

Brussels, 28 June 2021 (OR. en)

10216/21

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	WK 12293/2020; 5068/21; 7628/21
Subject:	Summary of the 36th meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group

Delegations will find in Annex a summary of the 36th meeting of eu-LISA's SIS II Advisory Group.

10216/21 FL/mr 1 JAI.1 EN



PUBLIC

Summary of the 36th meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group 5 May 2021

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

36th meeting of the SIS II Advisory Group of eu-LISA

5 May 2021, videoconference

During the meeting of the Schengen Information System II Advisory Group (SIS II AG) of eu-LISA, held on 5 May 2021, 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 gave a status update of the SIS II Security and Business Continuity Plans and the Customer Satisfaction Survey 2020.

The state of play of **SIS II operations** at the central and national level was discussed, the global state of the Central System and National Systems was presented. The total number of alerts at the end of April exceeded 88 million. Since January 2021, the figures from the UK are not reported anymore. The UK disconnection has been finalised, including the deletion of the alerts.

eu-LISA presented the results of the latest **Data Consistency Check (DCC) campaigns** necessary to keep the national copies of the Member States up-to-date. The DCC controls the alerts, links and binaries of the copy of the national database against the Central System. The procedure only applies to the 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 recast project's development is ongoing, the planning for testing for the Member States was presented. SIS Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Phase 2 (implementation) activities are ongoing. With respect to the Data Exchange Between SIRENE Bureaux (DEBS) adaptation to SIS recast, the new technical components have been completed. For the SIS Increase Capacity project, the implementation of Elasticsearch is currently under testing. SIRENE mail relay project was completed in April 2021. SIRENE mail is the first of eu-LISA's operating systems to have been fully migrated to the Common Shared Infrastructure (CSI).

Furthermore, the European Commission gave an overview of the **expert group meetings on SIS recast** by presenting the outcomes of the meetings of the SIRENE Subgroup meeting on 4 March, the meeting of the SIRENE Subgroup on Statistics on 19 March, the SIS-VIS Committee and SIS-SIRENE Police and Borders Committee held on 25 March. During the meetings mainly the Implementing Decisions on the SIRENE Manual were touched upon.

Furthermore, the AG adopted a positive opinion on the SIS Release Plan 2021. The plan contains Ireland's integration, the Release 21_R1 and Release 21_R2, and other release activities in the year. SIS II AG adopted a positive opinion on the SIS II Release Plan 2021, which contains Ireland's integration and the release activities in the year.

Next, eu-LISA informed the Member States about the **Customer Satisfaction Survey 2020.** The results showed that the overall satisfaction rate was 89%. 28 out of 31 stakeholders had participated in the survey. The areas that need improvement will receive special attention. An action plan has been defined, implementing the corrective measures have started and will continue throughout the year.

eu-LISA provided an overview of the discussions at the 19th and 20th SIS Recast meetings and the 20th and 21st SIS AFIS Phase 2 Project Management Forum meetings in March and April. The matters discussed during the meetings included deployment activities of both projects, planning of testing for Release 21_R2 and information from the European Commission on the Entry into Operation of SIS Recast. The Member States gave feedback about their progress in project implementation.

The AG took note of the **SIS II testing activities**, including the status of the Member States in SIS AFIS Phase 1, and completed test campaigns for National Systems. Regarding the <u>SIRENE</u> tests, the technical meetings are being prepared in order to update the <u>SIRENE</u> test catalogue and bring it in line with SIS Recast.

Finally, eu-LISA introduced the newly developed **SIS II Security and Business Continuity Plans**, based on the European Commission's ITSRM framework, aligned to the new model of security and business continuity plans. The SIS II AG will soon be asked to provide an opinion on the Plans via written procedure. The SIS II and VIS Security and Business Continuity Plans will be provided to the Management Board for adoption at its meeting in June 2021.

The next meeting of the SIS II AG is scheduled for 1 October 2021.

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