items)    3. [IEC TR 62669:2019](https://webstore.iec.ch/publication/62014)    4. [IEC 62232:2017](https://webstore.iec.ch/publication/28673) 3. Is your country familiar with [the ITU-R monitoring report on EMF measurements](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-r/opb/rep/R-REP-SM.2452-2019-PDF-E.pdf)? |  |
| **Acceptability by the public**  **8)** Which factors are central for the acceptability by the public concerning 5G deployment?   1. Is there general negative perception towards emerging wireless communication technologies? 2. If so, is the negative perception similar to that experienced with 3G and 4G? please elaborate 3. What are the main sources of negative perception relating to EMF in the context of 5G deployment?   **9)** Has there been any public protest/action against 5G (or previous mobile technologies) in your country?  **10**) Have there been incidents relating to misinformation in relation to Covid-19 and 5G in 2020?   1. How many incidents have there been, if any? 2. What have been the targets of such incidents? 3. What are the estimated financial damages? (*please provide a rough estimation*) |  |
| **Risk Communication**  **11)** Is on-field EMF measurement part of the work of your organisation?  a) Is the measurement part of a risk communication strategy  b) How is data on EMF measurements made available to the public?  **12)** Have you taken or are planning to take any information campaign or other action in relation to EMF and/or 5G?   1. If yes, please detail scope, implementation, outcomes (successful/unsuccessful) and takeaways of such campaigns. (In case you are planning to undertake information campaigns what would be the approach?) 2. If not, are there other authorities or NGOs that you are aware of that are conducting information campaigns at the national level?   **13)** Is your organization familiar with risk communication campaigns and risk communication strategies in the field of EMF? An example would be the World Health Organisation’s brochure on “[Establishing a Dialogue on Risks from Electromagnetic Fields](https://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/en/EMF_Risk_ALL.pdf)”?  **14)** What are the actions you are taking or planning to take to develop capacity building in the field of risk communication, if any? (e.g. hiring/training personnel, conducting workshops for workers in this field at national, regional or local level, etc.) |  |
| **Any other comments and considerations** |  |

Submit the completed questionnaire by **22nd January 2021 COB** and email to [EURregion@itu.int](mailto:EURregion@itu.int)