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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

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⁽¹⁾ Text with EEA relevance.

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II

(Non-legislative acts)

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

Notice concerning the entry into force of the Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems

The Agreement between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation on the linking of their greenhouse gas emissions trading systems ⁽¹⁾ enters into force on 1 January 2020, the procedure provided for in Article 21(4) of the Agreement having been completed on 6 December 2019.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 322, 7.12.2017, p. 3

REGULATIONS

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2178

of 14 October 2019

amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1076 of the European Parliament and of the Council in order to include the Union of Comoros in Annex I

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2016/1076 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 applying the arrangements for products originating in certain states which are part of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States provided for in agreements establishing, or leading to the establishment of, Economic Partnership Agreements ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 2(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2016/1076 lists the countries to which the market access arrangements provided for by that Regulation apply.
- (2) The Interim Agreement establishing a framework for an Economic Partnership Agreement between the Eastern and Southern Africa States, on the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, on the other part (the 'interim EPA') ⁽²⁾ has been provisionally applied since 14 May 2012 for four (Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) out of six States in the Eastern and Southern Africa region which signed and ratified the agreement.
- (3) On 7 February 2019, the Union of Comoros deposited the instrument of ratification of the interim EPA. Accordingly, the interim EPA is provisionally applicable between the Union and the Union of Comoros from that date.
- (4) Therefore, the Union of Comoros should be included in Annex I,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2016/1076 the following is inserted after the words 'THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON':

'THE UNION OF COMOROS'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 14 October 2019.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 185, 8.7.2016, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 111, 24.4.2012, p. 2.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2179**of 13 December 2019****amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 as regards the country allocation of the tariff rate quota for high-quality beef and derogating from that Implementing Regulation for the quota year 2019/2020**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 187 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 ⁽²⁾ lays down rules for the management of an autonomous tariff rate quota for the import of high-quality beef opened by Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) The European Union and the United States of America concluded an Agreement on the country allocation of the tariff rate quota for high-quality beef provided for by Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 (hereafter 'the Agreement') on 5 December 2019 ⁽⁴⁾. All substantial suppliers in the tariff rate quota agreed to the country allocation provided for by the Agreement.
- (3) Article 2(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 sets out the rules for the addition of the unused balances of the drawings on the sub-tariff quotas to subsequent quarterly sub-tariff quotas. The Agreement provides that any unused quantities from the sub-periods preceding, in that quota year, the first day of the first year of the implementation period of the Agreement shall be added, in proportion to the shares in the overall volume of the tariff rate quota, to the quantities available in the first sub-period of the first year of the implementation period. Consequently, a derogation from Article 2(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 should be provided for the distribution of the unused quantities from the sub-periods preceding the first day of the first year of the implementation period of the Agreement.
- (4) It is therefore necessary to amend Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 in the light of the Agreement.
- (5) Article 2 of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 provides that the tariff quota is to be managed in accordance with Articles 308a and 308b and Article 308c(1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 ⁽⁵⁾. Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 was repealed by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/481 ⁽⁶⁾ with effect from 1 May 2016. For the sake of clarity, references to Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 should be replaced by references to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 ⁽⁷⁾.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 of 7 June 2012 laying down rules for the management of a tariff quota for high-quality beef (OJ L 148, 8.6.2012, p. 9).

⁽³⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 of 13 July 2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for imports of high-quality beef (OJ L 182, 15.7.2009, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ Council Decision (EU) 2019/2073 of 5 December 2019 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the United States of America and the European Union on the Allocation to the United States of a Share in the Tariff Rate Quota for High Quality Beef referred to in the Revised Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Importation of Beef from Animals Not Treated with Certain Growth-Promoting Hormones and Increased Duties Applied by the United States to Certain Products of the European Union (2014) (OJ L 316, 6.12.2019, p. 1).

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 of 2 July 1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code (OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1).

⁽⁶⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/481 of 1 April 2016 repealing Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code (OJ L 87, 2.4.2016, p. 24).

⁽⁷⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code (OJ L 343, 29.12.2015, p. 558).

- (6) Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (7) This Regulation should apply from the date of entry into force of the Agreement. This Regulation should therefore enter into force as a matter of urgency.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Common Organisation of the Agricultural Markets,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Amendments to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012

Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 1, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

‘1. This Regulation lays down rules for the management of an annual Union tariff quota for high-quality beef provided for in Regulation (EC) No 617/2009, hereinafter referred to as “the tariff quota”. The tariff quota period, country of origin, volume and duty are set out in Annex I to this Regulation.’;

- (2) in Article 2, paragraphs 1 and 2 are replaced by the following:

‘1. The tariff quota shall be managed on a first-come, first-served basis in accordance with Articles 49 to 52 and Article 53(1) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 (*). No import licences shall be required.

2. The tariff quota shall be managed as a parent tariff quota with a volume of 45 000 metric tonnes under order number 09.2201 with:

- (a) four quarterly sub-tariff quotas under order number 09.2202;
- (b) two quarterly sub-tariff quotas under order number 09.2203 from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2020;
- (c) four quarterly sub-tariff quotas under order number 09.2203 from 1 July 2020.

The benefit from the tariff quota can be granted only by applying for order numbers 09.2202 and 09.2203 referring to the sub-tariff quotas.

(*) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2447 of 24 November 2015 laying down detailed rules for implementing certain provisions of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Union Customs Code (OJ L 343, 29.12.2015, p. 558).’;

- (3) Annex I is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

Derogations from Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012 for the quota year 2019/2020

By way of derogation from Article 2(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) No 481/2012, the unused balances at 31 December 2019 shall be added in the proportion established as follows to the quantities for the quarterly sub-tariff quotas starting on 1 January 2020:

- (a) to quota 09.2202: 58,89 %;
- (b) to quota 09.2203: 41,11 %.

*Article 3***Entry into force and application**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2020.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 13 December 2019.

For the Commission

The President

Ursula VON DER LEYEN

ANNEX

'ANNEX I

Tariff quota for high-quality fresh, chilled or frozen beef

CN codes	Description of goods	Tariff quota periods and subperiods	Country			Tariff quota duty
			All countries	United States	Other countries	
			Order number			
			09.2202	09.2203	09.2202	
			Tariff quota volume (in tonnes net weight)			
ex 0201 ex 0202 ex 0206 10 95 ex 0206 29 91	Meat of bovine animals, fresh, chilled or frozen, that fulfils the requirements laid down in Annex II	From 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020				Zero'
		From 1 July to 30 September	11 250	-	-	
		From 1 October to 31 December	11 250	-	-	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	4 625	6 625	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	4 625	6 625	
		From 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	4 625	6 625	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	4 625	6 625	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	5 750	5 500	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	5 750	5 500	
		From 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	5 750	5 500	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	5 750	5 500	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	6 350	4 900	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	6 350	4 900	
		From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	6 350	4 900	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	6 350	4 900	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	6 950	4 300	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	6 950	4 300	
		From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	6 950	4 300	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	6 950	4 300	

CN codes	Description of goods	Tariff quota periods and subperiods	Country			Tariff quota duty
			All countries	United States	Other countries	
			Order number			
			09.2202	09.2203	09.2202	
			Tariff quota volume (in tonnes net weight)			
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	7 550	3 700	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	7 550	3 700	
		From 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	7 550	3 700	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	7 550	3 700	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	8 150	3 100	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	8 150	3 100	
		From 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	8 150	3 100	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	8 150	3 100	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	8 750	2 500	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	8 750	2 500	
		From 1 July 2026				
		From 1 July to 30 September	-	8 750	2 500	
		From 1 October to 31 December	-	8 750	2 500	
		From 1 January to 31 March	-	8 750	2 500	
		From 1 April to 30 June	-	8 750	2 500	

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2180
of 16 December 2019
specifying the detailed arrangements and content for the quality reports pursuant to Regulation (EU)
2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples, amending Regulations (EC) No 808/2004, (EC) No 452/2008 and (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 13(6) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Detailed arrangements and content of the quality reports, including indications of the method for assessing compliance with precision requirements should be specified by the Commission in relation to the data to be transmitted by the Member States to Eurostat.
- (2) The measures set out in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the European Statistical System Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation lays down the detailed arrangements for the quality reports and their required content, including an outline of the method for assessing compliance with precision requirements, on the data that Member States are required to transmit to the Commission (Eurostat) under Regulation (EU) 2019/1700.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) 'proxy interview' means an interview with someone other than the person from whom information is being sought following specific rules set by each survey specifying in which cases proxy interviews can be accepted;
- (2) 'non-response' means the failure of a survey to collect data for all data items in the survey questionnaire or from all of the population units designated for data collection, or both, specifically:
 - (a) 'unit non-response' is a type of non-response occurring when no data are collected about a population unit designated for data collection;
 - (b) 'item non-response' is a type of non-response occurring when no data are collected about a survey variable in relation to a designated population unit;
- (3) 'sampling error' means part of the difference between a population value and an estimate of that value derived from a random sample, arising from the fact that only a subset of the population is enumerated;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 261 I, 14.10.2019, p. 1.

- (4) 'non-sampling error' means error in survey estimates that is not attributable to sampling fluctuations;
- (5) 'substitution' with regards to respondents means the replacement of a unit that was originally sampled by another unit, including an inter- or intra-household replacement;
- (6) 'eligible units' means the set of population units selected from the sample frame that are part of the target population;
- (7) 'ineligible units' means units in the sample that are not part of the target population;
- (8) 'net sample', also referred to as 'achieved sample', means the set of population units (including substitution units) selected from the sampling frame, from which enough information has been obtained to include the unit in the survey estimations;
- (9) 'gross sample', also referred to as 'initial sample', means the set of population units initially selected from the sampling frame. The gross sample comprises the eligible units (the net sample and the non-response units) as well as the ineligible units;
- (10) 'imputation' means a procedure for entering a value for a specific data item where no response is available.

Article 3

Quality reports

Quality reports shall contain quality-related data and metadata in accordance with the quality criteria and statistical concepts set out in the Annex. These reports shall also refer to any instances in which the appropriate quality criteria were not complied with or statistical concepts have not been correctly applied, or both.

Article 4

Outline of methods for assessing compliance with precision requirements

The Commission (Eurostat) shall assess the extent to which the data transmitted by the Member States pursuant to Annex II to the Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 meet precision requirements. Where non-compliance with the precision requirements is detected by the Commission (Eurostat), it shall be assessed according to:

- its magnitude and frequency and the impact it has on the quality of the key indicators, especially their comparability;
- whether it can be promptly rectified and whether the Member States make the necessary corrections in an effective manner;
- whether non-compliance can be indirectly mitigated, particularly through estimation techniques, and whether the Member States are taking appropriate mitigating measures;
- the extent to which the Member States exercise control over non-compliance, which can arise for reasons beyond their control;
- the extent to which non-compliance persists during successive rounds of data collection;
- whether there is a corrective action plan approved by the Commission (Eurostat) and whether it is effectively implemented; assessment of such a plan will take account of the length of time needed to rectify instances of non-compliance, in particular in the case of panel data collections.

Article 5

Technical standards for transmitting quality reports

1. To support quality management and process documentation, quality reports shall be transmitted in accordance with the technical standards established by the Commission (Eurostat).
2. To allow electronic retrieval of data, quality reports shall be sent to the Commission (Eurostat) through the single entry point.

Article 6

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 December 2019.

For the Commission

The President

Ursula VON DER LEYEN

ANNEX

Quality criteria and statistical concepts

The quality report should contain quality-related data and metadata in line with the following quality criteria and statistical concepts.

If a particular statistical concept is not relevant to a statistical operation, that concept should remain in the quality report, accompanied by the words 'Not applicable'.

1. CONTACTS

Individual or organisational contact points for data or metadata, including contact details.

2. STATISTICAL PRESENTATION

Description of the data disseminated, which can be displayed to users as tables, graphs or maps.

2.1. Data description

Description of the main characteristics of the dataset.

2.2. Classification systems

Where applicable, the list of classifications and breakdowns used in data, and any deviations from European statistical standards or international standards.

2.3. Sector coverage

Description of the main themes covered by the dataset.

2.4. Statistical concepts and definitions, including the reference period

The list of all the variables that deviate from the standard definition, mentioning the national concepts used and any differences between national concepts and the respective data collections.

2.5. Statistical units

Description of the observation units.

2.6. Statistical population

Description of the target statistical population or populations to which the dataset refers, i.e. the population about which information is to be collected.

2.6.1. Population(s) not covered

Information about any sub-populations not covered by the data collection (e.g. homeless people or people living in institutions), including description of any such population and its best quantitative estimate.

2.7. Reference area

Description of the geographical area to which the statistical phenomenon measured relates: the geographical area covered and a list of any regions that are excluded.

2.8. Time coverage

The periods or points in time to which the observation refers.

3. STATISTICAL PROCESSING

Operations performed on data to derive new information in accordance with a given set of rules.

3.1. Source data

Description of the source of the raw statistical data (e.g. interviews, administrative data, any other sources). If administrative registers are used, they should be clearly described (source, primary purpose, possible shortcomings, etc.)

3.1.1. Sampling frame

Description of the methods used to obtain or create the sampling frame.

3.1.2. Sample design

Description of the following aspects:

- Type of sampling design (stratified, multi-stage, clustered, one stage, two stages)
- Stratification and sub-stratification criteria
- Sample size

3.2. Frequency of data collection

Information on frequency at which a dataset is collected.

3.3. Data collection

Description of the methods used to gather data (CAPI, CAWI, CATI, etc.). The national questionnaire used for data collection should be attached, along with its translation into English.

3.4. Data validation

Description of procedures used for checking and validating the source and output data, including explanation of how the results of these validations are monitored and used.

3.5. Data compilation

Description of the data compilation process (e.g. data editing, imputation, weighting, adjustment for non-response, calibration, model used, etc.) Each step of weighting should be described separately: calculation of design weights; non-response adjustment (how the design weight is corrected, taking account of differences in response rates); calibration (the level and variables used in the adjustment, method applied); calculation of final weights.

4. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Systems and frameworks in place within an organisation to manage the quality of statistical products and processes.

4.1. Quality assurance

Description of the quality assurance framework and/or quality management system (e.g. EFQM, ISO 9000) used in the organisation.

4.2. Quality assessment

Description of the overall quality of statistical outputs, summarising the main strengths and any quality deficiencies in the standard quality criteria: relevance, accuracy, reliability, timeliness, punctuality, comparability and coherence. Any trade-offs between quality aspects and any quality improvements foreseen can be mentioned.

5. RELEVANCE

5.1. User needs

Information (if available) on (any new) needs of the users in relation to data collected.

5.2. User satisfaction

Information (if available) on level of satisfaction of data users in relation to data collected and made available.

5.3. **Completeness**

Description of any non-compliance in terms of variables that are not transmitted.

6. ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY

6.1. **Overall accuracy**

Summary of the various components of an assessment of accuracy, linked to a given dataset or domain:

- Description of the main sources of random and systematic errors in the statistical outputs, with a summary assessment of all errors, focusing particularly on the impact on key estimates.
- If relevant, data revision aspects.

6.2. **Sampling error**

- Description of the methodology for calculating precision estimates.
- Precision measures of estimates in accordance with the technical specifications of the individual datasets.
- The standard errors at national and, where required, regional level (NUTS 2) for the main indicators as mentioned in Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700.

6.3. **Non-sampling error**

6.3.1. *Coverage error*

Description of divergence between the frame population and the target population.

- Frequency and timing of frame updates.
- Errors due to discrepancies between the sampling frame and the target population and sub-populations (over-coverage, under-coverage, misclassifications).

6.3.2. *Measurement error*

Description of errors that occur during data collection, causing recorded values of variables to differ from true values.

- Description of efforts made in questionnaire design and testing (including addressing errors arising from multi-mode and/or multi-source data collection).
- Description of interviewer training.
- Proxy interview rates.

6.3.3. *Non-response error*

Description of:

- Available characteristics of non-respondents.
- Unit and item non-response rates.
- Substitution rates.
- Gross sample size (initial sample size), number of eligible units and net sample size, including substitution units (achieved sample size)

6.3.4. *Processing error*

Description of any error in processing and its impact on final data collection results, arising from faulty implementation of correctly planned implementation methods.

- Description of quality checks and the data editing process.
- Description of imputation procedures.
- Imputation rates.

6.3.5. *Model assumption error*

Where applicable: description of error arising from domain-specific models needed to define the target of estimation.

6.4. **Seasonal adjustment (where applicable)**

Description of statistical techniques used to remove seasonal effects that influence a data series.

6.5. **Data revision – policy**

Description of policy aimed at ensuring the transparency of disseminated data, with preliminary data being revised after compilation.

6.6. **Data revision – practice**

Information on data revision practice.

7. TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY

Information on:

- Date of the dissemination of national results.
- Number of days between the end of fieldwork and the first fully validated delivery of data to the Commission (Eurostat).
- Date of the first full delivery of data to the Commission (Eurostat). If the delivery of data does not meet the deadline laid down in Regulation (EU) 2019/1700, a reason for the delay should be given.

8. COHERENCE AND COMPARABILITY

Description of how the requirements established in the specific domain have been fulfilled, including, where relevant, the impact of any deviations from the questionnaire and definitions.

8.1. **Comparability – geographical**

Description of any problems of comparability between different regions of the country.

8.2. **Comparability – over time**

Information on the length of comparable time series, including the years when any series breaks occurred, and the reasons for them.

8.3. **Coherence – cross domain**

Comparison with external sources for all relevant variables, where the Member States concerned consider such external data to be sufficiently reliable.

8.4. **Coherence – sub-annual and annual statistics**

If applicable.

8.5. **Coherence – National accounts**

If applicable.

8.6. **Coherence – internal**

Information on any lack of coherence in the output of the statistical process.

9. ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY

Information on:

- Dissemination formats.
- Documentation on methodology and quality.

10. COST AND BURDEN

Burden on respondents and, if available, cost associated with the collection and production of the statistical product. The average duration of household interviews should be stated. If possible and relevant, the duration of household interview should be reported by mode of data collection.

11. CONFIDENTIALITY

Information on ownership of data, indicating the extent to which their unauthorised disclosure could be prejudicial or harmful to the interests of the source or other relevant parties.

- Confidentiality policy - description of any provisions in addition to European legislation that are relevant to the statistical confidentiality applied to the data.
- Confidentiality – data treatment: general description of the rules applied to treating microdata and macrodata (including tabular data) with regard to statistical confidentiality.

12. COMMENT

Supplementary descriptive text that can be included in the quality report.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2181**of 16 December 2019****specifying technical characteristics as regards items common to several datasets pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council****(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 October 2019 establishing a common framework for European statistics relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples, amending Regulations (EC) No 808/2004, (EC) No 452/2008 and (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 7(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Certain statistical items are common to several datasets across all seven domains set out in Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1700. In the interest of comparability and to ensure their uniform interpretation and application throughout the Union, it is necessary to specify the technical characteristics listed in Article 7(2) of that Regulation and they should apply to all domains.
- (2) Statistics are needed at both national and regional level. Member States should transmit statistics to the Commission broken down by territorial units. To establish comparable regional statistics, data on territorial units should therefore be provided in accordance with the NUTS classification.
- (3) Statistics on education, occupation and economic sectors should be comparable internationally, and therefore the Member States and the Union institutions should use statistical classifications that are compatible with the ISCED ⁽²⁾, ISCO ⁽³⁾ and NACE ⁽⁴⁾ classifications.
- (4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the European Statistical System Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1***Subject matter**

This Regulation lays down the technical characteristics of the statistical populations and observation units, as well as descriptions of variables and of the statistical classifications, for items common to several data sets covered by Regulation (EU) 2019/1700.

*Article 2***Definitions used for specifying the technical characteristics of the datasets**

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 261I, 14.10.2019, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ International Standard Classification of Education 2011, <http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/international-standard-classification-of-education-iscd-2011-en.pdf> (available in English and French).

⁽³⁾ International Standard Classification of Occupations, version 2008, <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1978984/6037342/ISCO-08.pdf> (English version, also available in French and German).

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 establishing the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Revision 2 and amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 3037/90 as well as certain EC Regulations on specific statistical domains (OJ L 393, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

- (1) 'dwelling' or 'housing unit' means a building, part thereof, other premises or living quarters used for human habitation and includes 'conventional dwellings' and 'other housing units' as defined in the Annex to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1201/2009 ⁽⁵⁾;
- (2) 'one-person private household' means a private household where a person usually resides alone in a separate housing unit or occupies, as a lodger, a separate room or rooms of a housing unit but does not join with any of the other occupants of the housing unit to form a multi-person household;
- (3) 'multi-person private household' means a private household where a group of two or more persons usually reside together in a housing unit or part of a housing unit and share income or household expenses with the other household members;
- (4) 'household member' means the usual resident of a private household;
- (5) 'family home' means a housing unit occupied by the members of a multi-person household, as well as by a person who spends some time elsewhere but retains close ties with the members of the multi-person private household, especially through family relationships or regular stays;
- (6) 'sharing household income' means contributing to the private household income or benefitting from the private household income, or both;
- (7) 'household expenses' means expenses incurred by private household members in relation to providing themselves with the essentials of living. They include house-related expenses (namely rent, house or apartment charges and housing insurance) as well as other expenses related to daily life, encompassing needs such as food, clothes, sanitary products, furniture, equipment and utensils, commuting and other transport, medical care and insurance, education and training, leisure and sports activities and holidays;
- (8) 'institution' means a legal body or establishment providing a group of people with long-term housing and the amenities and services needed for daily life. The majority of institutions fall under the following categories:
 - hospitals, hospices, convalescent homes, establishments for people with disabilities, psychiatric institutions, old people's homes and nursing homes;
 - assisted living facilities and social welfare institutions, including those for the homeless, asylum seekers or refugees;
 - military camps and barracks;
 - correctional and penal institutions, retention and remand centres, prisons;
 - religious institutions;
 - tertiary student dormitories (depending on specific arrangements).

Article 3

Technical characteristics of the statistical populations and of the observation units

1. The observation units shall be private households or private household members.
2. Where a person regularly lives in more than one dwelling, the dwelling where that person spends the greater part of the year shall be taken to be his or her place of usual residence, regardless of whether it is located elsewhere within the country or abroad.
3. In applying the statistical concept of usual residence the particular cases shall be treated as provided for in Article 4.
4. Persons living as usual residents in hotels shall, in principle, be excluded from the private household population. However, they may be considered as belonging to that population if that is how their situation is defined in their country of residence, in which case it shall be clearly described in the quality report referred to in Regulation (EU) 2019/1700.

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1201/2009 of 30 November 2009 implementing Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on population and housing censuses as regards the technical specifications of the topics and of their breakdowns (OJ L 329, 15.12.2009, p. 29).

5. Private households may exclude persons whose need for shelter and subsistence is met by an institution and who, on the reference date (as defined for a specific data collection), have spent, or are likely to spend, 12 months or more living there.
6. Persons performing compulsory military service (conscripts) are included in the private household population if their service lasts less than 12 months or if they spend significant amounts of time in the family home and are dependent on their parents, legal guardians, or other family members while performing compulsory military service. By derogation, for the purposes of data collection in the labour force domain, all conscripts shall be excluded from the private household population.
7. All people who are usually resident, irrespective of whether or not they are related to other members of the private household, shall be considered to be members of a multi-person private household if they share household income or household expenses with other household members. Flatmates or housemates occupying a housing unit on a house-sharing basis and sharing only house-related expenses, but not sharing household income, shall not be considered a part of a multi-person private household occupying this housing unit, even if they share some other subsidiary household expenses.
8. Where it is not feasible to establish whether the criteria for one-person or multi-person private households are met, the interviewee's views on his or her situation vis-à-vis the other persons residing in the dwelling shall be taken into consideration.
9. Where multiple private households exist within a single dwelling, Member States shall aim to record data for all the households within a given dwelling.
10. Member States shall make every effort to avoid recording the same persons twice.

Article 4

Particular cases in application of the concept of usual residence

1. Person who works away from the family home during the week and who usually returns to the family home at the weekends, shall consider the family home to be his or her place of usual residence, regardless of whether his or her place of work is elsewhere in the country or abroad.
2. Primary and secondary school pupils who are away from the family home during the school term shall consider their family home to be their place of usual residence regardless of whether they are pursuing their education elsewhere in the country or abroad.
3. In case of a dependent child alternating between two places of residence, the place where the child spends most of his or her time shall be considered as his or her usual residence.

Where the child spends an equal amount of time with both legal guardians or parents, the place of usual residence of that child shall be the place of residence of the legal guardian or the parent who receives the child benefits, or, the place of residence of the legal guardian or the parent who contributes more towards the child-related costs.

In case none of the above applies, the place where the child is found at the reference date (as defined for a specific data collection) shall be considered as his or her usual residence.

In case of longitudinal data collections, the children alternating between two places of residence shall be considered at the same place of residence over different data collection waves, unless there was a change in life situation.

4. For data collections organised in the income and living conditions and the consumption domains the following additional specific rules shall apply:
 - (a) persons who live outside their family home for an extended period of time for the purpose of work, regardless of whether elsewhere in the country or abroad, shall consider their family home to be their place of usual residence in case they significantly contribute to the household income and are not usual residents of another private household;
 - (b) tertiary students who are away from family home while at college or university, regardless of whether elsewhere in the country or abroad, shall consider their family home to be their place of usual residence in case they benefit from the household income and are not usual residents of another private household.

In duly justified cases, Member States may decide not to apply the rules set out in this paragraph. In those cases, Member States shall describe in their quality reports the criteria applied and shall ensure the appropriate reporting of data on the inter-household transfers, including payments on behalf of the student.

The rules set out in this paragraph may also apply for the other domains in which case their application shall be described in the quality reports.

Article 5

Description of variables and statistical classifications

Annex to this Regulation sets out descriptions and classifications for the variables common to several data sets.

Article 6

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 December 2019.

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

The descriptions and classifications for the variables common to several data sets under Regulation (EU) 2019/1700

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
Sex	Sex is the combination of biological and physiological characteristics that define a person to be either male or female. In cases where the biological sex of a person is not known, the information may be replaced by either the information from administrative data or the self-declared sex (survey data).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Male — Female
Age in completed years	<p>Age in completed years is the age of the person at his or her last birthday before the reference date of the data collection or interview, namely the interval of time between the date of birth and the reference date, expressed in completed years.</p> <p>The following information is to be provided under this variable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Year of birth — Passing or not of the birthday at the reference date — Reference date <p>The reference date is specific to each data collection (domain) as specified in the corresponding implementing legislation. However, in case of countries using an integrated system of household surveys with fixed reference week, the reference date is the last day of the reference week.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Year of birth (4 digits) — Passing of birthday at the reference date (yes or no) — Reference date (DD/MM/YYYY)
Partners living in the same household	<p>Partners living in the same private household are persons living with another person considered as a partner on the basis of their actual living arrangements within the private household, regardless of whether the relationship with the partner is legally registered (e.g. marriage or civil union) or a de facto relationship.</p> <p>A 'partner' can be defined according to the legal (husband or wife or civil partner) or de facto (partner or cohabitee) relationship status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Person living with a legal or de facto partner — Person not living with a legal or de facto partner — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Household type	<p>Household type is defined by a private household composition, where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A 'lone parent' is a parent not living with a (legal or de facto) partner in the same private household who has most of the day-to-day responsibilities in raising the child or children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — One-person household — Lone parent with at least one child aged less than 25 — Lone parent with all children aged 25 or more — Couple without any child or children — Couple with at least one child aged less than 25 — Couple with all children aged 25 or more — Other type of household — Not stated ⁽¹⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The term ‘child’ or ‘children’ refers to the presence of son or sons or daughter or daughters in the household, either natural or adopted son or daughter, or stepson or stepdaughter. ‘Natural or adopted son or daughter or stepson or stepdaughter’ refers to a natural (biological), adopted or step member of the family, regardless of age or partnership or relationship status, who has usual residence in the private household of at least one of the parents. ‘Adoption’ means taking and treating a biological child of other parents as one’s own in so far as provided by the laws of the country where by means of a judicial process the adopted child — whether related or not to the adopter — acquires the rights and status of a biological child born to the adopting parents. ‘Stepson or stepdaughter’ refers to a situation in which a step-parent treats the child of his or her partner as one’s own in so far as provided by the laws of the country, without adopting it; foster children and children-in-law are not covered by this category. — A ‘couple’ is defined as a pair of individuals considered as partners in terms of their actual living arrangements within the household, regardless of whether the relationship with the partner is legally registered (e.g. marriage or civil union) or a de facto relationship (cohabiting partners). — Other type of households are those which do not fall in any of the above categories 	
Main activity status (self-defined)	<p>The self-defined main activity status is a person’s own perception of the current most important activity describing how he or she mainly perceives him or herself. While more than one activity status can apply to a person, only the most important one according to the person’s own perception and referring to the current situation is considered.</p> <p>The category ‘compulsory military or civilian service’ may not apply in some countries, in which case it shall be dropped.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Employed — Unemployed — Retired — Unable to work due to long-standing health problems — Student, pupil — Fulfilling domestic tasks — Compulsory military or civilian service (if applicable) — Other — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
Full- or part-time main job (self-defined)	<p>The variable describes the usual time-involvement in the main job of a person in employment, based on the person's own perception (i.e. self-defined) of the usual hours worked in the main job.</p> <p>The variable differentiates between full- or part-time jobs. The term job is used in reference to employment. A person who works in a part-time job normally works fewer hours than a comparable full-time worker. The distinction refers to the hours a person works usually in the main job over a longer reference period and it is self-defined, i.e. the person is to decide if his or her main job in the context of his or her profession or enterprise is part- or full-time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Full-time job — Part-time job — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Status in employment in main job	<p>The variable is based on the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE) and refers to the main job of a person in employment, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Self-employed persons with employees — persons who work in their own business, professional practice or farm for the purpose of earning a profit derived from the goods or services produced, and who employ at least one other person. — Self-employed persons without employees — persons who work in their own business, professional practice or farm for the purpose of earning a profit derived from the goods or services produced, and who do not employ any other person. — Employees — persons who work for a public or private employer based on a written or oral contract and who receive a payment in cash or in kind. — Family workers (unpaid) - persons who help another member of the family to run a farm or other family business, provided they are not considered as employees in a sense that they may not receive payment for their work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Self-employed person with employees — Self-employed person without employees — Employee — Family worker (unpaid) — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Economic activity of the local unit for main job	<p>The variable determines the economic sector or activity of the local unit (enterprise) in which the main job — of a person in employment — is located, according to the categories set up by the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE ⁽³⁾ Rev. 2).</p>	<p>The level of detail needed (1,2 or 3 digit level) is context-specific for each micro-data collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — NACE Rev. 2 — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
Occupation in main job	The variable determines the occupation in the main job of a person in employment, classified according to the categories set out by the International Standard Classification of Occupations, version 2008 (ISCO-08) ⁽⁴⁾ .	The level of detail needed (2 or 4 digit level) is context-specific for each micro-data collection: — ISCO-08 — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾	
Educational attainment level	The educational attainment level of an individual is the highest ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education 2011 ⁽³⁾) level successfully completed. The successful completion of an education programme is validated by a qualification officially recognised by the relevant national education authorities or recognised as equivalent to another qualification of formal education. In countries where education programmes, in particular those belonging to ISCED levels 1 and 2, do not lead to a qualification, the criterion of full attendance of the programme and normally gaining access to a higher level of education may be used instead. When determining the highest level, both general and vocational education should be taken into consideration. The concept of a 'successful completion of an education programme' typically corresponds to the situation in which a pupil or student attends courses or classes and obtains the final credential associated with a formal education programme. In this respect, educational attainment level corresponds to the highest level successfully completed in the ISCED ladder. The educational attainment level is defined according to the ISCED. The category 'not applicable' is to be used to count statistical units which are part of the population of the data source but for which it systematically does not report any information on the variable (e.g. persons below a certain age).	The level of detail of the information is context-specific for each data collection (domain). For each category ISCED-A codes are indicated where there is a one-to-one relationship between the categories and codes. Additional categories are specified for situations of incomplete information on access to tertiary education or orientation into account:	
		No formal education or below ISCED 1	0
		ISCED 1 Primary education	1
		ISCED 2 Lower secondary education	2
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education	3
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education – general	34
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (general) – partial level completion, without direct access to tertiary education	342
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (general) – level completion, without direct access to tertiary education	343
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (general) – level completion, with direct access to tertiary education	344
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (general) – without possible distinction of access to tertiary education	-
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education – vocational	35
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (vocational) – partial level completion, without direct access to tertiary education	352

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (vocational) – level completion, without direct access to tertiary education	353
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (vocational) – level completion, with direct access to tertiary education	354
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (vocational) – without possible distinction of access to tertiary education	-
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education – orientation unknown	-
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (orientation unknown) – partial level completion, without direct access to tertiary education	-
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (orientation unknown) – level completion, without direct access to tertiary education	-
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (orientation unknown) – level completion, with direct access to tertiary education	-
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education (orientation unknown) – without possible distinction of access to tertiary education	-
		ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education	4
		ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education – general	44
		ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education – vocational	45
		ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education – orientation unknown	-
		ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education	5
		ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education – general	54

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
		ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education – vocational	55
		ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education – orientation unknown	-
		ISCED 6 Bachelor's or equivalent level	6
		ISCED 7 Master's or equivalent level	7
		ISCED 8 Doctoral or equivalent level	8
		Not stated	
		Not applicable	
Country of birth	<p>The country of birth of an individual is defined as the country of usual residence of the individual's mother at the time of delivery, according to the current national boundaries (and not according to the boundaries in place at the time of birth). If information on the place of usual residence of the mother at the time of the birth is not available, the place where the birth took place should be reported. The list of countries and corresponding codes is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO ⁽⁶⁾</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Country of birth (SCL GEO code) — Foreign-born but country of birth unknown — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾ 	
Country of main citizenship	<p>The variable reports on the country of the person's main citizenship, defined as the particular legal bond between an individual and his or her State, acquired by birth or naturalisation, whether by declaration, choice, marriage or other means according to national legislation. A person with two or more citizenships shall be allocated to only one country of citizenship, to be determined in the following order of priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — reporting country, — if the person does not have the citizenship of the reporting country: other Member State, — if the person does not have the citizenship of a Member State: other country outside the Union. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Country of main citizenship (SCL GEO code) — Stateless — Foreign citizenship but country unknown — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾ 	

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<p>In other cases (e.g. dual citizenship where both countries are within the Union but neither is the reporting country) the person may choose which country of citizenship is to be recorded or, if this information is not available, the reporting country may determine which country of citizenship is to be allocated.</p> <p>The list of countries and corresponding codes is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO ⁽⁶⁾.</p> <p>The category 'stateless' corresponds to a person without recognized citizenship of a state.</p>	
Country of birth of the father	<p>The variable reports on the country of birth of the person's father, i.e. the country of usual residence (in its current borders, if the information is available) of the mother of the person's father at the time of his delivery, or, failing this, the country (in its current borders, if the information is available) in which the birth of the person's father took place.</p> <p>Information on the country of birth of the father should be obtained according to the same rules as provided for the variable 'country of birth'.</p> <p>'Father' is a male parent of a 'son or daughter', either natural (biological), adoptive or stepfather.</p> <p>In case of a person having not only a natural (biological) father but also e.g. an adoptive or stepfather, the country of birth should refer to who actually raised the person and acted as father in an affective or legal sense, e.g. the male guardian.</p> <p>In case of a person with same-sex parents, both being female, this variable may be used to report the country of birth of one of the mothers.</p> <p>The list of countries and corresponding codes is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO ⁽⁶⁾.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Country of birth of the father (SCL GEO code) — Father foreign-born but country of birth of the father unknown — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Country of birth of the mother	<p>The variable reports on the country of birth of the person's mother, i.e. the country of usual residence (in its current borders, if the information is available) of the mother of the person's mother at the time of her delivery, or, failing this, the country (in its current borders, if the information is available) in which the birth of the person's mother took place.</p> <p>Information on the country of birth of the mother should be obtained according to the same rules as provided for the variable 'country of birth'.</p> <p>'Mother' is a female parent of a 'son or daughter', either natural (biological), adoptive or stepmother.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Country of birth of the mother (SCL GEO code) — Mother foreign-born but country of birth of the mother unknown — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	In case of a person having not only a natural (biological) mother but also e.g. an adoptive or stepmother, the country of birth should refer to who actually raised the person and acted as mother in an affective or legal sense, e.g. the female guardian. In case of a person with same-sex parents, both being male, this variable may be used to report the country of birth of one of the fathers. The list of countries and corresponding codes is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO ⁽⁶⁾ .	
Country of residence	The country of residence is the country in which the person or the household have their usual residence, in accordance with the current national boundaries. The list of countries and corresponding codes is defined according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO ⁽⁶⁾ .	— Country of residence (SCL GEO code)
Region of residence	The region of residence is the region, within the country of residence in which the person or the household have their usual residence, defined for Member States on the basis of the Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) referred to in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 and Annex I thereto.	The level of detail (NUTS 1, 2 or 3) is context-specific for each micro-data collection: — Region of residence (code NUTS)
Degree of urbanisation	The variable reports on the degree of urbanisation of the area where the person or the household have their usual residence, by classifying the local administrative units (LAU) into one of three types of area: 1. 'Cities' - densely-populated areas where at least 50 % of the population lives in an urban centre. 2. 'Towns and suburbs' - intermediate density areas where at least 50 % of the population live in urban clusters, but which are not 'cities'. 3. 'Rural areas' - thinly populated areas where more than 50 % of the population lives in rural grid cells.	— Cities — Towns and suburbs — Rural areas
Household grid	Household grid reports about the composition of private households and the intra-household relationships between household members. Household grid shall be in the form of a matrix containing the relationships between each and all members of the household, where each row and column corresponds to one member of the household, and where the relationship between the members is indicated by the standard categories in the cells where the row and column of the respective members are crossed, as follows: — 'Partner' shall be defined according to the legal or de facto partnership or relationship status.	The level of detail of the information is context-specific for each micro-data collection: — Partner — Husband or wife or civil partner — Partner or cohabitee — Son or daughter — Natural or adopted son or daughter — Stepson or stepdaughter — Son or daughter-in-law

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A ‘husband’ or ‘wife’ or ‘civil partner’ shall be identified according to the legal marital status, i.e. the (legal) conjugal status of each individual in relation to the marriage laws (or customs) of the country (i.e. de jure status), including civil partners. Members of same sex couples can be ‘husband or wife or civil partner’ if it was concluded under the marriage laws (or customs) of the country. — ‘Partner’ or ‘cohabitee’ is identified according to the de facto relationship, i.e. the partnership or relationship status of each individual in terms of his or her actual living arrangements within the household. — ‘Son’ or ‘daughter’, whether natural or adopted or stepson or stepdaughter. — ‘Natural or adopted son or daughter’ or ‘stepson or stepdaughter’ refers to a natural (biological), adopted or step member of the family (regardless of age or partnership or relationship status) who has usual residence in the household of at least one of the parents. ‘Adoption’ means taking and treating a biological child of other parents as one’s own in so far as provided by the laws of the country. By means of a judicial process, whether related or not to the adopter, the adopted child acquires the rights and status of a biological child born to the adopting parents. — ‘Stepson or stepdaughter’ refers to a situation where a step-parent treats the child of his or her partner as one’s own in so far as provided by the laws of the country, without adopting it. — ‘Son or daughter-in-law’ is a person who is the legal or the de facto partner of one’s child. — ‘Grand-child’ means a child of ones’ child including natural, adopted and step child. — ‘Parent’ is the counterpart of the ‘natural or adopted son or daughter’ (natural or adoptive parent) or ‘stepson or stepdaughter’ (stepparent). — ‘Parent-in-law’ is a person who is a parent of one’s legal or de facto partner. — ‘Grand-parent’ means a parent of one’s parent including natural, adoptive and step-parent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Grand-child — Parent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Natural or adoptive parent — Stepparent — Parent-in-law — Grand-parent — Brother or sister <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Natural brother or sister — Step brother or sister — Other relative — Other non-relative — Not stated (!)

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — ‘Brother or sister’ refers to biological, adoptive or stepbrothers or stepsisters. — ‘Other relative’ refers to other relatives not included in the list outlined above such as cousin, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew etc. and also covers grand-child-in-law, grand-parent-in-law and brother or sister-in-law. — ‘Other non-relative’ refers to non-relatives, such as au-pairs, cohabitating friends or students, etc. Foster children are also to be included in this category. 	
Household size	Household size is defined as the total number of members of a private household. The variable provides information on the exact number of members of the household.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Total number of members of the household — Not stated
Tenure status of the household	<p>The variable refers to the arrangements under which a private household occupies all or part of a housing unit, where:</p> <p>The categories ‘owner with outstanding mortgage’ and ‘owner without outstanding mortgage’ are to be used for private households where at least one member of that household is the owner of the housing unit in which the household lives, regardless whether any other member of the household is a tenant of all or part of the housing unit. A person is an owner if he or she possesses a title deed, independently of whether the house is fully paid or not. A reversionary owner should be considered as the owner.</p> <p>The category ‘owner with outstanding mortgage’ applies to the situations where the owner has to pay off at least one outstanding mortgages or any outstanding interest on the mortgage, or both, taken to buy this housing unit.</p> <p>The category ‘owner without outstanding mortgage’ applies to the situations where there is neither any outstanding mortgage nor any interest to be repaid on the mortgage. Payoffs for mortgages or housing loans, or both, for any other housing unit (e.g. for a second dwelling) or for repairs, renovation, maintenance, or any non-housing purposes do not qualify.</p> <p>The categories ‘tenant, rent at market price’ or ‘tenant, rent at reduced price’ are to be used for households of which at least one member is the tenant (housing unit rented from the owner) or subtenant (housing unit sub-rented from someone who himself is a tenant) of the housing unit in which he or she lives, and where no household member is the owner of that housing unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Owner without outstanding mortgage — Owner with outstanding mortgage — Tenant, rent at market price — Tenant, rent at reduced price — Tenant, rent free — Not stated (*) — Not applicable

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<p>The category 'tenant, rent at market price' applies to households of which at least one member is the tenant or subtenant who pays rent at prevailing or market prices. The category also applies where rent at market price is paid but is partly or wholly recovered from housing benefits or other sources, including public, charitable, or private sources.</p> <p>The category 'tenant, rent at reduced price' covers households living in housing units at a reduced price, i.e. a price is below the market price (but not rent-free), and includes cases where the price reduction is granted</p> <p>(a) by law (b) as a result of a social housing scheme (c) for private reasons (d) by an employer</p> <p>The category 'tenant, rent free' covers households living in housing units rent-free, i.e. where no rent is paid, and includes cases where the free rent is granted</p> <p>(a) by law (b) as a result of a social housing scheme (c) for private reasons (d) by an employer</p> <p>The category 'not applicable' covers all private households that do not live in conventional dwellings as defined in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1201/2009.</p>	
Net current monthly household income	<p>The variable reports on the net current monthly income of a private household i.e. the sum of the income of all household members received individually or as a whole – including income from work, social benefits, and other cash income, and deducting cash transfers paid to other households – after taxes and contributions to social insurance.</p> <p>The variable aims at providing information on the household income remaining available to be spent or saved monthly on average. In case the household income varies substantially from month to month, an estimation of the typical or usual net monthly income reflecting the current household income situation is to be provided. In case the monthly household income varies substantially over the year such as in case of seasonal activity, the monthly average of the annual income is to be provided.</p> <p>Net current monthly income is to be provided either as total net current household income or as one of the five equivalised income groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Lower equivalised net current monthly income group — Low to medium equivalised net current monthly income group — Medium equivalised net current monthly income group — Medium to high equivalised net current monthly income group — Higher equivalised net current monthly income group — Total net current monthly household income (number expressed in national currency) — Not stated (*)

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<p>The thresholds between the five equivalised income groups are determined by the quintiles of the variable distribution and are defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — ‘Lower equivalised net current monthly income group’ corresponds to households with an equivalised income level that falls below the first quintile. — ‘Low to medium equivalised net current monthly income group’ corresponds to households with an equivalised income level equal or greater than the first quintile and below the second quintile. — ‘Medium equivalised net current monthly income group’ corresponds to households with an equivalised income level equal or greater than the second quintile and below third quintile. — ‘Medium to high equivalised net current monthly income group’ corresponds to households with an equivalised income level equal or greater than the third quintile and below the fourth quintile. — ‘Higher equivalised net current monthly income group’ corresponds to households with an equivalised income level equal or greater than the fourth quintile. <p>Equivalisation consists of applying weights to the household members to reflect differences in household size and composition, as follows: a weight of 1.0 is applied to the first member of the household aged 14 or more, 0.5 to the second and each subsequent member aged 14 or over, and 0.3 to each child aged less than 14.</p>	
Permanency of main job	<p>The variable distinguishes whether the main job has a limited duration (i.e. the job or contract will terminate after a predefined period), or is based on a permanent contract without a fixed end. The variable refers to the main job of a person in employment who is working as an employee.</p> <p>The term job is used in reference to employment. The criterion determining whether a person is in employment is context-specific for each micro-data collection.</p> <p>One job is a set of tasks and duties performed for a single economic unit. Persons may have one or several jobs. For employees, each contract can be considered as a separate set of tasks and duties, and consequently as a separate job. In cases of multiple job-holding, the main job is that with the longest hours usually worked, as defined in the international statistical standards on working time.</p>	<p>The level of detail of the information is context-specific for each micro-data collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Fixed-term contract — — fixed-term written contract — — fixed term verbal agreement — Permanent job — — permanent written contract — — permanent verbal agreement — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<p>A job with a fixed-term contract will terminate either after a period of time determined in advance (by a known date), or after a period not known in advance, but nevertheless defined by objective criteria, such as the completion of an assignment or the period of absence of an employee temporarily replaced.</p> <p>A job with a contract that has no such predefined end is counted as permanent.</p> <p>What counts as a job is the contractual or the informal or verbal agreement of the employment relationship, and not the expectation that the respondent might have to lose the job, his or her plan to leave it, his or her wish to stay or the probability to stay there permanently.</p>	
Supervisory responsibilities	The variable refers to the current main job of a person in employment who is an employee and it distinguishes between employees with and without supervisory tasks. A person is considered to have supervisory responsibilities when he or she formally supervises the work of at least one other person. Responsibilities toward apprentices and trainees do not count as supervision and neither does quality control (check output of services but not the work produced by other persons) or consultancy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Yes — No — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Year in which the person started working for his or her current employer or as self-employed	The variable refers to the current main job of a person in employment and reports on the year in which the person started to work for his or her current employer or as self-employed in the current business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Year in which the person started working for current employer or as self-employed in main job (expressed in four digits) — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Size of the local unit for main job	<p>The variable refers to the main job of a person in employment and reports on the number of persons working for the local unit including those working at the unit's location, as well as those who work outside and organisationally belong to it and are paid by it. It also includes working proprietors and partners working regularly in the unit and unpaid family workers, as well as part-time workers who are on the payroll. Seasonal workers, apprentices, trainees and home workers on the payroll are also included.</p> <p>The local unit is an enterprise or part thereof situated in a geographically identified place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Exact number of persons, if between 1 and 9 — 10 to 19 persons — 20 to 49 persons — 50 to 249 persons — 250 persons or more — Do not know but less than 10 persons — Do not know but 10 persons or more — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
Existence of previous employment experience	<p>The variable provides information on whether a person — who is not in employment — has previously been in employment (in accordance with the International Labour Organisation definition of employment ^(?)), and on whether the previous employment experience was or not limited to purely occasional work. The category 'Person has never been in employment' covers persons who have never had any employment experience.</p> <p>The category 'Person has employment experience limited to purely occasional work' covers persons who have had employment experience, and this experience is limited to purely occasional work. For the purpose of this variable, work as a conscript should not be considered as employment experience.</p> <p>The category 'Person has employment experience other than purely occasional work' covers persons who have had employment experience excluding cases where this experience is limited to purely occasional work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">— Person has never been in employment— Person has employment experience limited to purely occasional work— Person has employment experience other than purely occasional work— Not stated ⁽¹⁾— Not applicable ⁽²⁾	
Participation in formal education and training (student or apprentice) in reference period	The variable measures a person's participation in formal education and training by establishing whether the person has been enrolled as a student or apprentice in a programme of formal education during the reference period (to be defined for each micro-data collection).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">— Yes— No— Not stated ⁽¹⁾— Not applicable ⁽²⁾	
Level of the current or most recent formal education or training activity	The variable measures the level of the most recent formal education or training activity — to which a person participated during a given reference period (to be defined for each micro-data collection) - according to the categories of the International Standard Classification of Education for Education Programmes 20115 (ISCED-P 2011).	The level of detail of the information is context-specific for each data collection (domain). For each category ISCED-P codes are indicated where there is a one-to-one relation between category and the code:	
		ISCED 0 Early childhood education	0
		ISCED 1 Primary education	1
		ISCED 2 Lower secondary education	2
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education	3
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education – general	34
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education – vocational	35
		ISCED 3 Upper secondary education – orientation unknown ⁸	-
		ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education	4
ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education – general	44		

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
		<i>ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education – vocational</i>	45
		<i>ISCED 4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education – orientation unknown⁸</i>	-
		ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education	5
		<i>ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education – general</i>	54
		<i>ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education – vocational</i>	55
		<i>ISCED 5 Short-cycle tertiary education – orientation unknown⁸</i>	-
		ISCED 6 Bachelor's or equivalent level	6
		ISCED 7 Master's or equivalent level	7
		ISCED 8 Doctoral or equivalent level	8
		Not stated (¹)	
		Not applicable (²)	
Year when the highest level of education was successfully completed	<p>Year when the highest level of education was successfully completed (expressed in four digits).</p> <p>The variable refers to the year when the highest level of education was successfully completed and concerns persons with educational attainment level of primary education (ISCED 1) or above.</p> <p>The category 'not applicable' covers individuals with no formal education or an educational attainment level below primary school education (ISCED 1). The category 'not applicable' is also to be used to count statistical units which are part of the population of the data source but for which it systematically does not report any information on the variable (e.g. persons below a certain age).</p>	<p>— Year when the highest level of education was successfully completed (4 digits)</p> <p>— Not stated (¹)</p> <p>— Not applicable (²)</p>	

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
Field of the highest level of education successfully completed	The field of the highest level of education successfully completed by persons with educational attainment level of ISCED 3 or above. The field of the highest level of education successfully completed is based on 'ISCED Fields of Education and Training' (ISCED-F 2013) ⁽⁸⁾ A field is the broad domain, branch or area of content covered by an education programme or qualification. The category 'not applicable' covers individuals with no formal education or an educational attainment level below ISCED 3.	The level of detail of the information is context-specific for each data collection (domain). For each category ISCED-F codes are indicated where there is a one-to-one relation between category and the code ⁽⁹⁾ :	
		Generic programmes and qualifications	00
		Basic programmes and qualifications	001
		Literacy and numeracy	002
		Personal skills and development	003
		Generic programmes and qualifications not further defined	(009)
		Education	01
		Education	011
		Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving education	018
		Arts and humanities	02
		Arts	021
		Humanities (except languages)	022
		Languages	023
		Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving arts and humanities	028
		Arts and humanities not further defined	(029)
		Social sciences, journalism and information	03
		Social and behavioural sciences	031
		Journalism and information	032
		Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving social sciences, journalism and information	038

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
		<i>Social sciences, journalism and information not further defined</i>	(039)
		Business, administration and law	04
		<i>Business and administration</i>	041
		<i>Law</i>	042
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving business, administration and law</i>	048
		<i>Business, administration and law not further defined</i>	(049)
		Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05
		<i>Biological and related sciences</i>	051
		<i>Environment</i>	052
		<i>Physical sciences</i>	053
		<i>Mathematics and statistics</i>	054
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving natural sciences, mathematics and statistics</i>	058
		<i>Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics not further defined</i>	(059)
		Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	06
		<i>Information and Communication Technologies</i>	061
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)</i>	068
		Engineering, manufacturing and construction	07
		<i>Engineering and engineering trades</i>	071
		<i>Manufacturing and processing</i>	072
		<i>Architecture and construction</i>	073
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving engineering, manufacturing and construction</i>	078

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)	
		<i>Engineering, manufacturing and construction not further defined</i>	(079)
		Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	08
		<i>Agriculture</i>	081
		<i>Forestry</i>	082
		<i>Fisheries</i>	083
		<i>Veterinary</i>	084
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary</i>	088
		<i>Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary not further defined</i>	(089)
		Health and welfare	09
		<i>Health</i>	091
		<i>Welfare</i>	092
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving health and welfare</i>	098
		<i>Health and welfare not further defined</i>	(099)
		Services	10
		<i>Personal services</i>	101
		<i>Hygiene and occupational health services</i>	102
		<i>Security services</i>	103
		<i>Transport services</i>	104
		<i>Inter-disciplinary programmes and qualifications involving services</i>	108
		<i>Services not further defined</i>	(109)
		Not stated	
		Not applicable	

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
Duration of stay in the country of residence in completed years	<p>Duration of stay in the country of residence in completed years describes the interval of time since the point in time when a person most recently established his or her usual residence in the reporting country, expressed in completed years, as one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Born in this country and never lived abroad for a period of at least 1 year, covering those persons who are born in the reporting country and have never had their usual residence in a country other than the reporting country for at least 1 year. — Number of years in the country since last establishing the place of usual residence in this country — an integer number describing the time span between the point in time when a person most recently established his or her usual residence and the reference date (specific to each social micro-data collection) in completed years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Born in this country and never lived abroad for a period of at least 1 year — Number of years in this country (since last establishing the place of usual residence in this country) (2 digits) — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Self-perceived general health	<p>The self-perceived general health is a subjective assessment by the individual concerning person's health in general (rather than the present state of health or possible temporary health problems) including different dimensions of health, i.e. physical and emotional functioning, mental health (covering psychological well-being and mental disorders), and biomedical signs and symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Very good — Good — Fair (neither good nor bad) — Bad — Very bad — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Long-standing health problem	<p>The variable 'long-standing health problems' is a subjective assessment by the individual concerning person's chronic health problems covering different physical, emotional, behavioural and mental dimensions of health, diseases, and disorders, as well as pain, ill-health caused by accidents and injuries or congenital conditions. The characteristics of a long-standing or chronic condition are that it is permanent and may be expected to require a long period of supervision, observation or care. Longstanding illnesses or health problems should have lasted (or recurred) or are expected to last (recur) for 6 months or more.</p> <p>The category 'yes' refers to the occurrence of one or more long-standing or chronic health problems, and 'no' refers to the absence of any long-standing or chronic health problem as perceived by the respondent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Yes — No — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
Limitation in activities because of health problems	<p>The variable measures the individual self-assessed level of long-lasting ongoing limitation or limitations (of at least 6 months) due to health problem or problems (whether physical, mental or emotional, including impairment or limitations due to an old age) in participation in activities that the person would otherwise usually undertake or carry out.</p> <p>An activity is defined as the performance of a task or action by an individual. Activity limitations are defined as difficulties by an individual in performing an activity, assessed against a generally accepted population standard, relative to cultural and social expectations in relation to activities that people usually do, covering all spectrums of work or school, home and leisure activities.</p> <p>Persons with recurring or fluctuating health conditions should refer to the most frequent situation impacting their usual activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — ‘Severely limited’ means that performing or accomplishing an activity cannot be done or only done with extreme difficulty and usually with help from other people. — ‘Limited but not severely’ means that performing or accomplishing a usual activity can be done, but with some difficulties, however usually without the need for help (or usually less often than daily help) from other persons. — ‘Not limited at all’ means that performing or accomplishing usual activities can be done without any difficulties, or that any possible activity limitation has not lasted longer than the past 6 months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Severely limited — Limited but not severely — Not limited at all — Not stated ⁽¹⁾ — Not applicable ⁽²⁾
Interviewing mode used	<p>The variable reports on the method used to collect information from the respondent. In case where multiple modes are used to collect data from a respondent, the variable reports on the most predominantly used mode.</p> <p>In PAPI, CAPI and CATI an interviewer is present. CAWI is self-administered and the respondent follows a script provided on the website.</p> <p>The category ‘other’ applies when the interviewing mode used is not covered by the other categories, e.g. paper assisted self-administered interview (PASI) or non-web-based computer assisted self-administered interview (CASI).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Paper assisted personal interview (PAPI) — Computer assisted personal interview (CAPI) — Computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) — Computer assisted web-interview (CAWI) — Other — Not applicable

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	The category 'not applicable' is to be used to count statistical units — which are part of the population of the data source — for which no information on this variable is systematically reported e.g. in case of persons below a certain age, as well as in case all the information has been obtained from registers (i.e. administrative data) or imputed, or both, and no interview has taken place.	
Nature of participation in the survey	<p>The variable reports on whether the information requested has been provided by the designated respondent, or via another person (proxy respondent). The designated respondent is the person indicated in the provisions for each micro-data collection who is requested to provide the information.</p> <p>'Direct participation' refers to a situation where the designated respondent provides the requested information by him or herself. Direct participation also includes cases in which the designated respondent has provided the requested information with assistance of another person (e.g. translation, physical assistance) and has validated the answers provided.</p> <p>'Indirect participation' refers to a situation where the information requested to the designated respondent has been provided by a third person (i.e. proxy respondent) without being validated by the designated respondent.</p> <p>The category 'not applicable' is to be used to count statistical units — which are part of the population of the data source — for which no information on this variable is systematically reported as well as in case all the information has been obtained from registers (i.e. administrative data) or imputed, or both, and no interview has taken place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Direct participation — Indirect participation — Not stated (') — Not applicable
Stratum	<p>The primary stratum corresponding to each observation unit (individual person or household) in case the target population (or a part thereof) is stratified at the first stage of the sample design, providing identification codes for the different strata (stratum identifier). Stratifying a population means dividing it into non-overlapping subpopulations, called strata. Independent samples are then selected within each stratum.</p> <p>The information recorded always refers to the situation at the time of the selection of the concerned statistical unit (individual person or household).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Stratum identifier — Not applicable

Variable name	Variable description	Variable categories (classifications) for data transmission to the Commission (Eurostat)
	<p>The category 'stratum identifier' provides the identification code of the stratum each observation unit (individual or household) belongs to. Stratum identification codes are to be used in case the target population has been stratified, or in case self-representing primary sampling units (PSUs) have been considered.</p> <p>The category 'not applicable' is to be used in case the target population has not been stratified at the first stage of the sampling process (e.g. when the sample has been drawn by simple random sampling or by cluster random sampling), and self-representing PSUs have not been considered.</p>	
Primary Sampling Unit (PSU)	<p>The variable reports on the primary sampling unit (PSU) corresponding to each observation unit (individual person or household) in case the target population is divided into clusters, providing identification codes for the clusters or PSUs.</p> <p>A population is divided into clusters (i.e. disjoint sub-populations) in case direct-element sampling is either impossible (due to lack of sampling frame) or its implementation too expensive (the population is widely distributed geographically). A sample of clusters (PSUs) is then selected at the first stage of the sampling process.</p> <p>The information recorded always refers to the situation at the time of the selection of the concerned unit (individual or household).</p> <p>The category 'primary sampling unit identifier' provides the identification code of the PSU (among the selected PSUs) each observation unit (individual or household) belongs to, in case the target population has been divided into clusters in the first stage of sampling.</p> <p>The category 'not applicable' is to be used when the target population has not been clustered at the first stage of the sampling process, e.g. when the sample has been drawn by simple random sampling or by stratified random sampling.</p>	<p>— Primary sampling unit identifier</p> <p>— Not applicable</p>

⁽¹⁾ The category 'not stated' is to be used for the cases of non-response, e.g. the respondent does not know the answer or refuses to answer.

⁽²⁾ The category 'not applicable' is to be used for the cases out of the scope of a specific variable, i.e. as a result of the application of a filter for that variable, and is also to be used to count statistical units — which are part of the population of the data source — for which no information on this variable is systematically reported, e.g. in case of persons below a certain age.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 establishing the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Revision 2 and amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 3037/90 as well as certain EC Regulations on specific statistical domains (OJ L 393, 30.12.2006, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1978984/6037342/ISCO-08.pdf> (English version, also available in, French and German).

⁽⁵⁾ <http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/international-standard-classification-of-education-iscd-2011-en.pdf> (available in English and French).

⁽⁶⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_NOM_DTL&StrNom=CL_GEO&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntPcKey=&StrLayoutCode=HIERARCHIC (available in English, French and German)

⁽⁷⁾ Those who have never had employment experience in an employment for pay or profit, with at least one hour of work per week.

⁽⁸⁾ <http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/iscd-fields-of-education-and-training-2013-en.pdf> (available in English and French)

⁽⁹⁾ Codes (009), (029), (039), (049), (059), (079), (089), (099), (109) are non-ISCED codes.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2182**of 16 December 2019****entering a name in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications ‘Pan Galego’/‘Pan Gallego’ (PGI)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 50(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, Spain's application to register the name ‘Pan Galego’/‘Pan Gallego’ was published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* ⁽²⁾.
- (2) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the name ‘Pan Galego’/‘Pan Gallego’ should therefore be entered in the register,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The name ‘Pan Galego’/‘Pan Gallego’ (PGI) is hereby entered in the register.

The name specified in the first paragraph denotes a product in Class 2.3. — bread, pastry, cakes, confectionery, biscuits and other baker's wares, as listed in Annex XI to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 ⁽³⁾.*Article 2*This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 December 2019.

For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI
Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 243, 19.7.2019, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 668/2014 of 13 June 2014 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs (OJ L 179, 19.6.2014, p. 36).

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2183**of 16 December 2019****approving non-minor amendments to the specification for a name entered in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications ‘Cordero Manchego’ (PGI)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission has examined Spain's application for the approval of amendments to the specification for the protected geographical indication ‘Cordero Manchego’, registered under Commission Regulation (EC) No 378/1999 ⁽²⁾.
- (2) Since the amendments in question are not minor within the meaning of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission published the amendment application in the *Official Journal of the European Union* ⁽³⁾ as required by Article 50(2)(a) of that Regulation.
- (3) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the amendments to the specification should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*The amendments to the specification published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* regarding the name ‘Cordero Manchego’ (PGI) are hereby approved.*Article 2*This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 December 2019.

For the Commission,
On behalf of the President
Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI
Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 378/1999 of 19 February 1999 supplementing the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 2400/96 on the entry of certain names in the ‘Register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications’ provided for in Council Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs (OJ L 46, 20.2.1999, p. 13).

⁽³⁾ OJ C 242, 18.7.2019, p. 5.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2184**of 16 December 2019****approving non-minor amendments to the specification for a name entered in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications ‘Riso del Delta del Po’ (PGI)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission has examined Italy's application for the approval of amendments to the specification for the protected geographical indication ‘Riso del Delta del Po’, registered under Commission Regulation (EC) No 1078/2009 ⁽²⁾.
- (2) Since the amendments in question are not minor within the meaning of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission published the amendment application in the *Official Journal of the European Union* ⁽³⁾ as required by Article 50(2)(a) of that Regulation.
- (3) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the amendments to the specification should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*The amendments to the specification published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* regarding the name ‘Riso del Delta del Po’ (PGI) are hereby approved.*Article 2*This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 December 2019.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI
Member of the Commission*

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1078/2009 of 10 November 2009 entering a name in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications (Riso del Delta del Po (PGI)) (OJ L 294, 11.11.2009, p. 4).

⁽³⁾ OJ C 271, 13.8.2019, p. 75.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2185

of 16 December 2019

approving non-minor amendments to the specification for a name entered in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications ‘Bleu du Vercors-Sassenage’ (PDO)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 52(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to the first subparagraph of Article 53(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission has examined France’s application for the approval of amendments to the specification for the protected designation of origin ‘Bleu du Vercors-Sassenage’, registered under Commission Regulation (EC) No 509/2001 ⁽²⁾, as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 387/2009 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Since the amendments in question are not minor within the meaning of Article 53(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012, the Commission published the amendment application in the *Official Journal of the European Union* ⁽⁴⁾ as required by Article 50(2)(a) of that Regulation.
- (3) As no statement of opposition under Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 has been received by the Commission, the amendments to the specification should be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The amendments to the specification published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* regarding the name ‘Bleu du Vercors-Sassenage’ (PDO) are hereby approved.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 December 2019.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Janusz WOJCIECHOWSKI
Member of the Commission*

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 509/2001 of 15 March 2001 supplementing the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 2400/96 on the entry of certain names in the ‘Register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications’ provided for in Council Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs (OJ L 76, 16.3.2001, p. 7).

⁽³⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 387/2009 of 12 May 2009 approving minor amendments to the specification of a name registered in the register of protected designations of origin and protected geographical indications (Bleu du Vercors-Sassenage (PDO)) (OJ L 118, 13.5.2009, p. 67).

⁽⁴⁾ OJ C 279, 19.8.2019, p. 24.

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2186**of 18 December 2019****amending Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 as regards fixing representative prices in the poultrymeat and egg sectors and for egg albumin**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 183(b) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 510/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 1216/2009 and (EC) No 614/2009 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 5(6)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 ⁽³⁾ lays down detailed rules for implementing the system of additional import duties and fixes representative prices in the poultrymeat and egg sectors and for egg albumin.
- (1) Regular monitoring of the data used to determine representative prices for poultrymeat and egg products and for egg albumin shows that the representative import prices for certain products should be amended to take account of variations in price according to origin.
- (2) Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (3) Given the need to ensure that this measure applies as soon as possible after the updated data have been made available, this Regulation should enter into force on the day of its publication,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 is replaced by the text set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 December 2019.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Jerzy PLEWA
Director-General
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural
Development*

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ Commission Regulation (EC) No 1484/95 of 28 June 1995 laying down detailed rules for implementing the system of additional import duties and fixing representative prices in the poultrymeat and egg sectors and for egg albumin, and repealing Regulation No 163/67/EEC (OJ L 145, 29.6.1995, p. 47).

ANNEX

‘ANNEX I

CN code	Description	Representative price (EUR/100 kg)	Security under Article 3 (EUR/100 kg)	Origin ⁽¹⁾
0207 12 90	Fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i> , not cut in pieces, presented as “65% chickens”, frozen	147,8	0	AR
0207 14 10	Fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i> , boneless cuts, frozen	231,2 204,0 324,0 206,5	21 29 0 28	AR BR CL TH
1602 32 11	Preparations of fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i> , uncooked	283,0	1	BR

(¹) Nomenclature of countries laid down by Commission Regulation (EU) No 1106/2012 of 27 November 2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 471/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics relating to external trade with non-member countries, as regards the update of the nomenclature of countries and territories (OJ L 328, 28.11.2012, p. 7).’

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2019/2187**of 19 December 2019****fixing the maximum amount of aid for private storage of olive oil within the tendering procedure opened by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1882**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 1370/2013 of 16 December 2013 determining measures on fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products ⁽¹⁾, and in particular point (a) of the first subparagraph of Article 4(2) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 18(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1882 ⁽³⁾ opened a tendering procedure for private storage of olive oil.
- (2) On the basis of the tenders received during the submission sub-period ending on 17 December 2019, the maximum global quantity to be stored, the estimated costs of the storage and other relevant market information, it is appropriate to fix the maximum amount of aid for the storage of 17 629,18 tonnes of olive oil for a period of 180 days in order to alleviate the difficult market situation.
- (3) In order to ensure efficient management of the measure, this Regulation should enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
- (4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Common Organisation of the Agricultural Markets,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the tenders submitted within the tendering procedure opened by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1882 during the sub-period ending on 17 December 2019, the maximum amount of aid for private storage of olive oil shall be:

- (a) EUR 0,00 per tonne per day of extra virgin olive oil;
- (b) EUR 1,10 per tonne per day of virgin olive oil;
- (c) EUR 1,10 per tonne per day of lampante olive oil.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 346, 20.12.2013, p. 12.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.

⁽³⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1882 of 8 November 2019 opening tendering procedures for the amount of aid for private storage of olive oil (OJ L 290, 11.11.2019, p. 12).

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 19 December 2019.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,
Jerzy PLEWA
Director-General
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural
Development*

DECISIONS

POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2019/2188

of 11 December 2019

on the appointment of the Head of Mission of the European Union Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform in Iraq (EUAM Iraq) (EUAM Iraq/3/2019)

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular the third paragraph of Article 38 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/1869 of 16 October 2017 on the European Union Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform in Iraq (EUAM Iraq) ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 9(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 9(1) of Decision (CFSP) 2017/1869, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) is authorised, in accordance with the third paragraph of Article 38 of the Treaty, to take the relevant decisions for the purpose of exercising the political control and strategic direction of the European Union Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform in Iraq (EUAM Iraq), including the decision to appoint a Head of Mission.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 6(1) of Decision (CFSP) 2017/1869, Mr Markus RITTER was appointed as Head of Mission of EUAM Iraq.
- (3) On 15 October 2018, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2018/1545 ⁽²⁾ extending the mandate of EUAM Iraq until 17 April 2020.
- (4) On 11 November 2019, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy proposed the appointment of Mr Christoph BUIK as Head of Mission of EUAM Iraq from 1 January 2020 to 17 April 2020,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Mr Christoph BUIK is hereby appointed as Head of Mission of the European Union Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform in Iraq (EUAM Iraq) from 1 January 2020 to 17 April 2020.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

It shall apply from 1 January 2020.

Done at Brussels, 11 December 2019.

For the Political and Security Committee
The Chairperson
S. FROM-EMMESBERGER

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 266, 17.10.2017, p. 12.

⁽²⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1545 of 15 October 2018 amending Decision (CFSP) 2017/1869 on the European Union Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform in Iraq (EUAM Iraq) (OJ L 259, 16.10.2018, p. 31).

POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2019/2189**of 17 December 2019****ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE HEAD OF MISSION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION CSDP
ADVISORY MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (EUAM RCA) (EUAM RCA/1/2019)**

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular the third paragraph of Article 38 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/2110 of 9 December 2019 on the European Union CSDP Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (EUAM RCA) ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 8(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 8(1) of Decision (CFSP) 2019/2110, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) is authorised, in accordance with Article 38 of the Treaty, to take the relevant decisions for the purpose of exercising political control and strategic direction of the European Union CSDP Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (EUAM RCA), including the decision to appoint a Head of Mission.
- (2) On 12 December 2019, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy proposed the appointment of Mr Paulo SOARES as Head of Mission of EUAM RCA from 9 December 2019 to 8 December 2020,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Mr Paulo SOARES is hereby appointed as Head of Mission of the European Union CSDP Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (EUAM RCA) from 9 December 2019 to 8 December 2020.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

It shall apply from 9 December 2019.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 2019.

For the Political and Security Committee

The Chairperson

S. FROM-EMMESBERGER

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 318, 10.12.2019, p. 141.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/2190
of 19 December 2019
appointing two members of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank

THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 283(2),

Having regard to the recommendations of the Council of the European Union ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinions of the European Parliament ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinions of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank ⁽³⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Mr Benoît COEURÉ was appointed member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank for a term of office of eight years as from 1 January 2012. His term of office expires on 31 December 2019.
- (2) Ms Sabine LAUTENSCHLÄGER was appointed member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank for a term of office of eight years as from 27 January 2014. By letter dated 26 September 2019, the President of the European Central Bank informed the President of the European Council of Ms Sabine LAUTENSCHLÄGER's decision to resign from her position on the Executive Board with effect from 31 October 2019, prior to the end of her term of office.
- (3) It is therefore necessary to appoint two new members of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank.
- (4) The European Council wishes to appoint Mr Fabio PANETTA and Ms Isabel SCHNABEL who, in its view, fulfil all the requirements set out in Article 283(2) of the Treaty,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following are hereby appointed members of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank for a term of office of eight years as from 1 January 2020:

- Mr Fabio PANETTA,
- Ms Isabel SCHNABEL.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 19 December 2019.

For the European Council
The President
C. MICHEL

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 351, 17.10.2019, p. 1; OJ C 385, 13.11.2019, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Opinions delivered on 17 December 2019 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽³⁾ Opinion delivered on 23 October 2019 (OJ C 373, 5.11.2019, p. 2); opinion delivered on 11 December 2019 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2019/2191**of 19 December 2019****in support of a global reporting mechanism on illicit conventional arms and their ammunition to reduce the risk of their diversion and illicit transfer ('iTrace IV')**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Articles 28(1) and 31(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) The 2016 EU Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy (the 'EU Global Strategy') emphasises that the Union will promote peace and guarantee the security of its citizens and territory and step up its contributions to collective security. It also strongly supports the full implementation and enforcement of multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control treaties and regimes and calls for 'the cross-border tracing of weapons' recognising that European security hinges on better and shared assessments of internal and external threats and challenges.
- (2) The EU Strategy of 19 November 2018 'Securing Arms, Protecting Citizens - EU Strategy against illicit firearms, small arms & light weapons and their ammunition' (the 'EU SALW Strategy') stresses that illicit firearms, small arms and light weapons ('SALW') continue to contribute to instability and violence in the Union, in its immediate neighbourhood, and in the rest of the world. The EU SALW Strategy sets out the framework for action for the Union in order to address those challenges and commits to supporting research efforts targeting the origins of illicit SALW in conflict zones, such as Conflict Armament Research's iTrace project.
- (3) Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP⁽¹⁾, as amended by Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/1560⁽²⁾, reflects the determination of Member States to address, *inter alia*, the risk of military technology or equipment being re-exported to undesirable destinations or being diverted to terrorist organisations or to individual terrorists.
- (4) The 2005 EU Counterterrorism Strategy underscores the threat of weapon acquisition by terrorist groups, including of SALW, and calls on Member States to 'make best use' of Union level research activity.
- (5) The illicit manufacture, transfer, and circulation of conventional weapons and ammunition, and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread fuels insecurity in Europe and its neighbourhood as well as in many other regions of the world, exacerbating conflict and undermining post-conflict peace-building, thus posing a serious threat to European peace and security.
- (6) The EU SALW Strategy asserts that the Union will support the work of UN panels that monitor arms embargoes, and that it will consider ways of improving access to their findings on diversion and on illicit firearms and SALW for arms export control purposes.
- (7) With the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects (the 'UN Programme of Action'), adopted on 20 July 2001, all UN Member States have undertaken to prevent illicit trafficking in SALW, or their diversion to unauthorised recipients and, in particular, to take into account the risk of diversion of SALW into the illegal trade when assessing applications for export authorisations.

⁽¹⁾ Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment (OJ L 335, 13.12.2008, p. 99).

⁽²⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/1560 of 16 September 2019 amending Common Position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment (OJ L 239, 17.9.2019, p. 16).

- (8) On 8 December 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit SALW.
- (9) At the 2018 Third Review Conference on the UN Programme of Action, all UN Member States affirmed their commitment to encourage States when tracing illicit SALW, including those found in conflict and post-conflict situations, to consult records within the State where the small arm or light weapon was found and/or consult with the State of manufacture of that weapon.
- (10) On 24 December 2014, the Arms Trade Treaty ('ATT') entered into force. The objective of the Treaty is to establish the highest possible common international standards for regulating or improving the regulation of the international trade in conventional arms, to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and to prevent their diversion. The Union should support all UN Member States in implementing effective arms transfer controls in order to ensure that the ATT will be as effective as possible, in particular as regards the implementation of Article 11 thereof.
- (11) The Union previously supported iTrace by Council Decisions 2013/698/CFSP ⁽³⁾, (CFSP) 2015/1908 ⁽⁴⁾, and (CFSP) 2017/2283 ⁽⁵⁾ (iTrace I, II, and III) and wishes to support iTrace IV, the fourth phase of this global, reporting mechanism on illicit conventional arms and their ammunition so as to contribute to Europe's collective security, as requested by the EU Global Strategy,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. With a view to the implementation of the EU Global Strategy, Common Position 2008/944/CFSP, the EU SALW Strategy, and the advancement of peace and security, the project activities to be supported by the Union shall have the following specific objectives:

- continued maintenance of a user-friendly global information management system on diverted or trafficked conventional arms and their ammunition ('iTrace') documented in conflict-affected areas in order to provide policy-makers, conventional arms control experts, and conventional arms export control officers with relevant information to develop effective, evidence-based strategies and projects against the illicit spread of conventional arms and their ammunition;
- training and mentoring of national authorities in conflict-affected states to develop sustainable national illicit conventional arms identification and tracing capacity, encourage sustained cooperation with the iTrace project, better identify physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) priorities, more effectively articulate national arms control and law enforcement assistance requirements, notably Union-funded initiatives, such as Interpol's Illicit Arms Records and tracing Management System (iARMS), and the activities of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), and strengthen dialogue with EU missions and initiatives;
- enhanced frequency and duration of in-field research into conventional arms and their ammunition, illegally circulating in conflict-affected areas to generate iTrace data, in response to clear demands made by Member States and Union Delegations;

⁽³⁾ Council Decision 2013/698/CFSP of 25 November 2013 in support of a global reporting mechanism on illicit small arms and light weapons and other illicit conventional weapons and ammunition to reduce the risk of their illicit trade (OJ L 320, 30.11.2013, p. 34).

⁽⁴⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1908 of 22 October 2015 in support of a global reporting mechanism on illicit small arms and light weapons and other illicit conventional weapons and ammunition to reduce the risk of their illicit trade ('iTrace II') (OJ L 278, 23.10.2015, p. 15).

⁽⁵⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2017/2283 of 11 December 2017 in support of a global reporting mechanism on illicit small arms and light weapons and other illicit conventional weapons and ammunition to reduce the risk of their illicit trade ('iTrace III') (OJ L 328, 12.12.2017, p. 20).

- tailored support to Member State arms export control authorities and arms control policy makers, including repeat consultative visits by iTrace project staff to capitals of the Member States, a 24-hour help desk to provide instant advice on risk assessment and counter-diversion strategies, the maintenance of secure desktop and mobile dashboard applications to provide instant notification of post-export diversion, and the provision to Member States, on request, of post-shipment verification by iTrace project staff;
- increasing awareness through outreach on the findings of the project, promoting the purpose and available functions of iTrace to international and national policy makers, conventional arms control experts and arms export licensing authorities, and enhancing international capacity to monitor the illicit spread of conventional arms and their ammunition and related materiel, as well as to assist policy makers in identifying priority areas for international assistance and cooperation and to reduce the risk of diversion of conventional arms and their ammunition;
- providing key policy issue reports, drawn from the data generated by field investigations and presented on the iTrace system, about specific areas deserving international attention, including major patterns in the trafficking of conventional arms and their ammunition, and the regional distribution of trafficked conventional arms and their ammunition, and related materiel; and
- the continued tracing of conventional arms and their ammunition, with the cooperation of Member States and non-EU States, as the most effective means to establish and verify, to the fullest extent possible, the mechanisms behind the diversion of conventional arms and their ammunition to unauthorised users; tracing will be supplemented by follow-up investigations focused on identifying the human, financial, and logistics networks behind illicit conventional arms transfers.

2. A detailed description of the project is set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

1. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy ('HR') shall be responsible for implementing this Decision.
2. The technical implementation of the project referred to in Article 1 shall be carried out by Conflict Armament Research Ltd. ('CAR').
3. CAR shall perform its tasks under the responsibility of the HR. For that purpose, the HR shall enter into the necessary arrangements with CAR.

Article 3

1. The financial reference amount for the implementation of the project referred to in Article 1 shall be EUR 5 490 981,87. The total estimated budget of the overall project shall be EUR 6 311 473,41, which shall be provided through co-financing by CAR and the German Federal Foreign Office.
2. The expenditure financed by the amount set out in paragraph 1 shall be managed in accordance with the procedures and rules applicable to the general budget of the Union.
3. The Commission shall supervise the proper management of the financial reference amount referred to in paragraph 1. For that purpose, it shall conclude the necessary agreement with CAR. That agreement shall stipulate that CAR has to ensure the visibility of the Union's contribution, appropriate to its size.
4. The Commission shall endeavour to conclude the agreement referred to in paragraph 3 as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Decision. It shall inform the Council of any difficulties in that process and of the date of conclusion of that agreement.

Article 4

1. The HR shall report to the Council on the implementation of this Decision on the basis of regular narrative quarterly reports prepared by CAR. Those reports shall form the basis of the evaluation carried out by the Council. In order to assist the Council in its evaluation of the results of this Decision, an external entity shall carry out an evaluation of the impact of the project.

2. The Commission shall report on the financial aspects of the project referred to in Article 1.

Article 5

1. This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.
2. This Decision shall expire 36 months after the date of conclusion of the agreement referred to in Article 3(3). However, it shall expire six months after the date of its entry into force if no agreement has been concluded within that period.

Done at Brussels, 19 December 2019.

For the Council
The President

ANNEX

PROJECT IN SUPPORT OF A GLOBAL REPORTING MECHANISM ON ILLICIT CONVENTIONAL ARMS AND THEIR AMMUNITION
TO REDUCE THE RISK OF THEIR DIVERSION AND ILLICIT TRANSFER

(iTrace IV)

1. Background and rationale for CFSP support

- 1.1. This Decision builds on successive Council Decisions to combat the destabilising impact of the diversion and trafficking of conventional arms and their ammunition in conflict-affected areas, in particular Decisions 2013/698/CFSP, (CFSP) 2015/1908, and (CFSP) 2017/2283 which established and enhanced the iTrace global reporting mechanism on conventional arms and their ammunition.

The illicit proliferation of conventional arms and their ammunition is a major factor undermining State stability and exacerbating conflicts, which poses a serious threat to peace and security. As stated in the EU SALW Strategy, illicit firearms and SALW continue to contribute to instability and violence in the Union, in its immediate neighbourhood, and in the rest of the world. Illicit small arms are fuelling global terrorism and conflicts, thwarting the Union's development and crisis management, humanitarian and stabilisation efforts in parts of the Union's neighbourhood and Africa. Within the Union, illicit firearms have a clear impact on internal security, by fuelling organised crime and providing terrorists with means to carry out attacks on European soil. Recent findings from the iTrace project in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen, and other conflicts close to the Union's external borders, confirm the assertions in the EU SALW Strategy.

The activities conducted under Decision (CFSP) 2015/1908 confirmed iTrace as a global conflict weapon monitoring initiative. The iTrace Project has operated in more than 40 conflict-affected states, including in Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, and South and East Asia, and has created the world's largest public repository of diverted conventional arms and their ammunition to support States in their efforts to detect and address diversion in line with commitments to Criterion 7 of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and Article 11 of the ATT. It provides for precise reporting on the diversion of arms and their ammunition flowing to armed insurgent and terrorist forces that pose a threat to the security of the Union, including Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and Daesh/Islamic State, and alerts Member State export control authorities confidentially, and rapidly, to post-export diversion risks, providing critical, real-time information to EU Delegations and Member State diplomatic missions in conflict-affected regions on arms trafficking and conflict dynamics. It mainstreams awareness of arms control and counter-diversion measures through balanced and responsible global news media engagement.

- 1.2. The iTrace project, however, faces sustained calls by Member States to provide direct, face-to-face briefings to national arms export licensing authorities (including frequent visits to capitals) and to provide a greater range of resources bilaterally to Member State arms export control policy makers.

This Decision therefore aims to continue and enhance the work of the project under Decision (CFSP) 2017/2283 by further providing Union policy makers, arms control experts and arms export control officers with systematically compiled, relevant information, which will support them in developing effective, evidence-based strategies against the diversion and illicit spread of conventional arms and their ammunition in order to improve international and regional security. It will thus continue to support them to combine a successful reactive strategy with adequate preventive action to address illegal supply and demand, and to ensure effective conventional arms control in third countries.

- 1.3. This Decision provides for the continued maintenance and further enhancement of the publicly accessible iTrace Global Weapon Reporting System. The projects listed in Decision (CFSP) 2017/2283 will be reinforced by: 1) the increased frequency and duration of missions to gather data on illicit conventional arms supplies into conflict-affected regions; 2) tailored support packages provided to Member States comprising direct consultation, bespoke data and reports, a 24-hour help desk, and post-shipment verification tasking; and 3) the training and mentoring of

national authorities in conflict-affected States to trace illicit conventional arms found or seized on their territorial jurisdiction, to build counter-diversion capacity, including tracing capacities in the framework of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI), to enhance weapon management, including record keeping, and to boost the collection of iTrace data.

2. Overall objectives

The Action described under Section 4 will further support the international community in combating the destabilising impact of the diversion and trafficking of conventional arms and their ammunition. It will continue to provide policy makers, arms control experts, and arms export control officers with relevant information, which will support them in developing effective, evidence-based strategies against the diversion and illicit spread of conventional arms and their ammunition in order to improve international and regional security. Specifically, the Action will:

- (a) provide concrete information on the diversion and trafficking of conventional arms and their ammunition, to support the effective implementation of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP, the ATT, the UN Programme of Action and the ITI;
- (b) provide tailored support to Member States to assist in diversion risk assessment and mitigation;
- (c) expose routes and entities involved in the diversion of conventional arms and their ammunition into conflict-affected regions or to international terrorist organisations and to provide evidence of groups and individuals engaged in illicit trade, in support of national legal proceedings;
- (d) enhance cooperation between relevant UN organs, missions and other international organisations, in the field of tracing conventional arms and their ammunition, and of providing information directly in support of existing monitoring mechanisms, including INTERPOL's iARMS, and EUROPOL, the latter having concluded an information-sharing memorandum of understanding with CAR in 2019;
- (e) provide relevant information to identify priority areas for international cooperation and assistance to combat effectively the diversion and trafficking of conventional arms and their ammunition, such as funding for projects with regard to stockpile security and/or border management; and
- (f) offer a mechanism to assist in monitoring implementation of the ATT, specifically to detect the diversion of transferred conventional arms as well as to assist governments in appraising the risk of diversion prior to the export of conventional arms, specifically the risk of diversion within the recipient country or re-export under undesirable conditions.

3. Long-term project sustainability and outcomes

The Action will provide a durable framework for sustained monitoring of the illicit spread of conventional arms and their ammunition. It is expected to increase substantially existing arms-related information and to support significantly the targeted development of effective conventional arms control and arms export control policies. Specifically, the project will:

- (a) populate further the iTrace information management system that will ensure long-term collection and analysis of illicit conventional arms data;
- (b) provide conventional arms control policy makers and experts with a tool to define more effective strategies and priority areas for assistance and cooperation, for example, by identifying sub-regional or regional cooperation, coordination and information-sharing mechanisms that need to be established or strengthened, by identifying insecure national stockpiles, inadequate inventory management, illegal transfer routes, weak border controls, and insufficient law enforcement capacities;
- (c) contain the in-built flexibility to generate policy relevant information, regardless of rapidly changing policy requirements;

- (d) increase substantially the efficacy of international arms monitoring organisations and individuals by providing an information-sharing mechanism of continually expanding scope; and
- (e) build sustainable national capacity in conflict-affected States to identify and trace illicit conventional arms and engage more effectively in international arms control and law enforcement processes.

4. Description of Action

4.1. Project 1: Training and mentoring of national authorities in conflict-affected states in weapon identification and international tracing.

4.1.1. Project objective

iTrace training and mentoring programmes provide national authorities in conflict-affected states with the methods and skills to self-diagnose and address conventional arms diversion. Training aims to enhance often non-existent capacity to identify and trace illicit conventional arms, while mentoring allows iTrace project staff to identify critical capacity gaps in real time and immediately tailor solutions to address them. iTrace training and mentoring programmes, moreover, cement relations between the iTrace project and national authorities, allowing its field investigation teams greater access to seized and recovered conventional arms —thereby enhancing the full spectrum of iTrace data gathering, analysis, and reporting.

4.1.2. Benefit to EU arms control initiatives

iTrace training and mentoring programmes respond to actions addressed in the EU SALW Strategy - to support national capacities to 'track and trace the origins of illicit SALW and ammunition in conflict zones' - and directly and indirectly enhance a wide array of Member State-supported arms control initiatives. Direct impacts include supporting national law enforcement authorities to trace SALW in line with the International Tracing Instrument, enhancing national capacity to gather data on traced arms within the framework of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 16.4.2, and supporting Member State-initiated weapon and ammunition management programmes. Indirect impacts include 'feeding back' information gathered on site, such as alerting Member States to diversion risks encountered in partner countries and detecting diversion from national stockpiles and providing this information to Union-supported PSSM programmes.

4.1.3. Project activities

In 2018, CAR established the Technical Support Unit (TSU), a unit formed to deliver training and mentoring activities to national authorities in the conflict-affected states in which iTrace Project operates. Those training and mentoring activities are designed to boost national counter-diversion initiatives across the board by providing instruction and capacity development on conventional arms tracing, marking and record keeping, following ITI established procedures, of seized and captured illicit conventional arms, and PSSM assessments that are designed to identify and address diversion risks at source. CAR will provide specialist, needs-assessed training on the full spectrum of activities listed above to local partners and, where required, to peace support staff, including UN and EU Missions and UN sanctions monitoring groups/panels. In this respect, the iTrace Project will continue to respond directly to the action listed in the EU SALW Strategy, which calls for EU support to 'UN panels that monitor arms embargoes' and for consideration of 'ways of improving access to their findings on diversion and

illicit firearms and SALW for arms export control purposes'. Training under the iTrace Project will build on a range of services offered by CAR since 2014, which has proved critical to supporting local partners in conflict-affected states, aiding UN panels, and also to securing greater access to iTrace field investigation teams. The project will deploy staff from its field investigation teams and TSU to instruct, at progressively more technical levels, with regard to:

- (a) an introduction to conventional arms data collection, with reference to specific cases;
- (b) basic conventional arms identification and effective documentation techniques;
- (c) evidence collection standard operating procedures and the evidentiary chain of custody;
- (d) the requirements of long-range, regional, and international investigations;
- (e) the implementation of the International Tracing Instrument; where appropriate, authorities in partner countries will be trained and encouraged to initiate trace requests;
- (f) international arms tracing and arms tracing systems (notably Interpol and Europol);
- (g) the use of 'big data' and trend analysis; and
- (h) avenues for technical assistance (international) and law enforcement intervention.

Those activities will be conducted alongside iTrace field investigations—including joint investigations (mentoring) conducted with national government authorities.

4.1.4. Project results

The project will:

- (a) encourage national authorities to grant greater access to iTrace field investigation teams, responding to repeated calls for iTrace teams to provide technical assistance and joint investigation capacity and equating to increased iTrace data gathering;
- (b) provide concrete capacity assistance to national governments that, while suffering the impacts of conventional arms diversion, lack the tools to identify and report on diverted conventional arms; this is often a precursor to more effective domestic conventional arms management and, as such, supports implementation of the ATT, the ITI, the UN Programme of Action, and SDG 16.4.2 and PSSM programming and liaison with international law enforcement bodies, including Interpol (iARMS) and Europol.
- (c) support enhanced dialogue, notably identifying key stakeholders for other Union-supported initiatives, for example EU Mission relations with host governments, and kick-starting initiatives, such as PSSM programming, for example Union-supported stockpile management projects.

4.1.5. Project implementation indicators

Up to 40 in-field training and mentoring visits, with an emphasis on repeat visits to support national authorities in building tracing capacity.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.1.6. Project beneficiaries

iTrace training and mentoring activities will have direct benefits for national stakeholders in conflict-affected states, including law enforcement bodies and prosecutors. The programme will offer indirect support to national dialogues with Union-funded and other arms control initiatives, encouraging the use of international tracing mechanisms, including Interpol's iARMS system and Europol, and facilitating engagement with Union-supported stockpile management projects and other SALW-control projects.

4.2. Project 2: Enhanced field investigations required to further populate the iTrace system with real-time documentary evidence of the diversion and trafficking of conventional weapons and ammunition, and other relevant information.

4.2.1. Project objective

The project will enhance the frequency and duration of in-field research into conventional arms and ammunition circulating in conflict-affected areas. The project will prioritise countries of particular concern to Member States, including, *inter alia*, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Mali, South Sudan, Somalia, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen. These on-the-ground investigations will provide concrete evidence of diverted conventional arms in the hands of insurgent and terrorist forces, which would otherwise be invisible to external observers (including arms-exporting Member States). CAR will request the prior approval of the EU Working Party on Conventional Arms Export (COARM) before substantive engagement in all countries not previously subject to iTrace field investigations or iTrace training and mentoring programmes.

Using new technologies and advanced forensic techniques, CAR will employ a range of in-field activities, including enhanced photographic documentation, forensic exploitation, and obliterated mark recovery. CAR has proved that these methods reveal traceable information on previously untraceable weapons, ammunition, and related materiel, allowing investigations into a growing range of illicit material, whose identifying information has been removed to conceal provenance.

The resulting data will improve Member States' collective understanding of diversion and illicit transfers, methods used by traffickers to conceal them, and substantially enhance their capacities to disrupt illicit trade.

4.2.2. Benefit to EU arms control initiatives

iTrace field investigations provide a dynamic baseline of diverted conventional arms in conflict-affected states. This baseline provides a rolling measure of the efficacy of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and of arms control agreements that Member States have committed to, *inter alia*, the ATT, the UN Programme of Action and the EU SALW Strategy. The thorough documentation of conflict arms also serves as a launch pad for formal conventional arms traces and for comprehensive investigations into conflict financing and arms supply networks.

4.2.3. Project activities

The following activities will be undertaken in the framework of this project:

- (a) the deployment of qualified arms experts to conduct in-field analysis of illicit conventional arms and their ammunition, recovered from conflict-affected states;
- (b) the analysis, review and verification of documented evidence on conventional arms, their ammunition and their users, including, *inter alia*, photographic documentation, forensic exploitation, and obliterated mark recovery of weapons, their component parts and internal and external markings, packaging, and associated shipping documentation, combined with the results of field investigations (users, suppliers, and transfer routes);
- (c) the uploading of all collected and reviewed evidence onto the iTrace information management system and, once verified, onto the iTrace online mapping portal;
- (d) the identification and support to local partners to ensure sustained data collection in support of iTrace throughout the duration of the proposed Action and beyond;
- (e) the continued liaison with Governments of the Member States to pre-define national points of contact, and a coordination mechanism, in order to clarify the scope of CAR's investigations, and alleviate possible conflicts of interest, in advance of its investigations.

The project will be implemented incrementally over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.2.4. Project results

The project will:

- (a) document, *in situ*, the physical evidence of diverted or trafficked conventional arms and their ammunition in conflict-affected regions;

- (b) verify and develop illicit trafficking cases from evidence gathered by CAR, by organisations with standing information-sharing agreements with CAR, and, as appropriate, other organisations, on diverted or trafficked conventional arms and their ammunition across all regions;
- (c) provide concrete visual and physical evidence of diverted or trafficked conventional arms and their ammunition, including photographs of items, serial numbers, factory marks, boxes, packing lists, shipping documents, and end user documentation and information obtained through forensic exploitation and obliterated mark recovery;
- (d) generate textual accounts of illicit activity, including trafficking routes, actors and financial and support networks involved in diversion or illicit transfer and assessments of contributing factors (including ineffective stockpile management and security and deliberate, state-orchestrated illicit supply networks);
- (e) upload the aforementioned evidence into the iTrace information management system and, once verified, onto the iTrace online mapping portal for full public dissemination and to Member States through secure desktop and mobile platforms.

4.2.5. Project implementation indicators

Up to 75 field deployments (including extended deployment where required) throughout the three-year period to generate evidence to upload into the iTrace information management system and online mapping portal.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.2.6. Project beneficiaries

iTrace will continue to provide increasingly comprehensive information explicitly targeted first and foremost at EU national arms control policy makers, and arms export licensing authorities, as well as Union institutions, agencies, and missions. These Union beneficiaries will also have access to confidential information through secure desktop and mobile platforms provided by iTrace.

Public information will continue to be accessible also to all Union beneficiaries, as well as to non-Union beneficiaries, such as arms control policy makers and arms export licensing authorities in third countries, non-governmental research organisations, advocacy organisations and the international news media.

4.3. Project 3: Tailored support to Member State arms export control authorities and arms control policy makers.

4.3.1. Project objective

The project will provide Member States with consistent bilateral support, including regular face-to-face visits and bespoke reporting, which will be tailored to the specific arms control interest areas and information requirements of each Member State. Information provided by Member States' arms exports licensing authorities will be treated with due respect and confidentiality. CAR will also continue to be in contact with a range of national arms export licensing authorities of third countries. These relationships will support several critical aspects of international efforts to address diversion and the trafficking of conventional arms and will reinforce international counter-diversion measures, including:

- (a) providing detailed data and evidence on documented diversion to exporting licensing authorities; and
- (b) supporting or providing, on official request by EU national arms export licensing authorities, post-shipment/post-delivery verification capacity to Member States.

4.3.2. Benefit to EU arms control initiatives

Regular iTrace Project's Team visits to Member State capitals permit bilateral discussions on sensitive subjects (i.e. post-export diversion), allow Member States to input directly into the design of iTrace and its outputs (direction and scope of investigations and types of reporting), and help develop confidence-building measures (i.e. the iTrace 'advance notification' and 'right of reply' processes). Critically, iTrace outreach to Member States provides a forum for often-nuanced discussion of national challenges and opportunities related to commitments under Criterion 7 of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and Article 11 of the ATT. Under past iTrace Projects (I, II and III), outreach visits have been critical to understanding Member States' information requirements, whether of a general nature (i.e. 'what is your threat assessment regarding weapons entering a particular theatre of armed conflict') or those that are specific to the iTrace Project (i.e. 'we need a dashboard that alerts us instantly to every domestically produced weapon that iTrace field teams document').

4.3.3. Project activities

The following activities will be undertaken in the framework of this project:

- (a) iTrace teams sent on repeat visits to relevant authorities in Member State capitals to brief on counter-diversion issues and report on their investigations;
- (b) the continuation of a 24-hour helpdesk to provide instant advice on counter-diversion or potentially negative press allegations arising from unverified third party reporting;
- (c) the maintenance for Member State export licensing authorities of online dashboards, which will stream encrypted data from the iTrace information management system, red-flagging parties with a history of diverting conventional arms, profiling high-risk destinations, and reporting, in real time, the diversion of domestically manufactured arms; and
- (d) the support or provision, on official request by Member States' arms exports licensing authorities, of post-delivery end use checks (verification) to Member States by iTrace field investigation teams.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.3.4. Project results

The project will:

- (a) assist Member State arms export licensing authorities, on their request in identifying post-export diversion;
- (b) supply information in support of diversion risk analysis by Member State arms export licensing authorities, in line with Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and the ATT, prior to granting export licences;
- (c) provide Member State arms export licensing authorities with post-shipment verification capacity on their demand;
- (d) support Member State arms control policy makers with real-time information on diversion and trafficking trends in support of national engagement in international policy processes; and
- (e) assist Member State national law enforcement agencies in support of criminal investigations, where applicable and on their request.

4.3.5. Project implementation indicators

The maintenance of bespoke desktop and mobile dashboards, which will stream information from secure partitions within the iTrace system to Member States' national authorities. A help desk, which will be manned by iTrace project staff, to provide full support to Member State arms export control authorities and arms control policy makers. Up to 45 visits to Member State capitals on request.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.3.6. Project beneficiaries

All interested Member States, with visits to capital and post-shipment verification missions conducted on request.

4.4. Project 4: Stakeholder outreach and international coordination

4.4.1. Project objective

The project will showcase the benefits of iTrace to international and national policy makers, conventional arms control experts, and arms export licensing authorities. Outreach initiatives will also be designed to further coordinate information-sharing and build sustainable partnerships with individuals and organisations capable of generating information that can be uploaded into the iTrace system.

4.4.2. Benefit to Union arms control initiatives

The project will showcase, at numerous conferences, events, and processes, Union support for the iTrace Project and demonstrate the project's role in providing concrete information in support of international arms control initiatives. Successive iTrace projects (I, II and III) have demonstrated that international outreach plays a critical role in: 1) shaping the international agenda regarding international arms control processes; and 2) generating opportunities for non-EU State cooperation with the iTrace project and Union arms control initiatives more generally.

4.4.3. Project activities

The following activities will, with due attention given to avoiding overlap with other undertakings for instance on ATT outreach, be undertaken in the framework of this project:

- (a) iTrace project staff presentations to relevant international conferences dealing with the illicit trade in conventional arms in all its aspects. Staff presentations will be designed to showcase iTrace, with an emphasis on 1) its concrete benefits for assisting in monitoring the implementation of the ATT, the UN Programme of Action, and other relevant international instruments; 2) its utility in identifying priority areas for international assistance and cooperation; and 3) its utility as a risk assessment profiling mechanism for arms export licensing authorities;
- (b) iTrace project staff presentations to national governments and peacekeeping operations. Staff presentations will be designed to showcase iTrace to relevant mission departments, to encourage and develop formal information-sharing agreements capable of generating information that can be uploaded into the iTrace system, as well as to assist policy makers in identifying priority areas for international assistance and cooperation.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.4.4. Project results

The project will:

- (a) demonstrate the utility of iTrace and the concept of documenting, compiling, and sharing data on diversion to national and international policy makers working to implement conventional arms control and arms export control agreements (the ATT, the UN Programme of Action, and other relevant international instruments) and support their implementation;
- (b) provide relevant information to assist policy makers and conventional arms control experts in identifying priority areas for international assistance and cooperation and devising effective counter-diversion strategies;

- (c) provide arms export licensing authorities with in-depth information on iTrace and its risk assessment utility, in addition to providing an avenue for further feedback and system enhancement;
- (d) facilitate information-sharing among national governments and UN peacekeeping and sanctions monitoring operations, including data processing and analysis using the iTrace system;
- (e) facilitate networking among an expanding group of conventional arms control experts involved in conducting *in situ* investigations into the diversion and trafficking of conventional arms and their ammunition;
- (f) raise the public profile of conventional arms and their ammunition tracing as a means to assist in monitoring the implementation of the ATT, the UN Programme of Action, and the ITI and other international and regional arms control and arms export control instruments.

4.4.5. Project implementation indicators

Up to 30 outreach conferences attended by iTrace staff. All conferences will include presentations of iTrace. Conference agendas and brief summaries will be included in the quarterly narrative reports.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.4.6. Project beneficiaries

Please see Section 4.2.6 above for a full list of beneficiaries, which is identical to the beneficiaries of this project.

4.5. Project 5: iTrace policy reports

4.5.1. Project objective

The project will provide key policy issue reports, drawn from the data generated by field investigations and presented on the iTrace system. The reports will be designed to highlight specific areas of international concern, including major conventional arms and ammunition trafficking patterns, the regional distribution of trafficked conventional arms and their ammunition, and priority areas for international attention.

4.5.2. Benefit to Union arms control initiatives

iTrace policy reports focus international attention on the comprehensiveness of Union arms control initiatives and the commitments made by Member States to address the diversion of conventional arms and their ammunition. Since 2013, these reports have achieved important coverage in many of the world's leading news media outlets, prompting national action by governments, parliamentarians, and civil society. Because iTrace reports do not shy away from identifying illicit conventional arms that originate in the Union, they showcase Member States' progressive attitudes towards arms control. This, arguably, encourages transparency and the expanding membership and universalisation of multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control treaties and regimes called for in the EU Global Strategy, i.e. the 'lead by example' principle.

4.5.3. Project activities

In-depth analysis leading to the compilation, review, editing, and publication, including hard-copy printing and distribution of up to 20 iTrace policy reports.

4.5.4. Project results

The project will:

- (a) produce up to 20 reports, each profiling a separate issue of international concern;

- (b) ensure the distribution of iTrace policy reports to all Member States;
- (c) devise a targeted outreach strategy to ensure maximum global coverage;
- (d) sustain the visibility of the Action in the policy arena and international news media by, *inter alia*, presenting illicit conventional arms information of topical concern, providing policy relevant analysis in support of on-going arms control processes, and tailoring reports to provide maximum international news media interest.

4.5.5. Project implementation indicators

Up to 20 online, publically available iTrace policy reports produced throughout the duration of the proposed Action.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.5.6. Project beneficiaries

Please see Section 4.2.6 above for a full list of beneficiaries, which is identical to the beneficiaries of this project.

4.6. Project 6: Illicit conventional arms and their ammunition tracing and enhanced investigations

4.6.1. Project objective

The project will continue to send formal trace requests to national governments, for illicit conventional arms and their ammunition, responses to which provide comprehensive information on their supply chains and identify the location and circumstances in which they have been diverted to unauthorised users. These activities aim to establish the mechanisms of conventional arms and their ammunition diversion, on a case-by-case basis and with the support of exporting states, notably Member States' arms export control authorities. Traces yield detailed information on illicit conventional arms supply networks, identify cases of unauthorised retransfer in violation of end-user agreements, flag UN and Union arms embargo violations, and alert States to post-export diversion. Above all, because national governments themselves provide trace information, the trace process provides a basis for arms control policy making.

4.6.2. Benefit to Union arms control initiatives

Trace requests have enabled the iTrace project to provide input in support of various Member State (and non-Union) law enforcement interventions, including the prosecution and sentencing of individuals engaged in trafficking conventional arms and their ammunition, and related materiel.

Trace requests also alert Member States to cases of post-export diversion, providing vital information to support effective arms export licensing risk assessments. As such, iTrace directly contributes information to assist Member States in implementing Criterion 7 of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and Article 11 of the ATT. Information obtained through the tracing process also identifies unauthorised end users, conventional arms diverters, unlawful parties to the supply chain, and illicit financiers, providing Member States with critical export risk-profiling data.

4.6.3. Project activities

A constant stream of trace requests, and associated communications and follow-up investigations, throughout the duration of the project.

4.6.4. Project results

The project will:

- (a) trace illicit conventional arms and their ammunition found in conflict-affected areas at an unparalleled rate. Refinements made to CAR's standard operating procedures during iTrace III, following extensive consultation with Member States, will ensure that information gathered by CAR's Tracing Unit will be reviewed by national governments before release and contribute to the largest global repository of traced conflict weapons;

- (b) the newly-formed Enhanced Investigation Unit (EIU) will take information gathered from illicit conventional arms and their ammunition traces to establish, to a greater degree, the 'who, why, what, when, and how' of diversion, conducting supply-chain mapping, focused on three pillars of investigation: human networks, illicit arms financing, and supply logistics. The EIU will be deployable around the world and will work to obtain non-public testimonies, financial information, and documents within and outside conflict areas; and
- (c) ultimately, the EIU will provide policymakers with a new range of options for addressing illicit transfers of conventional arms and their ammunition and the financial and logistic networks behind them, supplementing measures such as arms embargoes and direct export controls with 'network disruption' options, ranging from banking due-diligence to targeted container inspections, and red-flagging trade intermediaries.

4.6.5. Project implementation indicators

The volume and success of trace requests will be registered and assessed on a rolling basis throughout the duration of the Action.

The project will be implemented over the full three-year iTrace project period.

4.6.6. Project beneficiaries

Please see Section 4.2.6 above for a full list of beneficiaries, which is identical to the beneficiaries of this project.

5. Locations

Projects 1, 2 and 6 will require the extensive field deployment of conventional arms experts to conflict-affected regions. These deployments will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, with reference to security, access and the availability of information. CAR already has established contacts or ongoing projects in many of the countries concerned. Project 3 will be conducted in Member State capitals (with other in-country travel conducted subject to Member State requirements). Project 4 will be conducted at international conferences, and in coordination with national governments and relevant organisations, worldwide to ensure maximum project visibility. Project 5 will be compiled in Belgium, Italy, France, and the United Kingdom.

6. Duration

The total estimated duration of the combined projects is 36 months.

7. Implementing entity and Union visibility

CAR embeds small field investigation teams within local defence and security forces, peacekeeping/peace support personnel, and other actors with security mandates. Whenever these forces/missions secure illicit arms or evidence-collection sites, CAR's teams recover all available evidence on them and their user groups. CAR then proceeds to trace all uniquely identifiable items and conducts long-range investigations into their illicit transfers, the supply chains, and support to parties that threaten peace and stability.

Working with national export licensing authorities, CAR reconstructs the supply chains that are responsible for delivering arms into armed conflicts, identifying illicit activity and the diversion of arms from legal to illicit markets. CAR records the gathered information on its iTrace global arms monitoring system, which with more than 500,000 conflict weapons, ammunition, and related materiel, is the largest repository for conflict arms data worldwide.

CAR uses this information to: a) alert Member States to the diversion of conventional arms and their ammunition; and b) enable targeted counter-diversion initiatives, including revised export control measures and international diplomatic action.

This methodology is proven to detect diversion almost immediately, with CAR field teams having advised Member States of diverted weapons whilst still deployed in conflict-affected areas, for example while on the ground in Mosul, Iraq. In some cases, CAR's teams have discovered unauthorised retransfers within two months of weapons having left the factory door.

Decision (CFSP) 2017/2283 supports CAR in continuing and augmenting the iTrace project established by Decision 2013/698/CFSP and renewed by Decision (CFSP) 2015/1908. The projects, referred to as iTrace I, II, and III, respectively, have firmly established iTrace as a significant conflict weapon monitoring initiative worldwide and provided direct support to EU export licensing authorities and arms control policy makers.

Furthermore, on 2 December 2015, the EU action plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives called for 'extending the use of iTrace' and recommended that any national law enforcement authority detecting the diversion of weapons and ammunition check findings against records in iTrace. In 2019, CAR concluded a memorandum of understanding with Europol to assist in these activities. CAR has, furthermore, provided iTrace data to Interpol's iARMS system and assisted Interpol in identifying weapons uploaded into iARMS by Member States.

CAR will take all appropriate measures to publicise the fact that the Action has been funded by the Union. Such measures will be carried out in accordance with the Communication and Visibility Manual for European Union External Actions laid down and published by the European Commission.

CAR will thus ensure the visibility of the Union contribution with appropriate branding and publicity, highlighting the role of the Union, ensuring the transparency of its actions, and raising awareness of the reasons for this Decision, as well as Union support for this Decision and the results of this support. Material produced by the project will prominently display the Union flag in accordance with Union guidelines for the accurate use and reproduction of the flag.

8. Methodology and safeguards for national government partners

The iTrace Action will maintain politically balanced reporting. In line with CAR's core principles, the Action will report on illicit conventional arms and their ammunition, which CAR field investigation teams document in conflict-affected states, without prejudice to their type or provenance and regardless of the affiliation of the party holding those weapons. CAR recognises that Member States that disclose information in the interests of transparency may expose their arms exports to greater public scrutiny. CAR will, therefore, to the fullest extent feasible:

- (a) recognise, in its public reporting, Member States that have provided information to the iTrace Action in the interests of public transparency; and
- (b) ensure that iTrace public reporting firmly differentiates the Member States referred to in point (a) from states that consistently do not disclose information in support of iTrace investigations.

8.1. Operational clarity

CAR will request the prior approval of COARM before substantive engagement in all countries not previously subject to iTrace field investigations or iTrace training and mentoring programmes. Any such request will present CAR's broad focus of investigations and methodology envisaged for the prospective country. At the time of this Decision's adoption, iTrace programmes had previously operated in the following countries: Afghanistan; Bahrain; Benin; Burkina Faso; Central African Republic; Chad; Congo DRC; Côte d'Ivoire; Egypt; Ethiopia; Gambia; Ghana; India; Iraq; Israel; Jordan; Kenya; Lebanon; Libya; Mali; Mauritania; Morocco; Myanmar; Nepal; Niger; Nigeria; Philippines; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Somalia; South Sudan; Sudan; Syria; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; and Yemen.

8.2. Bias mitigation

CAR recognises that the level of detail provided by national governments in response to trace requests, ranging from no response, to full disclosure and the provision of transfer documents, may result in Member States experiencing differing degrees of public exposure. CAR undertakes to mitigate any implicit bias, which such a disparity in trace responses might introduce into iTrace reporting, by:

- (a) explicitly prefacing, in text, all cases reported by the iTrace Action whereby Member States have responded transparently to trace requests in a manner that, where applicable, affirms unambiguously the legality of the transfers subject to those trace requests;

- (b) explicitly prefacing, in text, all cases reported by the iTrace Action whereby states have not responded to trace requests, stating that 'given the absence of a trace response, CAR cannot pronounce on the legality of the transfer in question' (this will not apply to cases in which Member States have provided, in response to specific trace requests, reasons that prevent them from responding immediately or in full); and
- (c) providing a scheduled report to the European External Action Service on all cases whereby CAR has not received from states an acknowledgment of their having received a trace request within 28 days of receipt. CAR will register all acknowledgements of receipt that it receives in the form of letters, facsimiles, emails, or telephone calls.

8.3. The trace process

Member States respond to trace requests issued by CAR within the framework of the iTrace Project entirely at their own discretion, in accordance with their national legislation on export controls and data confidentiality.

CAR initially sends trace requests electronically to a government's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York, although it encourages national governments, for administrative reasons, to assign a point of contact in capital for future communications with the iTrace Action.

The trace process follows CAR's internal standard operating procedure 02.02 and comprises the following steps:

- (a) upon data capture, field investigation teams that have a requirement to trace conventional arms and their ammunition, mark them for tracing in the iTrace Global Weapon Reporting System;
- (b) CAR's Tracing Unit reviews all other data gathered on-site and, in conjunction with CAR's Analytics Unit, launches any additional trace requests that it deems relevant;
- (c) for items selected for tracing, the system automatically: i) assigns a trace request number to each item; ii) compiles trace requests for one or more items, which originate from a single country, into a single trace communication; and iii) assigns a correspondence number to each trace communication;
- (d) the sending of a trace request initiates a 28-day waiting period, taking into account national procedures, for instance in Member States. During the waiting period, the item may not be published or referenced in any of CAR's outputs;
- (e) if, at the end of the 28-day period, the Tracing Unit has not received a trace response, it may issue a reminder (by email or telephone call, with notes of all communications kept). The reminder does not initiate another 28-day period;
- (f) when the Tracing Unit receives a response to a trace request, it notifies all relevant staff. Relevant staff discuss the response with the Tracing Unit and decide a course of action (i.e. did the responding party answer CAR's questions? Does CAR need to follow up or to ask for clarification? Can CAR issue a right of reply?);
- (g) once all clarifications have been received, the Tracing Unit compiles a right of reply notification. This is a concise summary of the information provided in response to CAR's request and includes caveats that respond to missing or inconclusive information. The text is designed to be replicated verbatim in iTrace and in other CAR outputs and must be the fullest account of the information provided by the respondent to the trace request. The Tracing Unit forwards the draft text to the team responsible for requesting the trace for review. On acceptance of the text, the team notifies the Tracing Unit in writing and the Tracing Unit sends the right of reply;
- (h) sending a right of reply initiates a further 28-day waiting period, during which CAR invites the responding party to suggest additions or amendments to the right of reply text;

- (i) if the responding party suggests amendments to the right of reply text, CAR amends the text and reissues the right of reply. Each time the Tracing Unit reissues a right of the reply, another 28-day waiting period commences. This process may be repeated until CAR deems that constructive exchange has concluded. CAR is not bound to accept right of reply amendments *ad infinitum*;
- (j) the right of reply process concludes either when the government concerned notifies CAR that the text is acceptable, or when CAR deems that further modifications suggested by the government concerned are invalid or superfluous. If the government communicates its disagreement with CAR, and CAR deems that the points raised are invalid or superfluous, CAR must reference the objections in the right of reply text;
- (k) in cases where the right of reply process is ongoing and publication is imminent, two weeks prior to 'lock text' CAR communicates to the responding party that further edits will not be introduced into the relevant publication after the lock text date;
- (l) when the Tracing Unit has incorporated all amendments and additions into the right of reply text, it forwards the draft text to the team that was responsible for requesting the trace for review. On acceptance of the text, the CAR team notifies the Tracing Unit in writing. Following approval, the right of reply text is 'locked' and no further changes can be made to the right of reply text. Henceforth, this text must be replicated verbatim in any public or non-public outputs that refer to the case. It is, therefore, imperative that the Tracing Unit and relevant teams agree on a verbatim text in its entirety before issuing rights of reply; and
- (m) if a government, in its response to CAR's trace requests, identifies the next point in the supply chain, CAR issues a new trace request to that party, and the tracing process restarts from point (a).

8.4. Advance notification

CAR sends an advance notification to all parties that are referenced substantively in iTrace publications. This takes the form of a formal communication, which is prepared by the author of the upcoming publication and is sent by the Tracing Unit. The advance notification describes how the report will reference the relationship between the government or other entity cited and the case concerned and is designed to ensure that:

- (a) CAR has performed due diligence on any allegations or reference made to entities in its outputs; and
- (b) the information presented in CAR's reports is accurate and fair.

Once sent, an advance notification initiates a 28-day waiting period, during which CAR invites recipients to check the accuracy of the information provided and present any objections. The item may not be published or referenced in any of CAR's outputs during this 28-day period.

9. Reporting

CAR will prepare narrative reports quarterly. These will, *inter alia*, include detailed information on the activities accomplished throughout the reporting period, project by project, including dates and national institutions. Reporting will also cover the number of consultations by iTRACE with Member States.

Geographical scope of the research activities, amount and category of findings, as well as their origin will be available on the online, real-time iTRACE dashboard.

COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2019/2192**of 19 December 2019****amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 29 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) On 31 July 2014 the Council adopted Decision 2014/512/CFSP ⁽¹⁾.
- (2) On 19 March 2015 the European Council agreed that the necessary measures would be taken to clearly link the duration of the restrictive measures to the complete implementation of the Minsk agreements, bearing in mind that the complete implementation was foreseen for 31 December 2015.
- (3) On 27 June 2019 the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2019/1108 ⁽²⁾, renewing Decision 2014/512/CFSP until 31 January 2020 in order to enable it to further assess the implementation of the Minsk agreements.
- (4) Having assessed the implementation of the Minsk agreements, the Council considers that Decision 2014/512/CFSP should be renewed for a further six months in order to enable the Council to further assess their implementation.
- (5) Decision 2014/512/CFSP should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The first subparagraph of Article 9(1) of Decision 2014/512/CFSP is replaced by the following:

- ‘1. This Decision shall apply until 31 July 2020.’.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 19 December 2019.

For the Council
The President
K. MIKKONEN

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 2014/512/CFSP of 31 July 2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine (OJ L 229, 31.7.2014, p. 13).

⁽²⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/1108 of 27 June 2019 amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine (OJ L 175, 28.6.2019, p. 38).

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2019/2193**of 17 December 2019****laying down rules for the calculation, verification and reporting of data and establishing data formats for the purposes of Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)***(notified under document C(2019) 8995)***(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Articles 11(3) and 16(9) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 11(2) of Directive 2012/19/EU establishes the method for the calculation of the achievement of the WEEE minimum recovery targets set out in Annex V to that Directive.
- (2) In order to ensure harmonised calculation, verification and reporting, it is necessary to establish additional rules with regard to a number of parameters relating to the calculation. Those parameters relate, in particular, to the calculation of the weight of WEEE that is prepared for re-use, enters a recycling facility, is recovered and treated in the Member State where the WEEE has been collected, in another Member State or in a third country
- (3) In particular, preparing for reuse should be counted, together with recycling, towards the achievement of a combined minimum recovery target.
- (4) In order to ensure uniform application of the rules on calculation methods by all Member States it is moreover necessary to establish, for the most common component materials of WEEE and certain recycling operations, which waste materials should be included in the calculation and the point at which such materials are regarded as entering a recycling operation.
- (5) In order to ensure that the data to be reported on recycling of WEEE are comparable, the point at which the materials are regarded as entering a recycling operation should also apply to waste materials that ceased to be waste as a result of a preliminary treatment.
- (6) It is also necessary to clarify the calculation method for the quantity of WEEE reported as recycled or recovered with regard to materials removed during preliminary treatment.
- (7) Since treatment of WEEE can involve different stages for which WEEE may be sent to another Member State or exported outside the Union for treatment, either as whole devices or as parts, it is necessary to clarify what can be included in the weight of WEEE treated in the Member States involved in such operation.
- (8) Pursuant to Article 10(1) of Directive 2012/19/EU, the treatment of WEEE may, under certain conditions, be undertaken outside the Member State which has collected it, or outside the Union. In such cases, only the Member State that has collected that WEEE should be able to count it towards the respective minimum recovery target(s).

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 197, 24.7.2012, p. 38.

- (9) Article 16(4) of Directive 2012/19/EU requires Member States to collect certain types of information regarding electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) and WEEE.
- (10) Article 16 of Directive 2012/19/EU, as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/849 of the European Parliament and of the Council ^(?), requires Member States to report to the Commission, for each calendar year, the data collected in implementation of paragraph 4 of that Article, in accordance with a format to be established by the Commission. That format should be such as to ensure that the reported data provides a sound basis for verifying and monitoring the attainment of the minimum targets for the collection and the recovery of WEEE set in Directive 2012/19/EU.
- (11) Article 16(7) of the Directive requires Member States to submit to the Commission a quality check report to accompany the data reported under Article 16(6). It is important that those quality check reports are comparable in order to, inter alia, enable the Commission to review the data reported, including organisation of the data collection, the sources of data, the methodology used for the calculation of the WEEE collection rate, the description of any substantiated estimates, as well as the completeness, reliability, timeliness and consistency. To this end, it is necessary to establish a format for the quality check report.
- (12) Pursuant to Article 7(1) of Directive 2012/19/EU, from 2019 onwards, the minimum collection rate to be achieved annually by each Member State is set at 65 % of the average weight of EEE placed on the market in the three preceding years in the Member State concerned, or alternatively 85 % of WEEE generated on the territory of that Member State. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/699 ^(?) establishes a common methodology for the calculation of the weight of EEE placed on the market of each Member State and a common methodology for the calculation of the quantity of WEEE generated by weight in each Member State. Member States should indicate the methodology they choose to apply for the calculation of the WEEE collection rate in the format for reporting and in the quality check report.
- (13) Pursuant to Article 2(1)(b) of Directive 2012/19/EU, with effect from 15 August 2018, all EEE is to be classified within the six categories set out in Annex III to the Directive as opposed to the ten categories that were applicable during a transitional period prior to that date. The format for reporting should reflect this transition and thus ensure that the reported information allows for verifying and monitoring the attainment of the targets related to the recovery of WEEE per category set out in Article 11(1) and Annex V (Part 3) of Directive 2012/19/EU.
- (14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 39 of Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ^(*),

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Rules for the calculation of the minimum recovery targets referred to in Article 11(1) of Directive 2012/19/EU

1. The weight of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) reported as prepared for re-use shall be the weight of whole appliances, which have become waste, and of components of WEEE that, following checking, cleaning or repairing operations, can be re-used without any further sorting or pre-processing.

^(?) Directive (EU) 2018/849 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directives 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles, 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, and 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment (OJ L 150, 14.6.2018, p. 93).

^(?) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/699 of 18 April 2017 establishing a common methodology for the calculation of the weight of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market of each Member State and a common methodology for the calculation of the quantity of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) generated by weight in each Member State (OJ L 103, 19.4.2017, p. 17).

^(*) Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives (OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3).

Where components are prepared for reuse, only the weight of the component itself shall be reported as prepared for re-use.

Where whole appliances are prepared for reuse, and only components representing in total less than 15 % of the entire weight of the appliance are replaced by new components during the preparation for re-use process, the entire weight of the appliance shall be reported as prepared for re-use.

Appliances and components that are separated at WEEE treatment facilities and are to be re-used without any further sorting or pre-processing shall also be reported as prepared for re-use.

2. The weight of WEEE entering a recycling facility shall be the weight of materials originating from WEEE that, after proper treatment in accordance with Article 8(2) of Directive 2012/19/EU, enter the recycling operation whereby waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances that are not waste.

Preliminary activities including sorting, dismantling, shredding or other preliminary treatment to remove waste materials that are not destined for subsequent reprocessing shall not be considered recycling.

The points where certain waste materials originating from WEEE are considered to enter the recycling operation are specified in Annex I. Where waste materials cease to be waste as a result of preliminary treatment at the points specified in Annex I, the amount of those materials shall be included in the amount of WEEE reported as recycled.

Where a recycling facility carries out preliminary treatment, the weight of the materials removed during preliminary treatment that are not recycled shall not be included in the quantity of WEEE reported as recycled or recovered by that facility and shall not count towards the achievement of the recycling and recovery targets.

3. The weight of WEEE reported as recovered shall include preparing for re-use, recycling and other recovery, including energy recovery.

4. The weight of WEEE reported as treated in a given Member State shall not include the weight of WEEE sorted and stored in that Member State prior to its export to another Member State or outside the Union for treatment.

5. The weight of WEEE reported by a Member State as treated in another Member State or as treated outside the Union shall include respectively the quantities of WEEE that are whole appliances, which have become waste, and are sent to another Member State or outside the Union in order to be de-polluted, dismantled, shredded, recycled or recovered. This weight shall not include the quantities of exports of materials derived from the treatment of WEEE taking place in the reporting Member State.

6. Where WEEE is sent for treatment in another Member State or exported for treatment in a third country in accordance with Article 10 of Directive 2012/19/EU, only the Member State that has collected and sent or exported that WEEE for treatment may count it towards the minimum recovery targets referred to in Article 11(1) of Directive 2012/19/EU.

7. Member States may use substantiated estimates as referred to in Article 16(4) of Directive 2012/19/EU to calculate the average percentage of recycled and recovered materials originating from WEEE and of components of WEEE.

Article 2

Format for reporting of data referred to in Article 16(6) of Directive 2012/19/EU and quality check report

1. Member States shall report the quantities of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on their markets, of WEEE collected through all routes, the collection rate achieved and, where applicable, the quantity of WEEE generated, using the format set out in Table 1 of Annex II.

That data shall be reported per category of EEE set out in Annex III to Directive 2012/19/EU. For category 4 'large equipment', data shall be reported under two sub-categories, namely '4a: Large equipment excluding photovoltaic panels' and '4b: Photovoltaic panels'.

2. Member States shall report the quantities of WEEE prepared for re-use, recycled and recovered, the combined rate achieved for preparing for re-use and recycling, the recovery rate achieved and the quantities of WEEE treated in the Member State and, where relevant, treated in another Member State or outside the Union using the format set out in Table 2 of Annex II.

That data shall be reported per category of EEE set out in Annex III to Directive 2012/19/EU. For category 4 'large equipment', data shall be reported under two sub-categories, namely '4a: Large equipment excluding photovoltaic panels' and '4b: Photovoltaic panels'.

3. Member States shall report the data referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 in electronic form, by means of an interchange standard set up by the Commission.

4. Member States shall report the data on the weight of EEE placed on the market as calculated in accordance with Article 3 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/699.

5. Member States shall report the data on the weight of WEEE generated as calculated in accordance with to Article 4 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/699.

6. Member States shall report the collection rate attained in a reporting year calculated on the basis of the average weight of EEE placed on their markets in the three preceding years.

Where a Member State calculates the collection rate on the basis of the quantity of WEEE generated in its territory, it shall report data on the weight of WEEE generated and data on the WEEE collection rate based on WEEE generated.

Where a Member State calculates the collection rate on the basis of the average weight of EEE placed on the market in the three preceding years, it may report, on a voluntary basis, data on the weight of WEEE generated and data on the WEEE collection rate based on WEEE generated.

7. Member States shall submit a quality check report using the format set out in Annex III to this Decision.

Where Member States use substantiated estimates to report data on the quantities and categories of WEEE collected through all routes, on WEEE treated within the Member State, or on the average percentage of recycled and recovered materials originating from WEEE and of components of WEEE, the methodology used for those estimates shall be described in the quality check report.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 2019.

For the Commission
Virginijus SINKEVIČIUS
Member of the Commission

ANNEX I

POINTS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 1(2) WHERE WASTE MATERIALS ORIGINATING FROM WEEE ENTER THE RECYCLING OPERATION

Material	Entry to the recycling operation
Glass	Sorted glass that does not undergo further processing before entering a glass furnace or the production of filtration media, abrasive materials, glass based insulation and construction materials.
Metals	Sorted metal that does not undergo further processing before entering a metal smelter or furnace.
Plastics	Plastic separated by polymers that does not undergo further processing before entering pelletisation, extrusion, or moulding operations. Plastic flakes that do not undergo further processing before their use in a final product.
Wood	Sorted wood that does not undergo further treatment before utilisation in particleboard manufacture. Sorted wood entering a composting operation.
Textiles	Sorted textile that does not undergo further processing before its utilisation for the production of textile fibres, rags or granulates.
Components of WEEE composed of multiple materials	Metals, plastics, glass, wood, textiles and other materials resulting from the treatment of components of WEEE (e.g. materials from the treatment of printed circuit boards) that are subject to recycling.

FORMAT FOR REPORTING DATA FOR THE PURPOSES OF DIRECTIVE 2012/19/EU ON WEEE

Table 1

Electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) generated and collected and WEEE collection rate

	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Product category	EEE placed on the market (POM)	WEEE Generated	WEEE collected from private households	WEEE collected from users other than private households	Total WEEE collected	WEEE collection rate (%)	
						Methodology	
	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	A. based on POM (%)	B. based on WEEE generated (%)
1. Temperature exchange equipment							
2. Screens, monitors, and equipment containing screens having a surface greater than 100 cm ²							
3. Lamps							
4. Large equipment ⁽¹⁾ (any external dimension more than 50 cm)							
4a. Large equipment excluding photovoltaic panels ⁽¹⁾							
4b. Photovoltaic panels ⁽¹⁾							
5. Small equipment (no external dimension more than 50 cm)							
6. Small IT and telecommunication equipment (no external dimension more than 50 cm)							
Total							

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[illegible]

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Product category	Preparing for re-use	Recycling	Preparing for re-use and recycling	Preparing for re-use and recycling rate	Recovery	Recovery rate	WEEE treated in the Member State	WEEE treated in another Member State	WEEE treated outside the Union
	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	%	Total weight (tonnes)	%	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)	Total weight (tonnes)
4a. Large equipment excluding photovoltaic panels ⁽¹⁾									
4b. Photovoltaic panels ⁽¹⁾									
5. Small equipment (no external dimension more than 50 cm)									
6. Small IT and telecommunication equipment (no external dimension more than 50 cm)									
Total				-		-			

⁽¹⁾ For the purposes of reporting, category 4 of large equipment shall be divided into sub-category '4a: Large equipment excluding photovoltaic panels' and sub-category '4b: Photovoltaic panels'. Member States shall report data under the sub-categories 4a and 4b and keep the aggregate line for category 4 empty. If a Member State is not able to distinguish data under sub-categories 4a and 4b, it shall complete the cells in the different columns in aggregate line for category 4 only.

Notes:

Member States shall distinguish between real zeros (0 tonnes) and missing values/unknown amounts. They shall enter '0' to report zero tonnes and 'M' where data is unknown.

ANNEX III

FORMAT FOR THE QUALITY CHECK REPORT ACCOMPANYING THE DATA REFERRED TO IN ANNEX II

PART 1

GENERAL INFORMATION

Member State

Title

Quality check report for the data submitted for the purposes of Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment (OJ L 197, 24.7.2012, p. 38).

Organisation submitting the data and the quality check report

Contact person/contact details

Reference year

Delivery date/version of the quality check report

Claim for confidentiality

This quality check report shall be available

- to the public (on the Commission's webpage):

☐ Yes/☐ Yes, with the exception of section(s):
☐ No

If no, please provide explicit information on which sections should be confidential and the reasons for confidentiality:

- to the members of the Technical Adaptation Committee (TAC) and the Expert Group on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE):

☐ Yes/☐ Yes, with the exception of section(s):
☐ No,

If no, please provide explicit information on which sections should be confidential and the reasons for confidentiality:

PART 2

SOURCE OF DATA, PROCESS FOR VALIDATION OF DATA AND COVERAGE

A. Methodologies applied and sources of data**A.1: Methodology for the calculation of the quantity of EEE placed on the market**

Please indicate the methodology used for the calculation of the quantity of EEE placed on the market in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/699 of 18 April 2017 establishing a common methodology for the calculation of the weight of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) placed on the market of each Member State and a common methodology for the calculation of the quantity of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) generated by weight in each Member State (OJ L 103, 19.4.2017, p. 17).

.....

A.2: Methodology for the calculation of the WEEE collection rate

Please indicate the methodology applied for the calculation of the WEEE collection rate.

If the methodology applied is based on the average weight of EEE placed on the market in the three preceding years, please provide data on the quantity of EEE placed on the market in the three years preceding the reference year:

	Total weight (tonnes) of EEE placed on the market (POM) of a Member State
Year (one year before the reference year)	
Year (two years before the reference year)	
Year (three years before the reference year)	
Average weight of the three years= (sum of lines 1 + 2+3, divided by 3)	

A.3: Source of data

Please describe the source of data for the different items listed below (e.g. census/national statistics/reporting obligations for business or certified business units/agencies/associations/surveys of waste composition/specific impact assessments that national law may have, and relevant regulations).

(a) EEE placed on the market (Table 1: column 1)

Please specify the sources used for the collection of data on EEE placed on the market.

.....

(b) WEEE generated (Table 1: column 2)

Please report the data on the weight of WEEE generated as calculated using the WEEE calculation tool and specify data updates of the WEEE calculation tool, if any.

For Member States reporting the WEEE collection rate calculated on the basis of WEEE generated this data is obligatory. Member States reporting the WEEE collection rate calculated on the basis of the average weight of EEE placed on the market in the three preceding years may provide this data on a voluntary basis.

.....

(c) **WEEE collected** (Table 1: columns 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Please specify the sources used for the collection of data on WEEE collected through all routes. Please take into consideration that, pursuant to Article 7(2) of Directive 2012/19/EU, the quantity of WEEE collected shall be the amount of WEEE that has been:

- (a) received by collection and treatment facilities;
- (b) received by distributors;
- (c) separately collected by producers or third parties acting on their behalf.

Please specifically state if systems have been set up to allow holders and distributors to return WEEE at least free of charge in accordance with Article 5 of Directive 2012/19/EU and provide information about the data that you may receive from these systems.

.....

(d) **Preparing for re-use, recycling and recovery of WEEE** (Table 2: columns 1, 2 and 5)

Please take into consideration that, pursuant to Article 11(2) of Directive 2012/19/EU, you shall use data on the weight of WEEE, its components and materials or substances entering (input) a preparing for re-use or recycling or recovery facility, after proper treatment in accordance with Article 8(2) of Directive 2012/19/EU.

Please specify the sources used for data on preparing for re-use, recycling and recovery of WEEE pursuant to Article 11(4) of Directive 2012/19/EU.

Please indicate the distinction between the input to a preparing for re-use facility, to a recycling facility, to an incineration (or smelting process) or to the (energy) recovery facility.

.....

(e) **WEEE Treated** (Table 2: columns 7, 8 and 9)

Please specify the sources used for the collection of data on WEEE treated in the Member State and on WEEE treated in another Member State or outside the Union.

Please also give a general description of treatment systems available in the Member State and specify if treatment requirements or minimum quality standards for the treatment of collected WEEE in the Member State are different from or go beyond Annex VII of Directive 2012/19/EU. In such a case, please provide a description of these requirements or standards.

.....

B. Quality of data sources/Process for validation of data**B.1: Quality of data sources**

Please describe the quality of the diverse sources used (including challenges with regard to the quality of the data and how you intend to improve the quality in the future).

.....

B.2: Quality of estimations on EEE placed on the market under different categories

In case, prior to being collected by the Member States, data is collected by operators under EEE categories other than those specified in Directive 2012/19/EU, or under sub categories, please explain which EEE categories or sub-categories are applied and how data under these categories are transformed into data under the EEE categories of Directive 2012/19/EU

B.3: Monitoring of the achievement of the targets

Please provide a description of the national measures aimed at promoting the achievement of the collection, preparing for re-use and recycling, and recovery targets.

Please also provide information about measures taken to inform users of EEE and encourage their participation in WEEE management in accordance with Article 14 of Directive 2012/19/EU.

If quantities of WEEE 'Treated in other Member States' or 'Treated outside of the EU' are reported, please specify:

- if these exports are considered for the calculation of the recovery rates and the preparing for re-use and recycling rates;
- how the recovery rates and the preparing for re-use and recycling rates for these exported amounts have been derived.

In case there is a requirement for documentary evidence additional to the proof required under Article 10(2) of Directive 2012/19/EU to be submitted for the approval of the export by the competent authorities, please describe the documentary evidence required.

.....

B.4: Data alignment and consistency

Please describe actions undertaken to avoid double counting of imported WEEE, which shall not count towards the achievement of the targets and not be reported under treatment, preparing for re-use, recycling and recovery in the importing Member State.

Please describe any corrections to account for imports and exports for instance to consider private imports and exports or misleading declarations (used EEE instead of WEEE) or others.

.....

B.5: Process for validation of data

Please describe the process used to establish the validity of the data.

Please also provide details on the inspection and monitoring systems applied in the Member State to verify the implementation of Directive 2012/19/EU.

.....

C. Completeness/Coverage

C.1: Do the data sources addressed before cover the entire sector?

☐ Yes/☐ No

C.2: Are any substantiated estimates used regarding EEE placed on the market pursuant to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/699?

☐ Yes/☐ No

C.3: Are any substantiated estimates used regarding WEEE collected and treated which are taken into consideration for the reporting relating to the achievement of the relevant targets?

☐ Yes/☐ No

If yes, please describe the methodology for obtaining such estimates and provide relevant supporting documents for such estimates.

.....

C.4: Are any substantiated estimates used regarding the average percentage of recycled and recovered materials originating from WEEE and of components of WEEE which are taken into consideration for the reporting relating to the achievement of the relevant targets?

☐ Yes/☐ No

If yes, please describe the methodology for obtaining such estimates and provide relevant supporting documents for such estimates.

.....

C.5: What portion (%) of WEEE collected and treated is covered, or estimated to be covered, by the reporting scheme?

.....

D. Other

D.1: Missing data

If mandatory data is missing, please describe the reasons for these gaps and provide information about the measures taken to overcome this situation.

.....

D.2: Plausibility check

Please indicate whether any of the following situations has occurred:

1. The quantity of EEE placed on the market is less than 10 kg per inhabitant per year.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. The quantity of WEEE collected is more than the quantity of EEE placed on the market.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. WEEE collection rate is higher than 75 % of EEE placed on the market or higher than 100 % of WEEE generated?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. The quantity of WEEE treated is more than the quantity of WEEE collected.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. The quantity of WEEE recycled (including preparing for re-use) is more than the quantity of WEEE recovery (incl. preparing for re-use).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. The Recycling rate (including preparing for re-use) exceeds 95 %.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. The Recovery rate (including preparing for re-use) exceeds 99 %.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Break in time series (significant changes of the amounts reported over time)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes/ <input type="checkbox"/> No

If the response for one or more of the questions is yes, please provide additional information on the occurrence and related reasons.

.....

E. Differences from data reported in previous years

Please describe and provide explanations for any significant methodological changes in the data collection or data validation approach or in the methodologies applied for the calculation of the WEEE collection and recovery rates for the current reference year in relation to the approaches and methodologies applied for previous reference years.

.....

F. Main national websites, reference documents and publications

Please provide any other relevant information source, including reports addressing aspects of the data quality, coverage or other aspects of enforcement such as reports from producer responsibility organisations on the achievements as regards WEEE collection, treatment and recycling, reports on best practice on WEEE collection and treatment, reports on imports and exports of WEEE and any other source of data and information related to WEEE.

.....

DECISION (EU) 2019/2194 OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK
of 29 November 2019
on the granting of signing powers (ECB/2019/33)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank, and in particular Article 38 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 38 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank (hereinafter the 'Statute of the ESCB') provides that the European Central Bank (ECB) is legally committed to third parties by the President or by two members of the Executive Board or by the signatures of two members of staff of the ECB who have been duly authorised by the President to sign on behalf of the ECB. In order to facilitate efficient working processes within the ECB, members of staff should be authorised to legally commit the ECB to third parties by virtue of their function within the ECB.
- (2) This Decision grants the Chief Services Officer, acting on behalf of the President, the power to authorise, in exceptional cases and where justified, members of staff to legally commit the ECB to third parties.
- (3) It is sometimes necessary for a person who is not an ECB member of staff to act as an agent of the ECB and to exercise rights on the ECB's behalf, or to legally commit the ECB to third parties, e.g. by accepting work by an ECB service provider or in the context of joint procurements with other Union institutions. Therefore, the Chief Services Officer, acting on behalf of the President, should be able to exceptionally authorise such a person to legally commit the ECB in accordance with instructions provided by the ECB.
- (4) This Decision is without prejudice to any specific current or future authorisation by the President to legally commit the ECB in accordance with Article 38 of the Statute of the ESCB,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Functional signing powers

1. By virtue of their function, persons shall be authorised in their respective areas of responsibility to legally commit the ECB to third parties as further specified in Annex I and II.
2. For the purpose of determining a category under paragraph 1 in cases where it is not possible to clearly determine the net value of the commitment entered into, a reasonable and cautious estimation shall be made. This estimation shall take into account potential risks involved for the ECB, in particular financial and reputational risks.

Article 2

Signing powers by special authorisation

1. For cases not covered by Article 1 and where justified, the Chief Services Officer, acting on behalf of the President, is exceptionally granted the power to authorise other members of staff of the ECB, (members of staff or short-term contract employees) to legally commit the ECB to third parties.
2. The Chief Services Officer shall submit to the President an annual report on the decisions taken on the basis of the powers granted in accordance with paragraph 1.

*Article 3***Signing powers authorisation for third parties**

1. The Chief Services Officer, acting on behalf of the President, is granted the power in matters falling under the Chief Services Officer's areas of responsibility to exceptionally authorise a person who is not an ECB member of staff to legally commit the ECB to third parties in accordance with instructions provided by the ECB in order to implement contractual agreements the ECB entered into with that person or with an entity to which this person is affiliated.
2. This shall not include the right of further sub-authorisation.

*Article 4***Book of Authorised Signatories of the ECB**

The members of staff of the ECB authorised to legally commit the ECB to third parties shall be listed in the Book of Authorised Signatories of the ECB as referred to in Article 14.2 of Decision ECB/2004/2 ⁽¹⁾.

*Article 5***Entry into force**

This Decision shall enter into force on 1 January 2020.

Done at Frankfurt am Main, 29 November 2019.

The President of the ECB
Christine LAGARDE

⁽¹⁾ Decision ECB/2004/2 of 19 February 2004 adopting the Rules of Procedure of the European Central Bank (OJ L 80, 18.3.2004, p. 33).

ANNEX I

Category	Functional signing power	Net value
B	Members of the Executive Board other than the President; the Chair of the Supervisory Board; the Chief Services Officer	No limit, if co-signed by a signatory in category C or higher
C	All members of staff holding a position allocated to salary bands K or L	Above EUR 2 000 000 if co-signed by a signatory in category B
		Up to EUR 2 000 000 if co-signed by a signatory in category D or higher
D	All members of staff holding a position allocated to salary bands I or J, The Spokesperson of the Staff Committee	Up to EUR 2 000 000 if co-signed by a signatory in category C or higher
		Up to EUR 20 000 if co-signed by a signatory in category E or higher
E	Project Managers who are designated by the PSG chair	Up to EUR 20 000 if co-signed by a signatory in category D or higher
		Up to EUR 1 000 if co-signed by a signatory in category E or higher

ANNEX II

For certain commitment categories, the following derogations to Annex I apply.

Commitment categories	Signing power
Employment	Authorised signatories in DG/HR
Letter of appointment commencing the employment relationship or leading to a promotion	
— Executive Board members and positions at salary bands K and L	— One signatory in category B and one signatory in category C
— Positions at salary bands I and J	— One signatory in category C and one signatory in category D
— Any other member of staff, secondee or trainee	— One signatory in category D and one signatory in category E
Subsequent changes to the letter of appointment and other documents changing the employment status (e.g. contract extensions, transfers and other mobility)	
— Executive Board members and positions at salary bands K and L	— One signatory in category C and one signatory in category D
— Any other member of staff, secondee or trainee	— One signatory in category D and one signatory in category E
Procurement	Signing power
Documentation affecting the legal status of suppliers in procurement procedures, in particular award and rejection letters (excluding the signing of the contract)	For procurement procedures for which no Procurement Committee (PRC) is established: One signatory in category D and one signatory in category E from the unit with budget responsibility for the procurement.
	For procurement procedures for which a PRC is established: The chairperson of the PRC or, in his/her absence, another signatory in category D from the unit with budget responsibility for the procurement and one authorised signatory from the Central Procurement Division.
Contract management	Signing power in the unit with budget responsibility
Contract amendments	As a rule, signatories according to the value of the contract amendment as per Annex I. Exceptions: — For substantial amendments, signatures of signatories in the same category as for the initial contract signature. — For minor amendments, signatures of at least one signatory in category D and one signatory in category E.

Termination of a contract	Signatures of signatories in the same category as for the initial contract signature.
Other contract management measures, e.g. acceptance certificate, set-offs, contract extensions which are provided for in the contract.	Signatures of at least one signatory in category D and one signatory in category E are required, unless the value or significance of the contract implies a higher category.

DECISION (EU) 2019/2195 OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK**of 5 December 2019****amending Decision ECB/2010/14 on the authenticity and fitness checking and recirculation of euro banknotes (ECB/2019/39)**

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 128(1) thereof,

Having regard to the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank, and in particular Article 16 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The European Central Bank (ECB) has the exclusive right to authorise the issue of euro banknotes within the Union. This right includes the competence to take measures to protect the integrity of euro banknotes as a means of payment. Decision ECB/2010/14 ⁽¹⁾ lays down common rules and procedures on the authenticity and fitness checking and recirculation of euro banknotes. In the light of the experience gained in applying and interpreting Decision ECB/2010/14, a number of technical amendments and some further clarification and improvement of certain rules, procedures and definitions are required. In particular, clearer instructions and definitions are required with regard to the data to be reported on the number of euro banknotes processed, sorted as unfit and recirculated.
- (2) Currently category 3 banknotes must be handed over to national central banks immediately, or at the latest 20 working days after being deposited in a banknote handling machine. Since category 3 banknotes are sometimes mixed with category 4a and 4b banknotes, this leads to a higher number of authentic banknotes being sent unnecessarily for further analysis. It is therefore necessary to provide for the reprocessing of category 3 banknotes to enable them to be separated from category 4a and 4b banknotes.
- (3) Annex IV to Decision ECB/2010/14 sets out the details of the data to be collected from cash handlers. In the interests of clarity, the details of the data to be reported need to be further specified to ensure that it is as comprehensive and accurate as possible.
- (4) Decision ECB/2013/10 ⁽²⁾ introduced new rules to cater for future series of euro banknotes and to clarify and improve certain procedures regarding the reproduction, exchange and withdrawal of euro banknotes. As a result, certain amendments are also required to the provisions of Decision ECB/2010/14.
- (5) Therefore Decision ECB/2010/14 should be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1***Amendments**

Decision ECB/2010/14 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 2(13) is replaced by the following:

‘(13) “Euro banknotes” means those banknotes complying with the requirements of Decision ECB/2013/10 ^(*) or any other legal act replacing or complementing that Decision and with the technical specifications laid down by the Governing Council.

^(*) Decision ECB/2013/10 of 19 April 2013 on the denominations, specifications, reproduction, exchange and withdrawal of euro banknotes (OJ L 118, 30.4.2013, p. 37).’;

⁽¹⁾ Decision ECB/2010/14 of 16 September 2010 on the authenticity and fitness checking and recirculation of euro banknotes (OJ L 267, 9.10.2010, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ Decision ECB/2013/10 of the European Central Bank of 19 April 2013 on the denominations, specifications, reproduction, exchange and withdrawal of euro banknotes (OJ L 118, 30.4.2013, p. 37).

- (2) Annex I is replaced by Annex I to this Decision;
- (3) Annex IIa is replaced by Annex II to this Decision;
- (4) Annex IV is replaced by Annex III to this Decision.

Article 2

Final provisions

1. This Decision shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
2. Cash handlers in a Member State that adopts the euro following the date of adoption of this Decision shall apply this Decision from the date on which the Member State in which they are situated adopts the euro.

Done at Frankfurt am Main, 5 December 2019.

For the Governing Council of the ECB
The President of the ECB
Christine LAGARDE

ANNEX I

‘ANNEX I

BANKNOTE HANDLING MACHINES**1. General technical requirements**

- 1.1. To qualify as a banknote handling machine, a machine has to be capable of processing euro banknotes, classifying the individual euro banknotes and separating the euro banknotes according to their classifications without the intervention of the machine operator, subject to Annexes IIa and IIb. With the exception of coin dispensing machines (CDMs), banknote handling machines need to have the required number of dedicated output stackers and/or other means to ensure the reliable separation of the euro banknotes processed.
- 1.2. Banknote handling machines have to be adaptable to ensure that they are capable of reliably detecting new counterfeits. Moreover, they have to be adaptable to enable the setting up of more or less restrictive fitness sorting standards, if applicable.

2. Categories of banknote handling machines

Banknote handling machines are either customer-operated machines or staff-operated machines:

Table 1

Customer-operated machines

A. Customer-operated machines where cash is deposited with customer tracing		
1.	Cash-in machines (CIMs)	CIMs allow customers, by using a bank card or other means, to deposit euro banknotes in their bank accounts, but do not have any cash-dispensing function. CIMs check euro banknotes for authenticity and allow for traceability of the account holder; fitness checks are optional.
2.	Cash-recycling machines (CRMs)	CRMs allow customers, by using a bank card or other means, to deposit euro banknotes in their bank accounts and to withdraw euro banknotes from their bank accounts. CRMs check euro banknotes for authenticity and fitness and allow for traceability of the account holder. For withdrawals, CRMs may use genuine fit euro banknotes that have been deposited by other customers in previous transactions.
3.	Combined cash-in machines (CCMs)	CCMs allow customers, by using a bank card or other means, to deposit euro banknotes in their bank accounts and to withdraw euro banknotes from their bank accounts. CCMs check euro banknotes for authenticity and allow for traceability of the account holder; fitness checks are optional. For withdrawals, CCMs do not use euro banknotes that have been deposited by other customers in previous transactions, but only euro banknotes loaded separately into them.
B. Cash-out machines (COMs)		
4.	Cash-out machines (COMs)	COMs are cash dispensers which check euro banknotes for authenticity and fitness before dispensing them to customers. COMs use euro banknotes loaded into them by cash handlers or other automated systems (e.g. vending machines).

C. Coin Dispensing Machines		
5.	Coin Dispensing Machines (CDMs)	CDMs allow customers, by inserting euro banknotes, to obtain coins. Before dispensing coins, euro banknotes are authenticated by the CDM. These euro banknotes are not re-circulated.

A CRM may be used as a CIM or a CCM if the detector systems, software and other components for the performance of its core functionalities are the same as the CRM type listed on the ECB's website (*).

A CCM may be used as a CIM if the detector systems, software and other components for the performance of its core functionalities are the same as the CCM type listed on the ECB's website.

Table 2

Staff-operated machines

1.	Banknote processing machines (BPMs)	BPMs check euro banknotes for authenticity and fitness.
2.	Banknote authentication machines (BAMs)	BAMs check euro banknotes for authenticity.
3.	Teller assistant recycling machines (TARMs)	TARMs are cash recycling machines operated by cash handlers that check euro banknotes for authenticity and fitness. For withdrawals, TARMs may use genuine fit euro banknotes that have been deposited by other customers in previous transactions. In addition, they keep euro banknotes in safe custody and allow cash handlers to credit or debit the bank accounts of customers.
4.	Teller assistant machines (TAMs)	TAMs are machines operated by cash handlers that check euro banknotes for authenticity. In addition, they keep euro banknotes in safe custody and allow cash handlers to credit or debit the bank accounts of customers.

Staff-operated machines must process euro banknotes in batches.

A machine that has been tested and is listed on the ECB's website as a CRM or a CIM/CCM can be used as a TARM or a TAM, respectively. In such a case, the machine must only be operated by cash handlers' staff.

3. Types of banknote handling machines

The Eurosystem tests types of banknote handling machines. Types of banknote handling machines can be distinguished from each other through their specific detector systems, software and other components for the performance of their core functionalities. These are: (a) the authentication of genuine euro banknotes; (b) the detection and separation of euro banknotes suspected to be counterfeit; (c) the detection and separation of unfit euro banknotes from fit euro banknotes, if applicable; and (d) the tracing of objects identified as suspect counterfeit euro banknotes and of euro banknotes that are not clearly authenticated, if applicable.'.

(*) www.ecb.europa.eu.

ANNEX II

‘ANNEX IIa

CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF EURO BANKNOTES BY CUSTOMER-OPERATED MACHINES

Euro banknotes are classified into one of the following categories and are separated by category. Machines which do not check euro banknotes for fitness do not need to distinguish between category 4a and 4b euro banknotes.

Table 1

Classification and treatment of euro banknotes by customer-operated machines in which cash is deposited with customer tracing

Category		Properties	Treatment
1.	Objects not recognised as euro banknotes	Not recognised as euro banknotes because of any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — euro banknotes not supported by the machine — non-euro banknotes — euro banknote-like objects — wrong image or format — large folded corner(s) or missing part(s) — feeding or transportation error of the machine 	Return by the machine to the customer
2.	Suspect counterfeit euro banknotes	Image and format recognised, but one or more authentication feature checked by the machine not detected or clearly out of tolerance	Withdraw from circulation To be handed over for authentication, together with information related to the account holder, to the competent national authorities immediately, at the latest 20 working days after deposit in the machine. Do not credit to the account holder.
3.	Euro banknotes that are not clearly authenticated	Image and format recognised, but not all authentication features checked by the machine are recognised because of quality and/or tolerance deviations. In most cases unfit euro banknotes	Withdraw from circulation The euro banknotes are handed over for authentication to the NCB immediately, at the latest 20 working days after deposit in the machine. Information on the account holder is stored for eight weeks after the euro banknotes have been detected by the machine. This information is made available on request to the NCB. Alternatively, in agreement with the NCB, information allowing the traceability of the account holder can be handed over together with the euro banknotes to that NCB. May be credited to the account holder
4a.	Euro banknotes that are identified as genuine and fit	All authenticity and fitness checks carried out by the machine giving positive results	Can be used for recirculation Credited to the account holder
4b.	Euro banknotes that are identified as genuine and unfit	All authenticity checks carried out by the machine giving positive results. At least one fitness criterion checked giving a negative result	Cannot be used for recirculation and are returned to the NCB Credited to the account holder

Specific rules regarding Table 1:

1. Category 2 and 3 euro banknotes are not returned to the customer by a banknote handling machine if that machine allows the cancellation of a deposit transaction. Retaining such euro banknotes when a transaction is cancelled can be done by storing them in a temporary storage area in the machine.
2. Category 3 euro banknotes do not need to be physically separated from category 4a or 4b euro banknotes. If no physical separation takes place, the time limit for handing over the mixed category 3, 4a and 4b euro banknotes to the NCB and the requirements regarding customer tracing of category 3 euro banknotes still apply.
3. Category 3 euro banknotes, also when mixed together with category 4a or 4b banknotes, may be reprocessed on any successfully tested type of banknote handling machine. These banknotes are then treated as having been classified by the second banknote handling machine, whereby the traceability of the original category 3 banknotes to the original account holder needs to be maintained in case these banknotes are rejected by the second machine as euro banknotes that are not clearly authenticated.

Table 2

Classification and treatment of euro banknotes by cash-out machines (COMs)

Category		Properties	Treatment
1.	Objects not recognised as euro banknotes	Not recognised as euro banknotes because of any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — euro banknotes not supported by the machine — non-euro banknotes — euro banknote-like objects — wrong image or format — large folded corner(s) or missing part(s) — feeding or transportation error of the machine 	Cannot be dispensed to customers
2.	Suspect counterfeit euro banknotes	Image and format recognised, but one or more authentication feature checked by the machine not detected or clearly out of tolerance	Cannot be dispensed to customers To be handed over for authentication to the competent national authorities immediately, at the latest 20 working days after detection by the machine together with information related to the account holder if available
3.	Euro banknotes that are not clearly authenticated	Image and format recognised, but not all authentication features checked by the machine are recognised because of quality and/or tolerance deviations. In most cases unfit euro banknotes	Cannot be dispensed to customers The euro banknotes are handed over to the NCB for authentication immediately, at the latest 20 working days after deposit in the machine.
4a.	Euro banknotes that are identified as genuine and fit	All authenticity and fitness checks carried out by the machine giving positive results	Can be dispensed to customers
4b.	Euro banknotes that are identified as genuine and unfit	All authenticity checks carried out by the machine giving positive results At least one fitness criterion checked giving a negative result	Cannot be dispensed to customers and are returned to the NCB

Specific rules regarding Table 2:

1. Category 1, 2 and 3 euro banknotes do not need to be physically separated. When mixed together, all three categories must be treated as category 2 euro banknotes. If category 1, 2 and 3 euro banknotes can be separated by using another banknote handling machine or, if agreed by an NCB, by trained staff members, they must be treated in accordance with Table 2.
2. Category 3 euro banknotes do not need to be physically separated from category 4a and 4b euro banknotes. If no physical separation takes place, the time limit for handing over the mixed category 3, 4a and 4b euro banknotes to the NCB as specified for category 3 still applies.
3. Category 3 euro banknotes, also when mixed together with category 4a or 4b banknotes, may be reprocessed on any successfully tested type of banknote handling machine. These banknotes are then treated as having been classified by the second banknote handling machine.

Table 3

Classification and treatment of euro banknotes by coin dispensing machines (CDMs)

CDMs must check the banknotes received for authenticity and retain those suspected to be counterfeits, but do not need to physically separate them by category.

Banknotes suspected to be counterfeits have to be handed over for authentication to the competent national authorities immediately, at the latest 20 working days after detection by the machine, together with information related to the account holder, if available.

Alternatively, the banknotes received by a CDM may be reprocessed on any successfully tested type of banknote handling machine and then treated as classified by this machine. The information related to the account holder of those pieces that have been classified as Category 2 or Category 3 during the reprocessing shall be maintained, if available.'

ANNEX III

ANNEX IV

DATA COLLECTION FROM CASH HANDLERS**1. Objectives**

The objectives of data collection are to enable the national central banks (NCBs) and the European Central Bank (ECB) to monitor the relevant activities of cash handlers and to oversee developments in the cash cycle.

2. General principles

- 2.1. Data on banknote handling machines must be reported when the machines are used pursuant to this Decision. Coin dispensing machines (CDMs) are exempt from reporting obligations.
- 2.2. Cash handlers regularly provide the NCB of their Member State with the following:
 - information on establishments where cash is handled such as branch offices, and
 - information on banknote handling machines and cash dispensers.
- 2.3. In addition, cash handlers that recirculate euro banknotes via banknote handling machines and cash dispensers regularly provide the NCB of their Member State with both of the following:
 - information on the volume of cash operations (number of euro banknotes processed) involving banknote handling machines and cash dispensers,
 - information on remote branches of credit institutions with a low level of cash operations where fitness checks are carried out manually.

3. Type of data and reporting requirements

- 3.1. Depending on their nature, the data collected are divided into master data and operational data.

Master data

- 3.2. Master data cover information on: (a) the individual cash handlers and their banknote handling machines and cash dispensers in operation; and (b) remote branches of credit institutions.
- 3.3. Master data are provided to the NCB at the date of application of this Decision and every six months thereafter. The data specified in the template set out in Appendix 1 must be provided, although the NCB may require them to be provided in a different format.
- 3.4. An NCB may decide, for monitoring purposes, to collect the data at local level, such as at branch offices.
- 3.5. An NCB may require the cash handlers to indicate the cash-recycling machines (CRMs) that are used as combined cash-in machines (CCMs) or cash-in machines (CIMs) respectively, and the CCMs that are used as CIMs.
- 3.6. Data on remote branches specified in the template set out in Appendix 3 must be provided, although the NCB may require them to be provided in a different format.

Operational data

- 3.7. Data originating from the processing and recirculation of euro banknotes by cash handlers are classified as operational data.

- 3.8. An NCB may decide to exclude other economic agents, as referred to in Article 6(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1338/2001 ⁽¹⁾, from the obligation to report operational data if the number of euro banknotes they recirculate via cash dispensers is below a threshold determined by the NCB.
- 3.9. Data are provided on a six-monthly basis. The data are reported to the NCB at the latest two months after the relevant reporting period, i.e. end-February and end-August. Data may be provided using the template set out in Appendix 2. NCBs may for a transitional period ask for monthly reporting, if this was their practice prior to this Decision entering into force, or for quarterly reporting.
- 3.10. Data are provided by cash handlers which physically handle euro banknotes. If a cash handler has outsourced the checking for authenticity and fitness to another cash handler, the data are provided by the cash handler designated in accordance with Article 3(2).
- 3.11. Data are reported by cash handlers in terms of pieces (volume), aggregated at national level and broken down by euro banknote denomination. A breakdown by banknote series is not required. For remote branches of credit institutions, operational data is reported separately.
- 3.12. An NCB may decide, for monitoring reasons, to collect the data at local level, such as at branch offices.
- 3.13. Cash handlers which have outsourced authenticity and fitness checking to other cash handlers may be requested to provide detailed information to the NCB on the latter, including the outsourcing arrangements.
- 3.14. Data on remote branches specified in the template set out in Appendix 3 must be provided, although the NCB may require them to be provided in a different format and may agree with cash handlers to collect more extensive data.
4. **Confidentiality and publication of data**
 - 4.1. Both master data and operational data are treated as confidential.
 - 4.2. The NCBs and the ECB may decide to publish reports or statistics using data acquired under this Annex. Any such publication is aggregated in such a way that no data can be attributed to single reporting entities.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1338/2001 of 28 June 2001 laying down measures necessary for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting (OJ L 181, 4.7.2001, p. 6).

*Appendix 1***REPORTING TEMPLATE***Master data*

This information is to be provided to:

[Name of NCB; contact details for queries; address]

1. Cash handler information

Cash handler's name:

Headquarter address:

Zip/postal code:

City:

Street:

Type of company:

— Credit institution

— Bureau de change

— Cash in transit company which is not a payment institution

— Trader (retailer)

— Casino

— Other, including payment institutions where not already categorised as one of the above (specify)

Contact persons:

Names:

Telephone Nos:

Telefax Nos:

Email addresses:

Outsourcing partner (if relevant)

Name:

Address:

Zip/postal code:

City:

2. **Customer-operated machines**

Machine category	Identification number ⁽¹⁾	Manufacturer ⁽¹⁾	Machine name ⁽¹⁾	Identification ⁽¹⁾ (detector system/software versions)	Total number in operation
CIMs					
CRMs					
CCMs					
COMs					

⁽¹⁾ These entries are to be completed in accordance with the corresponding entries on the ECB's website.

3. **Staff-operated machines**

Machine category	Identification number ⁽¹⁾	Manufacturer ⁽¹⁾	Machine name ⁽¹⁾	Identification ⁽¹⁾ (detector system/software versions)	Total number in operation
BPMs					
BAMs					
TARMs					
TAMs					

⁽¹⁾ These entries are to be completed in accordance with the corresponding entries on the ECB's website.

4. **Cash dispensers not included in the above table on customer-operated machines**

	Total number in operation
ATMs	
SCoTs	
Others	

Appendix 2

REPORTING TEMPLATE

Operational data

1. Cash handler information

Cash handler's name	
Reporting period	

2. Data

The following data items need to be aggregated at national or regional level, as decided by the NCB — excluding remote branches.

	Total number of euro banknotes processed	Euro banknotes sorted as unfit	Euro banknotes recirculated
EUR 5			
EUR 10			
EUR 20			
EUR 50			
EUR 100			
EUR 200			
EUR 500			

In the above table, the column with the heading “Total number of euro banknotes processed” needs to contain the total number of banknotes whose authenticity and fitness have been checked on banknote handling machines, i.e. cash-recycling machines (CRMs), cash-out machines (COMs), teller assistant recycling machines (TARMs) and banknote processing machines (BPMs), and combined cash-in and cash-out machines (CCMs) with optional fitness checking. The following banknotes are not included in this data: (a) banknotes whose authenticity and fitness check is carried out manually, e.g. over-the-counter operations or back-office operations; (b) banknotes that have been checked for authenticity but not for fitness on banknote handling machines, e.g. banknotes authenticated on cash-in machines (CIMs), CCMs (without optional fitness checking), teller assistant machines (TAMs) and banknote authentication machines (BAMs).

The column with the heading “Euro banknotes sorted as unfit” is a subset of the total number of euro banknotes processed and needs to contain the number of banknotes that have been classified as genuine and unfit (i.e. category 4b) by the machines. This data item relates to CRMs, COMs, TARMs and BPMs, and to CCMs with optional fitness checking.

The column with the heading “Euro banknotes recirculated” is a subset of the total number of euro banknotes processed and:

- (a) for CRMs, COMs and TARMs, needs to contain the number of banknotes that have been classified as genuine and fit (i.e. category 4a) by the machines and dispensed to customers as provided by the machines' statistics;
- (b) for BPMs and CCMs with optional fitness checking, needs to contain the number of banknotes that have been classified as genuine and fit (i.e. category 4a) by the machines and that have not been returned to the NCB, but kept with the intention of recirculating the banknotes back into the cash cycle.

Number of euro banknotes distributed via customer operated machines and cash dispensers	
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If an NCB applies the exception for remote branches laid down in Article 7, these data are mandatory for the credit institutions of that Member State. Credit institutions must consult their NCBs to ascertain whether these data must be reported.

*Appendix 3***REMOTE BRANCHES OF CREDIT INSTITUTIONS**

This information is provided only by credit institutions which have remote branches as referred to in Article 7(1).

1. Credit institution information

Credit institution's name	
Reporting period	

2. Data

Name of remote branch	Address	Number of euro banknotes distributed via customer-operated machines and cash dispensers'

CORRIGENDA

Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2117 of 29 November 2019 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein

(Official Journal of the European Union L 320 of 11 December 2019)

On page 103, footnote ⁽¹⁾ is replaced as follows:

⁽¹⁾ For the exclusive purpose of allowing international trade in fibre from vicuñas (*Vicugna vicugna*) and their derivative products, only if the fibre comes from the shearing of live vicuñas. Trade in products derived from the fibre may only take place in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) Any person or entity processing vicuña fibre to manufacture cloth and garments must request authorization from the relevant authorities of the country of origin [Countries of origin: The countries where the species occurs, that is, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru] to use the “vicuña country of origin” wording, mark or logo adopted by the range States of the species that are signatories to the Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuña.
- (b) Marketed cloth or garments must be marked or identified in accordance with the following provisions:
 - (i) For international trade in cloth made from live-sheared vicuña fibre, whether the cloth was produced within or outside of the range States of the species, the wording, mark or logo must be used so that the country of origin can be identified. The VICUÑA [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN] wording, mark or logo has the format as detailed below:



This wording, mark or logo must appear on the reverse side of the cloth. In addition, the selvages of the cloth must bear the words VICUÑA [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN].

- (ii) For international trade in garments made from live-sheared vicuña fibre, whether the garments were produced within or outside of the range States of the species, the wording, mark or logo indicated in paragraph (b)(i) must be used. This wording, mark or logo must appear on a label in the garment itself. If the garments are produced outside of the country of origin, the name of the country where the garment was produced should also be indicated, in addition to the wording, mark or logo referred to in paragraph (b)(i).
- (c) For international trade in handicraft products made from live-sheared vicuña fibre produced within the range States of the species, the VICUÑA [COUNTRY OF ORIGIN] - ARTESANÍA wording, mark or logo must be used as detailed below:



- (d) If live-sheared vicuña fibre from various countries of origin is used for the production of cloth and garments, the wording, mark or logo of each of the countries of origin of the fibre must be indicated, as detailed in paragraphs (b)(i) and (ii).
 - (e) All other specimens shall be deemed to be specimens of species listed in Appendix I and the trade in them shall be regulated accordingly.

Corrigendum to Decision (EU) 2019/2158 of the European Central Bank of 5 December 2019 on the methodology and procedures for the determination and collection of data regarding fee factors used to calculate annual supervisory fees (ECB/2019/38)

(Official Journal of the European Union L 327 of 17 December 2019)

On page 104, Article 11:

for: 'This Decision shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.'

read: 'This Decision shall enter into force on 1 January 2020.'

**Corrigendum to Regulation (EU) 2019/2155 of the European Central Bank of 5 December 2019
amending Regulation (EU) No 1163/2014 on supervisory fees (ECB/2019/37)**

(Official Journal of the European Union L 327 of 17 December 2019)

On page 74, Article 2:

for: 'This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.'

read: 'This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 2020.'

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