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From:	Publications Office of the European Union
To:	Working Party on e-Law (e-Law)
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Subject:	The new EUR-Lex - Progress report

1. EUR-Lex navigation revamp

The Publications Office has been working on improving navigation on the EUR-Lex website for the past few months to offer a more user-friendly way of navigating through all the available content on the website. An initial part of this project has been collecting feedback from the users. In June we launched a survey asking users how they would name and group all the content that is available on the website. Following the results we created a new navigation concept which was put to test throughout the month of October 2016. The final step of the project is producing clickable wireframes of the new navigation menu, which would serve as a model for implementation.

2. Testing of PublicAccess on EUR-Lex

Since July 2016, new document types – draft delegated, implementing and comitology acts – are coming to EUR-Lex in the context of the PublicAccess project. Currently, the implementation of an internal procedure view showing the process leading to the adoption of delegated, implementing and comitology acts is being tested on EUR-Lex and it is foreseen to be available in production in January 2017. See picture below for illustration:

The screenshot shows the 'Internal procedure' tab selected in the EUR-Lex interface. The document title is 'Prolonged derogation for the accreditation of Trichinella laboratories'. The main text is 'COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) .../... on transitional measures for the application of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the accreditation of official laboratories carrying out official testing for Trichinella'. The 'Consultation' section includes details such as 'Draft implementing regulation', 'Legal basis: 32004R0882 - A63P1L2 ;', 'Leading service: Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety', 'Committee: C20404', 'Consultation type: Stakeholder feedback', 'Consultation duration (weeks): 4', and 'Publication of draft act for public feedback: 23/06/2016'. The 'Publication in the OJ' section includes 'Documents: C/2016/6564 (Implementing regulation)' and 'CELEX number of the main document: 32016R1843'.

3. EUR-Lex trainings

The 2016 autumn training offer, with streamlined content and enriched with courses dedicated to expert search, has been successfully completed. The training campaign continues with a new series of courses to be offered in the first half of 2017. The courses are open to everyone working in the institutions and they are available in English and French, both in Brussels and Luxemburg. Additionally, the Publications Office is in contact with the Commission representations for the organisation of EUR-Lex training for practitioners in the Member States. Three such sessions have already been organised in Vienna, Lisbon and Stockholm and one more is scheduled in Riga at the end of January 2017. Other representations (Prague, Budapest, Zagreb, Cardiff, Sofia) have shown interest and discussions are ongoing.

4. EUR-Lex workshop with representatives of official national legislation portals from EU Member States

In order to further improve the EUR-Lex services and exchange views and best practices, the Publications Office is organising a workshop with the national law publishing websites on 17-18 May 2017 in Brussels. The workshop will tackle the common challenges of the digital age: how to provide better access to (EU) legal information so that citizens are better informed. The overall purpose is to exchange information and best practices with managers of national legal databases on common challenges in view of getting feedback/inspiration for improvements to be implemented in EUR-Lex and of providing better service for reuse of EU legal data by national parties.

5. News pages on EUR-Lex

As part of our continuous commitment to improve user experience and communication on EU law, the Publications Office has launched a "News corner" where relevant documents pertaining to different topical subjects, such as the European Semester or the Paris Agreement on Climate change, are gathered together for easy access. The page is available from here: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/news/index.html>

6. Digital reports on EUR-Lex

The digital reports workflow and display on EUR-Lex was put in production at the beginning of November 2016. A dedicated entry point on EUR-Lex is available via the following link: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/collection/eu-law/eu-case-law/reports.html>. The project was developed in close cooperation between the Court of Justice of the European Union and the Publications Office, and replaces the paper European Court Reports publication.

7. EUR-Lex accessibility assessment

As part of its vocation to bring publications to the widest possible readership, the Publications Office wishes to ensure that the EUR-Lex website and its content are accessible to all users, regardless of possible disabilities (e.g. visual, physical, cognitive learning and auditory impairments). Therefore, at the beginning of 2017, the Publications Office will be launching a project aiming at carrying out an analysis and assessment in order to collect information on the current accessibility of the website and its content and implement relevant improvements.
