

## **Sofie Maddens**

A Lawyer by training, Sofie has been involved in legal work in the telecommunications sector since 1989.

Since 1997, Sofie has been responsible for leading a team of high-level consultants and co-ordinating in Europe the regulatory policy for HAPS of Sky Station International. She was responsible for establishing the appropriate regulatory framework at the ITU WRC97 and in preparation for the 2000 Conference, managing the relationship in Europe with European organisations such as the CEPT, the European Commission and the national regulatory work in the UK, France and Portugal.

She successfully led the initiative in Europe to create the regulatory framework approved by WRC 2000 to allow HAPS as an alternative technology in the terrestrial component of IMT 2000, where she served as chairperson of the drafting group on HAPS in IMT 2000, and CEPT coordinator on this same issue. In preparation of WRC-03, Sofie has been nominated coordinator for HAPS issues within the CEPT Project Team dealing with IMT 2000 and beyond.

She also serves as Senior Regulatory Policy Expert to the World Bank, the Telecommunications Development Bureau of the ITU and to private clients. Within this context, she has undertaken projects in various European countries, and in countries such as Morocco, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Oman, advising on issues ranging from the strategy relating to the privatisation of the incumbent, to the setting up of the regulator or the definition of the regulatory matrix relating to the telecommunications sector. She has also given advice on the definition of an appropriate strategy for the licensing of mobile communications and has advised governments in various countries on legal texts and drafted their legal texts relating to telecommunications.

She lives in Brussels, Belgium, and in Lisbon, Portugal.