



News Release

European Commission's position on Dutch broadband market analysis "open-ended and unclear" says Cable Europe

Brussels, 3 September 2018 : A draft decision from the Dutch regulator, endorsed by the European Commission last Friday, identifies cable operator VodafoneZiggo and incumbent operator KPN as having collective significant market power (SMP) on the wholesale fixed broadband access market. The result of the market analysis is the imposition of third party wholesale access obligations to both networks.

Says Matthias Kurth, Executive Chairman of Cable Europe: "When landmark regulatory decisions like these are taken they need to be based on objective criteria with strong, convincing evidence of market failure. I believe the European Commission has not taken enough time to look into the specifics of the case. A more in-depth analysis (a so-called phase two procedure) should have been undertaken. The Commission has missed an opportunity to properly scrutinise the draft decision, in particular with regard to the collective dominance instrument.

The Dutch regulator's analysis has too many open-ended and unclear points and has not sufficiently taken into account that there is a commercial access offer in the market.

The Dutch broadband market is best in class in Europe and has a strong competitive outlook.

It is now for the Dutch regulator to take utmost account of the Commission's comments. We will closely follow whether these comments will have an impact on the regulator's remedy decisions."



About Cable Europe

Cable Europe is the trade association that connects leading broadband cable TV operators and their national trade associations throughout the European Union. The regulatory and public policy activities of Cable Europe aim to promote and defend the industry's policies and business interests at European and international level. The European cable industry provides high speed broadband internet, TV services, and telephony to more than 65.8 million homes in the European Union. www.cable-europe.eu

For more information please contact:

Virginia Lee
Director of Communications
Cable Europe
virginia.lee@cable-europe.eu
+32 2 556 21 02