**Council of the
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NOTE

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To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Summary of the 34th meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group

Delegations will find in Annex a summary of the 34th meeting of eu-LISA's SIS II Advisory Group.

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PUBLIC

Summary of the
34th meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group
3 December 2020

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

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Summary of the

34th meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group of eu-LISA

3 December 2020, videoconference

During the meeting of **the Schengen Information System II Advisory Group (SIS II AG) of eu-LISA, held on 3 December 2020,** the Agency updated the Member States of the maintenance and other operational matters of SIS II, including the implementation status of SIS-related projects, SIS II testing activities and the expert group meetings on SIS Recast. Furthermore, eu-LISA provided a status update of the planning cycle for the Single Programming Document 2022-2024, the launch of the 2020 Customer Satisfaction Survey and the launch of the annual statistics exercise as well as the readiness for the disconnection of the UK from SIS II. The position of the Deputy Chairperson remained vacant and a new election for this position will be held at the next meeting.

The state of play of **SIS II operations** at central and national level was discussed. It was noted that the ceiling of alerts in the Central System is close to 100 million but it has not been reached yet. In 2021 the SIS Central System capacity will be increased to 130 million.

eu-LISA presented the results of the latest **Data Consistency Check (DCC) campaigns** needed to keep the National Copy of the MS up-to-date. The DCC controls the alerts, links and binaries of the copy of the national database against the Central System. The Data Consistency Check procedure only applies to Member States with national copies. The results of the campaigns were positive.

The SIS II AG took note of the **status of the implementation of the SIS II projects**. The SIS II Programme includes projects on SIS Recast, AFIS Phase 2 Implementation, Increase Capacity, Central System Simulator (CSSIM), data exchange between SIRENE Bureaux (DEBS) adaptation to SIS Recast and SIS II Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) TESTA-ng Upgrade.

Concerning **SIS Recast** project, two releases (IR1 and IR2) would be deployed in test environments for the Member States and the Agencies, aiming to allow smooth testing and to reduce the risks. The implementation of **SIS Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Phase 2** is ongoing.

With respect to the **Data Exchange Between SIRENE Bureaux (DEBS) adaptation to SIS Recast**, eu-LISA informed Member States that the DEBS package was approved. A DEBS Working Group will be convened to discuss the proposed changes.

Moreover, the approach and timeline of the three phases in the development of **Integrated Planning** were presented in detail. SAG was informed that the Integrated Planning external dashboard will be provided following the meeting and updated periodically, taking into account the AGs' feedback.

The Commission gave an overview of the **expert group meetings on SIS Recast** by presenting the outcomes of the meetings of SIS-VIS Committee and SIS-SIRENE Police and Borders Committee held on 10 November and the SIS SIRENE Expert Group meetings held on 16 October and 25 November.

eu-LISA provided an overview of the discussions in the 15th and 16th **SIS Recast** meetings and the 14th to 16th **SIS AFIS Phase 2 Project Management Forum** meetings from October to December. The MS gave updates on the status of their preparations of AFIS Phase 2. eu-LISA reminded MS of the next steps in the AFIS Phase 2 project and noted that COVID-19-related restrictions may have an impact on it.

Furthermore, eu-LISA presented the **SIS Release Plan 2021**. The objectives of the next releases would be to enhance the search engine, ensure the proper maintenance of the SIS II system as a whole, improve its functioning by adding new functional changes related to MS and implement new features to SIS core and AFIS. The plan will be presented for adoption at the next SIS II AG meeting.

The SIS II AG took note of the **SIS II testing activities**, including the testing for the integration of Ireland where the Entry into Operation of SIS II is foreseen for the first months of 2021. The AG adopted a positive opinion on the Test Summary Report on the integration of Cyprus to SIS II. eu-LISA also informed the SIS II AG of other test campaigns, including the tests on SIRENE Mail Relay.

In addition, eu-LISA presented the changes to the **eu-LISA draft Single Planning Document (SPD) 2022–2024** subsequent to the comments received from AGs and the Commission. SIS II AG gave its positive opinion on the current version of the SPD. In January 2021, the document will be submitted to the Management Board for approval, with the final adoption scheduled for November 2021.

eu-LISA informed the SIS II Advisory Group about the upcoming launch of the **2020 Customer Satisfaction Survey** on 18 January 2021, with a deadline for replies from Member States on 26 February 2021. The results will be presented at the SIS AG meeting on 5 May 2021.

Under **Any Other Business**, eu-LISA informed MS about the actions to be undertaken after the end of the transition period for the disconnection of the UK from SIS on 31 December at 23:00 GMT.

eu-LISA also announced the launch of the **annual exercise of collecting SIS II statistics**. The MS would be provided with the same template as last year for the collection of the 2020 statistics. The deadline to provide the data will be 20 January 2021.

The next meeting of the SIS II AG is scheduled for 3 March 2021, via videoconference.