

Brussels, 24 March 2017 (OR. en)

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CIS 4 ANTICI 3

#### **NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	CCCIS
Subject:	Delegates Portal - State-of-Play

### I. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

- 1. Delegates Portal was officially in pilot testing from May to December 2015.
- 2. Following an evaluation based on user feedback, the pilot phase was judged a success and preparations for full-scale activation got under way.
- 3. After consultation with the Secretary-General of the Council, it was decided to deploy Delegates Portal in two stages: the new interface in June 2016 and the collaborative features (communities, community management and access over the platform to the new document type, i.e. working papers with abbreviation WK) at the beginning of November.
- 4. The preparation phase for full deployment started in April 2016 and ran until the end of October. The preparation phase consisted of training for GSC staff, presentations and information sessions for delegations and meetings with GSC policy units for instructions on which communities to set up on Delegates Portal for their working parties and committees.

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- 5. The collaborative features of Delegates Portal went live early in November as planned.
- 6. At time of launch, all working parties and committees with meetings on the horizon had communities defined and operational on Delegates Portal.

## II. COMMUNICATION EFFORT

- 7. Communication was given top priority. Resources were mobilised at different levels to ensure that delegations were informed in good time of the changes to come, clearly understood the implications for them of the new features and were ready to go live with the system on the date of deployment.
- 8. A total of nine information sessions on Delegates Portal were organised in the period June to October 2016 for delegates, staff from the permanent representations and colleagues from the Commission and the European External Action Service. An audience of roughly 1000 participants was reached.
- 9. Presentations of Delegates Portal in the margins of working party meetings continued into November and beyond. 35 such presentations had been given by the end of the year.

# III. COMMUNITIES, COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP, DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

- 10. When the community functionalities were activated at the beginning of November 2016, there were 252 operational communities with 4780 nominated delegates or assistant nominated delegates and 5617 enrolled members.
- 11. By 20 March 2017, there were **326** operational communities with **5933** nominated delegates or assistant nominated delegates and **11970** enrolled members. There were also roughly **18276** users not linked to communities, bringing the total number of users of Delegates Portal up to **31792.**

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- 12. A like-for-like comparison shows that there are more users of Delegates Portal now (31792 in March 2017 as stated above) than there were of Extranet in the past (21961 in March 2015). The difference is explained by the fact that now there is greater incentive to register as a user because access to working documents depends on having an account.
- 13. The successful introduction of communities and the new document type on Delegates Portal has enabled most GSC policy units to stop sending working documents to delegations by email.
- 14. Figures illustrating the evolution of the use of Delegates Portal are shown in the annex.

#### IV. MONITORING AND FEEDBACK

- 15. The GSC is committed to providing delegations with an increasingly complete and useful range of services from Delegates Portal. Delivering on that commitment depends on knowing what delegations want and value most, which is why the GSC is very much in "listening mode".
- 16. Regular feedback from delegates is received through the policy units. The project team has been invited back to several working parties for first-hand accounts from delegates of their experience as users. Fixes and improvements are implemented in regular system updates. A comprehensive satisfaction survey was launched in the week of 13 March 2017 and should provide important pointers for the future evolution of the platform. 1150 responses had been received by 21 March.

### V. DELEGATES PORTAL R

17. Delegates Portal R is still under development. Restricted material continues to be delivered through Extranet R.

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