BEREC Guidelines Art. 22

Geographical surveys of network deployments (consultation document)

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BEREC Guidelines Art. 22 (Geographic Surveys)
Article 22

• National Regulatory Authorities (‘NRAs’) and/or Other Competent Authorities (‘OCAs’) shall, by 21 December 2023,
  • conduct a geographical survey of
  • the reach of electronic communications networks
  • capable of delivering broadband,
  • and shall update it at least every three years thereafter

• Potential use: State aid, broadband plans, universal service, market analysis, ‘designated areas’, definition of coverage obligations, etc.

• BEREC shall issue guidelines to assist NRAs and/or OCAs on the consistent implementation
2 Phases

- Phase one (foreseen approval in March 2020).
  - Guidelines on the consistent application of geographical surveys and forecasts, regarding QoS-1 information.

- Phase two (foreseen approval in December 2020).
  - Guidelines on the consistent application of geographical surveys and forecasts, regarding verification, for example by QoS-2 and QoS-3 measurements and the procedures to invite undertakings and public authorities to declare their intention to deploy VHCN over the duration of the relevant forecast period for Article 22(3).

- [QoS1 = Simulation, QoS2 = ‘controlled measurements’, QoS3 = ‘user measurements’, e.g. RTR Netztest]
Definitions

• Maximum available speed:
  • The maximum speed is the speed that an end user at the address/grid could expect to receive at least some of the time (e.g. at least once a day). The parameters should describe the capability of the network.

• Normally available speed:
  • The normally available speed is the speed that an end user in the address/grid could expect to receive 95% of the time over the whole day when accessing the service. The parameters should describe the capability of network.

• Premises passed:
  • The number of ‘Premises Passed’ is the potential number of premises that an operator can connect in a service area within a short period of time [4 Weeks] at affordable prices [normal connection fee] for the end user (connection fees), regardless of whether these premises are connected to the network. Typically, for a premise to be passed, this requires an existing network or network components (e.g. fiber splitter) deployed in close proximity to the premises.

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Resolution

- **Fixed networks**
  - Address level
  - temporarily 100x100m squares in exceptional cases (e.g. no uniform address database)

- **Mobile networks**
  - 100x100m squares

- **Frequency of data collection**: At least once a year

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Data to be collected for fixed networks

• For each address
  • Network provider code
  • Technology code categorized per subsection (copper, coax, fiber, air)
  • Maximum Download speed class per subsection
  • Maximum Upload speed class per subsection
  • Normal Download speed class per subsection
  • Normal Upload speed class per subsection
  • Number of premises passed by the operator at the address (optional)
  • Determine if that network is VHCN at the address considered

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Data to be collected for mobile networks

- For each 100x100m square
  - Grid code or polygon ID
  - Technology availability (3G-5G)
  - Qualification as a VHCN
    - optional:
      - Upload Maximum Speed classes
      - Download Maximum Speed classes
      - Other technical parameters regarding signal strength

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speed</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More or equal to 1 Gbit/s</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥300 Mbit/s &lt; 1 Gbit/s</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥100 Mbit/s &lt; 300 Mbit/s</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>≥ 30 Mbit/s &lt; 100 Mbit/s</td>
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<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 2 Mbit/s &lt; 10 Mbit/s</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Forecasts

- Main purposes: state aid, identification of designated areas
- 1 year
  - Fixed: Address level
  - Mobile: 100x100m square
- >1 year
  - 1000x1000m square
- Frequency of data collection: At least once a year

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Procedure and way ahead

- Public consultation
  - from 10 October to 21 November 2019
  - 27 contributions
- Final guidelines to be published after P2 2020
  - 17.03.2020