

Presidency Summary of the Informal Videoconference of Telecommunications

Brussels, 5 May 2020

Executive summary

The ministers came to an understanding that the contact tracing apps would have high importance for the gradual relaxation of various national measures, including opening of borders. In this sense, a coordinated approach and the inter-operability at EU level is needed. The contact tracing and warning apps should have citizens' trust and adequate protection of personal data and privacy in order to attract sufficient uptake rate.

Ministers deem that the digital sector will play a key role in the post COVID-19 recovery. They underlined the importance of performant pan-European digital infrastructures and the importance of adequate investment in this area. The Connecting Europe Facility and the Digital Europe Programme were pointed out as essential instruments in this context. Furthermore, the ministers acknowledged the need to address the digital divide between Member States and within Member States and acknowledged the need for further investments in digital infrastructure capable of very high capacity performance.

Ministers reflected upon the need to ensure cybersecurity and resilience of digital infrastructure, especially new 5G infrastructure. In this sense it has also been outlined that public awareness should be raised as regards false information on connections between 5G technology and spreading of the COVID-19.