ANNEX

to the

Proposal for a Council Recommendation

on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability

{SWD(2021) 367 final}

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ANNEX I

Union standard elements to describe a micro-credential

This annex includes a list of common Union standard elements to describe micro-credentials that can be used as a resource to support implementation.

Mandatory elements:	Identification of the learner
	Title of the micro-credential
	Country/Region of the issuer
	Awarding body
	Date of issuing
	Learning outcomes
	Notional workload needed to achieve the learning outcomes (in ECTS credits, wherever possible)
	Level (and cycle, if applicable) of the learning experience leading to the micro-credential (EQF, QF-EHEA), if applicable
	Type of assessment
	Form of participation in the learning activity
	Type of quality assurance used to underpin the micro-credential
Optional elements, where relevant (non-exhaustive list)	Prerequisites needed to enrol in the learning activity
	Supervision and identity verification during assessment (unsupervised with no identity verification, supervised with no identity verification, supervised online, or onsite with identity verification)
	Grade achieved
	Integration/stackability options (standalone, independent micro-credential/integrated, stackable towards another credential)
	Further information

These standard elements will be included in a Union data model[1] that specifies a common format for describing micro-credentials. The data model will be available as an open standard

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[1] Data models are a graphical and/or lexical representations of data, specifying their properties, structure, and inter-relationships. They are used as open standards, free to use, transparent, and built based on consensus.

to be used by providers of micro-credentials and will support interoperability and easier exchange of data on micro-credentials.

The Commission will develop the data model based on the common standard elements listed below. It will develop this data model: (i) in consultation with Member States and stakeholders; (ii) in line with user needs and technological advancements; (iii) in line with changes in labour markets; and (iv) in line with existing approaches to providing education and training. This data model must support consistency of information and demonstrate clear added value. The data model for micro-credentials will be governed as per the Europass Decision, in particular Articles 6(1)(b), 6(1)(d), and 6(2)(b), which already call on the Commission to develop, test and update open standards.