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Statement on European Commission's decision to close investigation of network sharing between CETIN and T-Mobile

PPF Telecom Group welcomes today's decision by the European Commission to close its investigation into whether network sharing between CETIN and T-Mobile constituted an infringement of competition rules and had a negative impact on innovation in telecommunication services in the Czech Republic. The commission found no such violation and concluded the proceedings without penalty by accepting voluntary commitments from the companies concerned that will contribute to a further improvement of the quality of services and growth of 5G networks, among other things.

We consider this a positive decision, ending almost six years of legal and commercial uncertainty. PPF telecommunications companies will now be able to take full advantage of the benefits of network sharing, which will in turn benefit their customers.

Infrastructure sharing between operators is a common and widespread practice in many countries. It allows operators to deliver sustainable development in the quality of telecommunications services, especially at a time of growing user demands in the mobile data segment.

About PPF Telecom Group

PPF Telecom Group is a leading provider of telecommunication services in the CEE region, active in five markets (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Serbia and Slovakia) providing mobile, fixed-line, data and internet television services. It has 18.3 million mobile customers, 12,500 employees and EUR 1.6bn EBITDA (FY 2021).

PPF Telecom Group pioneered structural separation in Europe and organised its operations into two divisions: a telco services division providing services to end users and an infrastructure division owning and operating telco networks on a wholesale basis. In the Czech Republic, O2 Czech Republic provides its services on a mobile network which is operated by CETIN.

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Media contact:

PPF Telecom Group
Media Relations
Klára Zavadilová
zavadilova@ppf.cz
+420 734 159 779

PPF Telecom Group
Investor Relations
Jan Huk
ir@ppftelecom.eu