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SIRIS 18  
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#### NOTE

From:	Greek Delegation
To:	Working Party for Schengen Matters / Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Norway/Switzerland/Liechtenstein)
No. prev. doc.:	15012/22
Subject:	Schengen evaluation of Greece - Action Plan to remedy the deficiencies identified in the 2021 evaluation of <b>Greece</b> on the application of the Schengen <i>acquis</i> in the field of <b>Schengen Information System</b>

Delegations will find annexed the Action Plan to remedy the deficiencies identified in the 2021 evaluation of Greece on the application of the Schengen *acquis* in the field of the Schengen Information System, provided by Greece on 14 February 2023.

In conformity with Article 21(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922 of 9 June 2022, Member States are invited to send comments, if any, **by Tuesday 14 March 2023 (cob)** to [schengen.evaluation@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:schengen.evaluation@consilium.europa.eu).

**ACTION PLAN incl. possible ASSESSMENT to follow up on the recommendations resulting from the 2021 evaluation of Greece on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of SIS SIRENE[announced]**

(Article 21(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922)

**13/02/2023**

**I. SIS SIRENE**

- doc C(2022) 4300 (evaluation report)
- doc 15012/22 (Council recommendations)

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>PRIORITISED RECOM YES/NO<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>PLANNED ACTION and/or POSSIBLE ASSESSMENT BY [MS]<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>FINANCING and USE OF FUNDS<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>STATE OF PLAY and TIME-FRAME for implementation</b>
1. Increase the number of staff working in the N.SIS Office in view of the anticipated increase in workload related to the renewal of the Schengen Information System and the integration with ETIAS, VIS and interoperability	YES	1.1 The IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ is going to propose its reinforcement with personnel to staff the N.SIS Office. This proposal can be either numerical or nominal, for the Human Resources Division of the Hellenic Police HQ to further proceed with either secondments or temporary transfers or even in the context of regular annual transfers, in accordance with the provisions of the PD 100/2003.	Human Resources Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	4 <sup>th</sup> Q 2023
2. Increase the number of staff in the Case Handling	YES	2.1 The International Police Cooperation Division (IPCD) of the Hellenic Police HQ is going to	Human Resources	N/A	2nd Q 2023

Office dealing with SIRENE cases in order to handle the tasks of the N.SIS Office, especially considering the increased workload related to the renewal of the Schengen Information System and the integration with ETIAS, VIS and interoperability.		propose its reinforcement with personnel to staff the N.SIS Office. This proposal can be either numerical or nominal, for the Human Resources Division of the Hellenic Police HQ to further proceed with either secondments or temporary transfers or even in the context of regular annual transfers, in accordance with the provisions of the PD 100/2003.	Division of the Hellenic Police HQ		
3. Make increased use of the possibility to create alerts for discreet or specific checks on persons for the purposes of prosecuting criminal offences and preventing threats to public security, in order to support national investigations of cross-border crime	NO	3.1 The competent authorities have been informed about the use of the possibility to create alerts for discreet or specific checks on persons for the purposes of prosecuting criminal offences and preventing threats to public security. The implementation of the a/m recommendation is pending. At this point, we have to highlight that the use of this tool is a totally subjective choice of the competent authorities.	Public Security Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	4 <sup>th</sup> Q 2023
4. Streamline and optimize the processes of the structure in charge with the creation of alerts at the Hellenic Police in order to make increased utilisation of all categories of SIS alerts.	NO	4.1 The whole procedure is going to be re-examined in the framework of SIS recast.	Hellenic Police	N/A	4 <sup>th</sup> Q 2023

5. Raise awareness of the services in charge of creating alerts (besides the SIRENE Bureau) about the possibility to add warning markers to alerts.	NO	5.1 Changes at the 'Administrative Measures' PoL application have been implemented to allow the end-users entering alerts to add warning markers clearly and easily at the alerts. The relevant implementation has been completed and is available within a test environment. The new feature will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	1st Q 2023
6. Establish a procedure to actively follow-up on the data quality reports provided by eu-LISA.	NO	6.1 We are currently considering the establishment of a procedure within which the N.SIS Office will inform the SIRENE Bureau and this in turn will inform the Services entering the alerts.	IT Division & International Police Cooperation Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	2 <sup>nd</sup> Q 2023
7. Ensure that 'any name', 'partial', and 'any number' queries can be performed in the 'standard queries' window and that 'any name' search option is included by default in the standard query.	NO	7.1 As part of the SIS RECAST, a new search application providing these features has been developed. The new application will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	<b>1,8 mil euros (ISF)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023

8. Improve the user-friendliness of the search application interface in order for the most relevant information to be identified easily at first sight and to ensure that the 'action to be taken' regarding alerts on objects does not display irrelevant information.	NO	8.1 As part of the SIS RECAST, a new search application has been developed which provides these features. The new application will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	<b>1,8 mil euros (ISF)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023
9. Improve the user-friendliness in the display of photographs attached to alerts, in order to avoid that the end-users need to download the photographs to display them on the screen and that the attachments stay in the download directory unless it is deleted by the end-user, which jeopardizes data security.	NO	9.1 In the framework of SIS RECAST, a new search application has been developed that allows immediate display of photos. The new application will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	1,8 mil euros (ISF)	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023

10. Integrate all national databases used for police checks into the General Search Application, in order for the police officers to carry out a single query and to enhance the utilization of the Schengen Information System for police checks, especially for Greek citizens	NO	10.1 In the framework of SIS RECAST, a new search application has been developed where all national databases have been integrated. The new application will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	<b>1,8 mil euros (ISF)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023
11. Establish an automated workflow integrated in the system to register hits and report hits directly to the SIRENE Bureau.	NO	11.1 The recommendation above has been implemented in the framework of the SIS RECAST Project. The new system will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	<b>1,8 mil euros (ISF)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023
12. Ensure the automatic locking of all computers after a certain lapse of time	NO	12.1 The recommendation above has been implemented by human resources of the IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ. A process in	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	<b>Completed</b>

in order not to jeopardize data security.		the Central Management System has been set which runs at regularly and checks / sends the lock setting to the PCs at certain intervals.			
13. Improve the integration of the workflow in case of a hit at the border crossing points, ensure the integration of ABC gates with the General Search Application and increase the number of workflow functionalities supporting the officers in their procedures, especially at the external borders.	NO	13.1 In the framework of SIS RECAST, a new search application has been developed in which workflows have been integrated in case of a positive search result. The new system will be operationally available when SIS Recast goes live.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	<b>1,8 mil euros (ISF)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023
14. Ensure that during border checks in the border crossing point of Kakavia border guards check not only the travel documents but also the resident permits.	NO	14.1a. Specific guidelines are going to be forwarded to border crossing points to remind them of the obligation to check the documents presented to them in "SIS II - General Searches" application when a person crosses external borders  b. Monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the guidelines above	Borders Protection Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	<b>1,8 mil euros (ISF)</b>	a. 1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2023  b. 1st-3rd Q 2023

15. Provide the vehicle registration service with direct access to the Schengen Information System.	NO	15.1 The N.SIS Office is in contact with the Ministry of Transport to provide access to the Schengen Information System.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	4th Q 2023
16. Provide the customs authorities with access to alerts on objects for discreet or specific checks for national security reasons.	NO	16.1 The recommendation above has been implemented with human resources of the IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ. The application has already been modified and the necessary access rights have been granted.	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	<b>Completed</b>
17. Streamline the procedure for checking in SIS third country nationals applying for residence permits and enhance the automation when accessing SIS, in order not to increase the workload of the SIRENE Bureau.	NO	17.1 The formulation of the operational and technical requirements is being examined with the relevant Services to implement the recommendation above, following finalization of the requirements	IT Division of the Hellenic Police HQ	N/A	N/A

<sup>1</sup> Indication if the recommendation is one of the prioritised recommendations as indicated in the recitals of the Council recommendation.



- 2 Description of precise actions taken or to be taken in accordance with article 16(1) and/or an assessment of the implementation of suggested actions ("*possible* improvement") in accordance with article 16(8) of Regulation 1053/2013.
- 3 From the first progress report onwards, please introduce separate lines for updates and reactions to the Commission's assessment/ comments so that the changes could be clearly seen. Please do not delete actions that were already considered completed by the Commission(there is obviously no need to report on them).
- 4 Please indicate estimated amount needed to implement the recommendation as required as well as the part that will be covered by EU Funds (where relevant indicate the specific action in the national programme/ union action project that will be used to implement the recommendation).
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