



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 21 November 2023
(OR. en)

15681/23

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

No. prev. doc.: 12164/23

Subject: Summary of the 54th meeting of the SIS Advisory Group

Delegations will find in Annex a summary of the 54th meeting of eu-LISA's SIS Advisory Group.

Summary of the
54th meeting of the SIS Advisory Group
20 September 2023

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
54th meeting of the SIS Advisory Group of eu-LISA
20 September 2023, Strasbourg (hybrid meeting)

At the meeting of the **Schengen Information System Advisory Group (SIS AG) of eu-LISA, held on 20 September 2023**, the Agency delivered a summary of the operational activities of SIS II, including the SIS state of play, as well as SIS-related projects, SIS releases and SIS Testing activities. The European Commission gave an update on the SIS meetings. Furthermore, eu-LISA presented the strategic approach for the implementation of the interoperability (IO) roadmap, SIS Demand Requests, and prevented handing over personal production data to third parties. The SIS Advisory Group adopted a positive opinion on the updated SIS Operator Manual. Finally, eu-LISA presented the draft Single Programming Document 2025-2027, a report from the Data Quality workshop, and the new reporting obligation, including the latest annual statistics templates.

First, the **state of play of all SIS activities** at the central and national levels was presented, including incidents, operational statistics, Data Consistency Checks (DCC) discrepancies, and alert log entries since the previous SIS Advisory Group meeting. At the end of August 2023, the total number of alerts had grown to more than 88 million, which means a 300k increase since June 2023. Almost all Member States are using the Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) for fingerprint queries.

eu-LISA also informed the SIS Advisory Group about the new updated full DCC process. eu-LISA highlighted that parallel DCC campaigns are held every three weeks to ensure synchronization. The analysis report will be available anytime for each campaign. Member States can always request support from eu-LISA.

Additionally, the Agency provided an overview of the areas to be improved in the alert log entries, the total number of alert log entries in the last months, the top 10 alert log entries from the previous months, and a detailed view of alert log entries from May to August 2023.

Thereafter, the SIS Advisory Group took note of **the status of the implementation of the SIS-related projects**: Increase Capacity; DCC Evolution; Integration with the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) and Integration with interoperability (IO) program. The presentation also contained an overview of ten ongoing projects and five future projects that are about to start.

Next, eu-LISA presented the **strategic approach for the implementation of the IO roadmap**. The SIS Advisory Group decided to provide a positive opinion with comments on the proposed approach, as presented during the meeting.

The SIS Advisory Group also adopted a positive opinion on the updated **SIS Operator Manual** as presented in the meeting.

The SIS Advisory Group took note of the **SIS Releases**. The successful completion of Cyprus integration in SIS was on 25 July 2023. Two releases are planned in the coming months – the first one to be launched in the end of November 2023 affecting only central system, the other one is scheduled for February 2024 and it contains mostly fixes for SIS Recast. Last but not least, a new SharePoint space has been created in order to store and share all information related to the releases.

The SIS Advisory Group took also note of **SIS Demand Requests**. There are thirteen such requests in total: one approved and implemented; five approved and being implemented; and seven under review.

After that, eu-LISA provided the SIS Advisory Group with information about the **prevention of handing over personal production data to third parties**. Member States were reminded that no production data shall be used in/inserted to non-production environments.

As per the practice, the **European Commission informed** the SIS Advisory Group about the mixed SIS-SIRENE Police and Border SIS-VIS (Visa Information System) Committee meeting held on 20 June, and the CEPOL SIRENE II Advanced training held in Madrid from 11 to 14 September.

Furthermore, the SIS Advisory Group took note of **SIS testing activities**. The Agency shared an update on the status of the current releases, the Member States Test Tools and the Test Tools Access Management, providing the necessary information on how to fulfil the Access Request Form and on provided Use cases.

The SIS Advisory Group took note of the **draft Single Programming Document 2025-2027** and the associated key milestones. The draft Annual Priorities for 2025 and the draft Annual Work Programme for SIS for 2025 were presented. The draft document will be shared with the Member States for their feedback in October.

eu-LISA provided a report about the **SIS Data Quality workshop** held on 13 September 2023 as a hybrid meeting and attended by representatives of 17 Member States, the European Commission and eu-LISA. Topics discussed included current data quality reports and improvements proposed on these reports; refusal of entry alerts based on restrictive measures; avoiding repetition with data quality flags checks; checking of fingerprints present in SIS but not present in AFIS and avoiding the duplication of Person alerts.

After that, eu-LISA informed the SIS Advisory Group about a **new reporting obligation, including new templates for annual statistics**. eu-LISA shall maintain a continuously updated list of authorities on its website containing changes to be sent by the Member States eu-LISA also informed the SIS Advisory Group about the Seconded National Expert call now open for two posts at eu-LISA related to the Member States Training.

Finally, under **AOB**, the SIS Advisory Group discussed several items such as the creation of alerts on license plates, Name fields after integration of SIS, ETIAS and the Entry-Exit System (EES) data as well as alerts related to fully depreciated codes.

The next meeting of the SIS Advisory Group will be held in Strasbourg on Wednesday, **29 November 2023**, as a hybrid meeting.