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ANNEX 1

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**to the
COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

European Interoperability Framework - Implementation Strategy

Interoperability Action Plan

{SWD(2017) 112 final}
{SWD(2017) 113 final}

ACTION PLAN FOR INTEROPERABILITY

The interoperability action plan tackles the causes¹ of existing interoperability issues and is indicative. It may be updated if more actions are identified and included in it or others are withdrawn. Changes can be proposed by the European Commission at any time and good reasons should be given, i.e. findings resulting from monitoring of interoperability actions. The Commission, in consultation with the ISA² Committee or, if relevant, with the governing bodies of initiatives supporting the interoperability action plan, is responsible for deciding on any update to the list.

Objectives	Actions	Timeline	Responsibility
Focus area 1: Ensure governance, coordination and sharing of interoperability initiatives			
To govern and coordinate interoperability initiatives at EU and national levels.	1. Identify and liaise with other relevant policies and their governance structures at EU and national levels (including the sectoral committees).	2017-2020	European Commission (EC), Member States (MS)
	2. Identify and describe governance structures and good practices for interoperability coordination.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	3. Ensure that interoperability is taken into account when legislative instruments are drafted and relevant references are included as appropriate.	2017-2020	EC, MS
To ensure the execution and monitoring of EIF implementation.	4. Expand and maintain the NIF Observatory to monitor implementation of the EIF and compliance of national interoperability strategies/frameworks with the EIF. Also, monitor and assess interoperability action plan's implementation.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	5. Provide ad hoc support and training to Member States' public administrations to ensure EIF implementation across all levels of their national administrations.	2017-2020	EC, MS

¹ Interoperability causes are mentioned in the main text of the Communication. There is not a one-to-one correspondence between the focus areas and the underlying causes; however, the causes are all addressed by one or a combination of the proposed actions.

Focus area 2: Develop organisational interoperability solutions			
To provide and use relevant enablers (e.g. interoperability agreements) and artefacts (e.g. business process models).	6. Clarify and propose ways to formalise public administrations' organisational relationships as part of the establishment of European public services. Identify and develop common process models to describe business processes. Identify best practices.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	7. Identify key cross-border business processes involving exchange of administrative information (including documents) and their implementation in the different Member States, and develop guidelines on how to better align and simplify them.	2017-2020	EC, MS
Focus area 3. Engage stakeholders and raise awareness on interoperability			
To encourage public administrations to use existing and new interoperability solutions while applying the EIF principles, recommendations and models. To define, measure and communicate on the main benefits that could be achieved by applying the EIF principles, recommendations and models.	8. Design and perform communication campaigns promoting the importance of interoperability and benefits from applying the EIF.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	9. Liaise with EU country desks for national implementation (e.g. support the establishment of a governance structure, the implementation of solutions, encourage participation in EU pilots).	2018-2020	EC, MS
	10. Maintain, improve and animate the Joinup platform for better user engagement and community building.	2017-2020	EC, MS
To guide the design and development of public services based on users' needs.	11. Identify or introduce means of user engagement in the development of digital public services.	2018-2020	EC, MS
Focus area 4. Develop, maintain and promote key interoperability enablers			
To define, develop, improve, operationalise, maintain and promote interoperable services and tools, standards and specifications.	12. Define and implement common specifications on the terms and conditions for accessing and managing base registries. Extend the cartography of existing solutions to the area of base registries.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	13. Implement and promote common models for describing and cataloguing public services across the EU.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	14. Develop data specifications and tools to support 'open data' initiatives.	2018-2020	EC, MS
	15. Identify measures to build trust in the delivery of European digital public services. In this context, accelerate the take-up of eIDAS services, including eID and eSignature.	2018-2020	EC, MS
	16. Analyse the data content of and existing metadata schemas for public administrations' information (including documents) used in a cross-border or cross-sector context. Identify obstacles for mutual recognition, develop mappings and support harmonisation efforts.	2018-2020	EC, MS

	17. Further support the implementation and enhancement of the INSPIRE Directive through the use of geospatial data in digital public services.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	18. Liaise with the Commission initiatives on the 'cloud' and other initiatives related to 'building a data economy' of the Digital Single Market (as far as government services are concerned) and provide the necessary interoperability recommendations and specifications in due consideration of the Communication on ICT Standardisation Priorities for the Digital Single Market (COM(2016)176).	2018-2020	EC, MS
Focus area 5. Develop, maintain and promote supporting instruments for interoperability			
To define, develop, improve, operationalise, maintain and promote instruments that support the implementation, assessment and monitoring of interoperability activities.	19. Develop a method to assess the possible ICT impact of legislation at EU or, if possible, national levels; identify legislation that hampers interoperability (including legal screening); perform digital checks on proposed or existing policies and legislation; support actions facilitating the preparation and coherence of legislation.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	20. Develop, maintain and use mechanisms and tools assessing the maturity, costs and benefits of interoperability.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	21. Maintain and promote the 'sharing and reuse framework for IT solutions' (including open source) developed in the context of the ISA ² programme.	2017-2020	EC, MS
	22. Ensure the maintenance, improvement and promotion of the European Interoperability Reference Architecture (EIRA) and the European Interoperability Cartography (EIC) as instruments to facilitate reuse of existing interoperability solutions in a national or cross-border context.	2017-2020	EC, MS