

MEETING SUMMARY

ENCASIA WORKING GROUP 6 (SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS)

BRUSSELS, ON 4 JUNE 2013

WG6 met to start the work on safety recommendations (SRs). It has specifically addressed the use of the new EU safety recommendations database, also called SRIS (Safety Recommendations Information System). Italy chaired the meeting with the participation of France, Poland, Romania, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the European Commission (DG MOVE and JRC) and EASA. Finland and Malta could not attend. In total, there were 9 participants.

The meeting had a dense agenda articulated around several points:

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre presented background information on SRIS. The important piece of information was that SRIS and the European Central Repository should be interconnected before the next ENCASIA plenary meeting (tentatively scheduled on 17-18 September 2013). This should avoid duplication of efforts, in particular regarding the entry of data fields related to the occurrence.

The outputs of WG2 ('Inventory of best practices of investigation in Europe') and notably its survey on SRs were presented and handed over to WG6. This also included procedures on SRs in use in some Member States.

During the round table discussion, emphasis was put on the challenges of the common numbering system for SRs and the necessity to adapt procedures to this constraint in order to better track SRs. This numbering system is also key for EASA who also recommended enabling the function to generate e5f. These files are useful to exchange data and could facilitate SR transmissions. The 'draft' status was also clarified, as for some it meant an incomplete SR in the system, which is only visible for the originator, while for others, it meant the status of the accident/incident report that includes the safety recommendation. France also highlighted the traceability of long term safety recommendations. Another challenge concerns the management of SRs received from third countries.

The chairman presented his review of the database's content. On 1 June 2013, SRIS contained 500 SRs (428 Open and 72 Closed). His analysis of the database's content clearly highlighted the need to enhance data quality and consistency. This is also the reason why the public part of the SR database is not publicized yet. This review also illustrated the need to provide access to frequent addressees who could directly enter data into SRIS with the beneficial effect of limiting administrative burdens. In accordance with Art 7(3)g of Regulation (EU) No 996/2010, WG6 will also analyse the content of the database with a view to identifying important safety recommendations of Union-wide relevance.

The WG also reviewed the draft Terms of References that were prepared by the chairman. An international aspect was added with regard to taxonomies because

taxonomy change proposals will have to be coordinated with other groups dealing with this same subject. The WG6 chairman will send around the draft ToRs that were partially discussed at the end of the meeting.

After further review, the WG6 ToRs should be presented to ENCASIA for adoption in September.