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## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From:	Working Party for Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE) / Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Norway/Switzerland/Liechtenstein)
On:	4 December 2018
Subject:	Summary of discussions

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### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda as set out in CM 5495/1/18 REV 1 was adopted without changes.

### 2. AFIS component of the SIS

The Chair provided a summary of answers to the Questionnaire to which almost all Member States have replied. Regarding the issues that require follow-up, The Commission (COM) emphasised that any solution to the issues raised in the discussion paper (10645/1/18 REV 1) and identified via the Questionnaire (11527/18) should be found within the newly adopted SIS legal framework. COM stood ready, however, to further explore the need to update the SIRENE Manual even before its horizontal overhaul, required due to the new SIS Regulations. CZ agreed on the need for exchanging views on this subject with the aim of harmonising the practices of Member States.

### **3. New SIS Regulations**

COM outlined the next steps and funding possibilities regarding the implementation of the new SIS Regulations. During the first half of 2019, the focus should be on adopting the necessary implementing measures so that eu-LISA could start development as soon as possible. Under the new legal basis, the comitology committee will be 're-established', and the Commission is also planning to use smaller expert groups to discuss specific items, the details of which will be presented during the SISVIS Committee on 14 December 2018. Member States will soon receive a request from the Commission to nominate delegates to the committee. At the request of delegations, COM noted that the primary platform for exchanging information and documents regarding the implementation would be the CIRCA BC; and the three-year implementation timeframe sets a regulatory deadline and everyone should do their utmost to ensure that all new components of the revised SIS legal framework will be fully operational by then.

Concerning funding options, COM indicated that by February 2018, Member States had already allocated EUR 13.2 million for SIS-related actions under their ISF National Programmes. Once the new regulations are in force, EUR 36.8 million of additional funding will be made available via the revision of the 2019 ISF National Programmes. The Commission will be in contact with the national competent authorities on this matter.

### **4. Interoperability of security and border management systems with customs systems**

COM (DG TAXUD) made a presentation regarding the issue of interoperability of security and border management systems with customs systems, which had been identified by the High Level Expert Group on Interoperability as an issue to explore further. The expert group convened twice on this subject has confirmed the added value of establishing interoperability between some customs systems and security/border management systems (in particular the SIS and Europol data). Details and further work on the business case and way forward will be subject of a feasibility study (to be launched next year).

The Chair announced that the issue would be on the agenda of the next CCWP meeting (12 December 2018) and later on possibly also on the agenda of the COSI (under the Romanian Presidency).

## 5. Presentation of the programme of the incoming Romanian Presidency

The incoming Presidency informed the delegations that among other matters, they intend to focus on capacity-building, training and identifying best practices. Tentative dates for the Working Party are as follows: 26 February, 9 April and 28 May 2019; the Heads of SIRENE meeting will take place on 19-21 June 2019 in Bucharest. IT and CZ suggested the incoming Presidency consider convening joint meetings with some working parties, such as the COPEN.

## 6. AOB

CZ asked delegations to send their updates by 14 December 2018 to the SIRENE Address Book which was circulated by the Secretariat.

At the request of SE, COM and PRES clarified that Article 43(1) of the new SIS-Police Regulation would not make it obligatory to get the identity of a person confirmed after an alphanumeric search with *all* four types of biometric data referred to in this provision.

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