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To:	Working Party on e-Law (e-Law)
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Subject:	N-Lex - State of play

I. Connectors

1. Connections with national databases are a key element of the N-Lex website. A web service-based connector provides a stable access and an enhanced user experience thanks to the availability of a machine translation tool and a harmonised layout for the result list. For these reasons, Member States which have not yet developed a web-based connector are encouraged to do so.
2. The situation on the type of connectors developed by Member States remains unchanged since last E-Law meeting in June 2016 and is as follows:
 - Web service-based connectors: **18 Member States**: Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Croatia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Hungary, Netherlands, Austria, Romania, Slovenia, Finland, UK, Sweden, and Estonia.
 - HTML-based connectors: **9 Member States**: Belgium, Czech Republic, Greece, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, and Slovakia.

Slovakia is currently working on developing a web service based connector.

- No connector: there is still no connection between N-Lex and the **Cyprus** national legislative database.

II. Updates

2. Since September 2016, N-Lex has gone through the following developments:

- a new Content Management System (Drupal),
- a new look and feel,
- a revision of its editorial content (*Introduction* on the Home page, *About N-Lex* and the *Help pages*).

III. Ideas for the future

a) *Aggregated search*

A feasibility study on the possibility to search in more than one national database using a unique search form is ongoing. This search could be based on words in titles and texts using the multilingual Eurovoc thesaurus in the first place.

b) *Access to translated legislation*

As some Member States (i.e. Estonia, Lithuania, Austria) provide for translated legislation on their national databases, a reflection on a possible access to these collections through N-Lex could be envisaged.

c) *Workshop*

N-Lex will be part of the topics of discussion during the workshop with representatives of official national legislation portals planned in May 2017. The objective will be gathering suggestions on how to make N-Lex useful for Member States and users in general.