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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
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Subject: Summary of the 51st meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group

Delegations will find in Annex a summary of the 51st meeting of eu-LISA's SIS II Advisory Group.

**Summary of the
51st meeting of the SIS Advisory Group
29 November 2022**

**European Union Agency for the Operational Management
of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom,
Security and Justice (eu-LISA)**

Summary of the
51st meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group of eu-LISA
29 November 2022, videoconference

At the meeting of the **Schengen Information System II Advisory Group (SIS II AG) of eu-LISA, held on 29 November 2022**, the Agency delivered a summary of the operational activities of SIS II, including the implementation status of the SIS II and SIS Recast related projects, SIS Operator Manual, and SIS Recast testing activities. The European Commission presented the SIS Recast expert group meetings. Furthermore, eu-LISA provided a status update on SIS II testing activities, open change requests, and the SIS II - Interoperability questionnaire. Finally, eu-LISA presented an update on the SIS Exercise 2022.

First, the **state-of-play of SIS II activities** at the central and national level was presented. The total number of alerts at the end of November was 85.7 million, constituting an increase compared to mid-September, when it was 85.5 million. eu-LISA also informed about the Data Consistency Checks (DCC) process in the central SIS. The Agency further provided a detailed view of alert log entries from June to November 2022. The SIS II AG adopted a positive opinion of the SIS Operator Manual.

Furthermore, the AG took note of **the status of the implementation of the SIS II projects**. The Agency shared an update on each project: implementation of SIS Recast and SIS AFIS Phase 2, adaptation of Data Exchange between SIRENE (DEBS) due to SIS Recast; increase of capacity; Central System simulator (CSSIM); DCC evolution; integration of ETIAS; and integration of interoperability.

As regards the SIS Recast project status, a new entry into operation (EiO) date was announced. On 16-17 November 2022, the Management Board decided to propose to the Council that **SIS Recast should enter into operation no later than on 7 March 2023**.

The Agency informed MS that the SIS capacity increase project will bring the **system capacity to 130 million alerts**. Concerning the implementation of SIS AFIS Phase 2, new hardware of AFIS has been in production since 1 July, and all tests of AFIS have finished. Training is being prepared.

Regarding **CSSIM**, the new version will be shared with MS in due time. As for the **DCC evolution project**, step 1.1 entered production on 1 July. The remaining scope was postponed for the 22_R2 release (SIS Recast). Concerning the **adaptation of DEBS**, eu-LISA informed the SIS II AG that the DEBS package 1.4.8 was used during the recent Global Forms tests with some MS. The **SIS Interconnection with ETIAS project** is in the analysis and design phase. The SIS II AG was informed that the contract for **SIS integration with the interoperability architecture** is under preparation.

Moreover, the **Commission informed** the SIS II AG about the previous meetings, the SIS-SIRENE Police and Border and SIS-VIS Committees held on 29 September, and the joint session of SIS SIRENE expert group and Interoperability that had taken place on 7 October. The European Commission also informed the SIS II AG about the upcoming meetings of the SIS-SIRENE Police and Border and SIS-VIS Committees scheduled for 1 December.

After that, eu-LISA updated the AG in detail about the **SIS Recast testing activities**: the ongoing test campaigns as well as the intended completion time of the different tests. eu-LISA will prepare an overview of the adopted Test Summary Reports and send the global test report to the SIS II AG for endorsement before the Agency declares readiness to the European Commission.

The SIS II Advisory Group discussed in detail the **open change requests** (demand management process). Fifteen change requests, plus nine awaiting confirmation, are scheduled for implementation in the SIS Recast. The AG decided to call for an expert group meeting by the end of March 2023 to discuss the requests in detail. The status of the change requests will also be shared with the Interoperability AG in January 2023.

Next, an overview was given of the **SIS – Interoperability Questionnaire**. The Chairperson explained that for the purpose of reporting to the Management Board and the SIS II AG about the links between SIS and Interoperability, he would rely on the answers given by Member States and Agencies in the Interoperability AG's questionnaire. This is in line with the advice provided by several SIS II AG members at an earlier AG meeting. Later it will be analysed and discussed in the SIS II AG if more specific information related to SIS are necessary.

Thereafter, eu-LISA presented the results of the consultations held on and the changes introduced to the **draft Single Programming Document (SPD) 2024-2026** since the previous SIS II AG meeting. The Agency had considered the proposals from the SIS II AG received in April 2022 and consulted with the Commission. SIS II AG gave its positive opinion on the revised draft SPD 2024-2026.

Finally, eu-LISA gave an update about the **SIS II Security Exercise** on 27 October 2022 when three critical events had been simulated. The main outcomes of the exercise were shared. The final report will be shared with the SIS II AG in February 2023 after adoption by the Management Committee.

The next meeting of the SIS AG will be held as a hybrid meeting on **8 February 2023** in Strasbourg.
