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SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

Directorate C - Transparency, Efficiency & Resources  
SG.C.1 - Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents

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## EUROPEAN ARCHIVES GROUP 24 NOVEMBER 2022

### CONCLUSIONS

#### 1. Opening and announcements

**Inga Bolstad**, the National Archivist of Norway welcomed the participants.

**Jef Schram** (Commission, chair) thanked the Norwegian National Archives for agreeing to host the meeting. He informed the meeting that, much to her regret, Maria Oliván Avilés was not able to participate in the meeting.

#### 2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda includes two points discussions in small groups:

- a. the Archiving by Design initiative.
- b. A strategy discussion about the challenges for archives and how this should be reflected in the agenda of the EAG.

Norway asked to briefly discuss “how the current energy situation affects Archives”. This point was added to the agenda at the end of the morning session.

#### 3. Recommendations from Archiving by design subgroup followed by discussions in small groups, report to the plenary session and next steps

The Archiving by design subgroup had submitted two documents to the meeting:

- White Paper on Archiving by Design,
- Practical Methodology on how to start applying AbD on information systems or business processes.

The documents are available on the EAG wiki.

The meeting discussed two questions to help assess the usefulness of a joint, European approach to Archiving-by-design:

- is it relevant to you, in your country,
- how could the subgroup help and deliverables should it provide?

#### 4. Experiences with the Regulatory Sandbox

As a follow up to the discussion on archival standards at the last meeting in France in Europe, **Espen Sjøvoll** presented the work by the Norwegian National Archives on a Regulatory Sandbox for archiving and transparency. The sandbox is a way to try out ideas and technologies in a closed environment with a view to developing regulations and standards.

The slides are available on the EAG wiki.

There was interest to discuss this further, possibly in a working group that would be set up by Norway.

#### 5. How does the current energy situation affect archives

Norway said that while the situation is very different for Archives in different countries, it could be useful to discuss the energy crisis and rising energy prices affect archives institutions and what measures could be taken to mitigate this. Some of the other participants archives agreed that this could be explored at a future meeting of the EAG.

#### 6. EAG strategic discussion in small groups followed by plenary discussion and next steps

The objective of the discussion was to

- (1) focus on issues that are relevant to the Archives and the Commission/EU;
- (2) improve the discussions in the group;
- (3) increase the impact of EAG, both with respect to the work of National Archives themselves and their influence in Brussels.

To this end the meeting was asked to discuss

- the **common challenges** facing archives where cooperation between themselves and with the Commission would be useful, and subsequently
- establish a list of **priority issues** for the future agenda of the EAG that should be linked to EU/Commission policies or initiatives.

Participants were divided into six groups of five or six people each, including rapporteur.

The rapporteurs Cristina Diaz (ES); Stefan Kwasnitza (CH); Josée Kirps (LU), Christian Anita (RO), Karin Åström Iko (SE), Afelonne Doek (NL) reported the main points of the discussion to the plenary where further discussion took place.

The results of the discussion are summarised in the slides “outcome of the strategy discussion”, which are available on the EAG wiki.

#### Working Group

The meeting created a working group to further develop and refine the challenges and prepare a proposal for the main issues and themes for the future agenda of the EAG for discussion at the next meeting in Stockholm. The following persons have volunteered to participate in the work of the group: Karin

Åström Iko, Karin (SE), Cristina Diaz Martinez, (ES), Afelonne Doek (NL), Andrea Hänger (DE), Pawel Pietrzyk (PL), Karin Van Honacker (BE).

## **7. Next EAG meeting**

Karin Åström Iko, Director of the National Archives of Sweden, invited the participants to the next meeting of the EAG, which will take place in Stockholm on 25 May 2023.