

MINUTES

1st meeting of the European Data Innovation Board (EDIB) 13 December

Foreword

It was the 1st meeting of the European Innovation Board (EDIB) and was held by videoconference. The Data Spaces Support Centre (DSSC) participated as observer.

The meeting was chaired by DG CONNECT G - Data (European Commission).

Nature of the meeting

The meeting was non-public.

List of points discussed

1. Welcome and opening remarks

- The Chair opened the meeting by taking stock of the progress done since the Data strategy in 2020 and reminding members of the important implementation work that lies ahead.

2. The new Data Innovation Board – scope and tasks.

Agenda

- The agenda was adopted without comments.

Scope of the EDIB

- CNECT presented the scope and composition of the Board, referring to articles 29 and 30 of the Data Governance Act (DGA) as well as Commission Decision C(2023) 1074 final establishing the expert group. The Chair outlined the responsibilities and stressed that the focus should lie on moving into one direction with regard to the implementation of the DGA (in the future also the Data Act) and on standardisation and interoperability.

Rules of procedure

- Some members expressed the need for more time to consider the rules of procedure. The Chair agreed to accept written comments until Wednesday, 20/12/2023.
- Several members enquired about the establishment of subgroups as laid down in Art. 29 para 2, due to the number of open questions on the interpretation and implementation of the DGAs provisions. The Chair responded that the work of EDIB should not depend on the subgroups alone, but CNECT will look into the need to establish subgroups in the future.
- One member state authority highlighted the need to receive invitations to meetings well ahead and suggested to have a meeting schedule for the whole next year.

- The Chair stressed that only one representative per nominated member can attend the meetings, similarly to the logic of Council working parties. The Chair mentioned that, in the future, Member States will need to comply with this requirement.

Ways of working

- CNECT clarified which collaborative tools will be used. There was a discussion about using Teams as a repository for documents. Some members are not allowed to use it, while others expressed privacy concerns. It was suggested to use the Commission tool Circabc instead. The Commission will look into this in more detail.

3. The EDIB work programme

- CNECT presented an outline for a work programme for 2024, focussed on the two big topics of implementing the Data Governance Act (DGA) and standardisation/interoperability.
- Members generally appreciated the work programme, agreed that those topics are top priority and that the overall work is important.
- Two members stressed cybersecurity and privacy design as important principles.
- One member requested to make background material available so that members can more easily familiarise themselves with the various topics of the work programme.
- Several members asked for an overview and state of play of the data spaces. CNECT responded that a second Staff Working Document on common European data spaces, providing such an overview, will be available in the beginning of 2024.
- Several members highlighted the need to map the landscape of existing standards.
- A few member state authorities had remaining questions on the DGA and asked for support in implementation, which should be discussed in the subgroups for the member states competent authorities.

4. First exchange of views on standardisation

- CNECT presented an update on standardisation activities, referring to the establishment of a European single market for data, the landscape of data sharing stakeholders and initiatives, data spaces building blocks and a blueprint elaborated by the DSSC, and the report on data interoperability from the High-level Forum for European Standardisation (HLF). The HLF report is intended to serve as a basis for further standardisation discussions in the EDIB.
- Some members stressed that existing standardisation and interoperability work need to be considered. Others reminded of the importance of having a coordinated approach to standardisation and consider new standards only when necessary. In this context, it was suggested to have a better overview of what is going on at EU-level and in the different

Member States. It was recommended to identify priority topics on standardisation/interoperability.

- The Chair confirmed the importance of not reinventing the wheel and of building on existing standards and work. The DSSC, as the operational arm of EDIB, prepares work for the Board, including an inventory and mapping of standards, while examining their effectiveness, EU single market compliance, and cross-domain communalities.

Next steps

- Written comments on the draft rules of procedure to be delivered until Wednesday, the 20/12/2023, COB. Adoption of minutes to be decided by written procedure or, if needed, in the next meeting.
- CNECT will establish a repository for EDIB members on Circabc. The presentation slides, as well as additional background material, will be made available on Circabc as soon as established.
- CNECT will look into establishing an indicative meeting schedule for 2024.

Next meeting

The next meeting will take place physically on the 7th of February 2024 in Luxembourg.