

## 6.10 STUDY ON THE FUTURE COMITOLGY REGISTER (2018.04)

### 6.10.1 IDENTIFICATION OF THE ACTION

Service in charge	European Commission, SG.B2
Associated Services	European Commission, DIGIT.B2 European Commission, SG.R3

### 6.10.2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Commission is often empowered to implement EU legislation with the assistance of committees composed of representatives from EU countries. As such, it adopts around 1600 implementing acts every year, across all policy areas. The procedures underlying this process are set out in Regulation 182/2011 (the Comitology Regularion).

The Comitology Register (RegCom) contains background information and documents relating to the work of these committees, including all documents forwarded to the EU Parliament and the Council for information or scrutiny (on average approximately 20.000 documents per year). As such, the Register allows users to trace the different stages of an implementing measure throughout its entire lifecycle. The current version of the Register dates back to 2008 (with an even older version, now archived, operational since 2002). It reaches its tenth anniversary and it is necessary to rethink the Register from an IT, inter-operability as well as financial perspective. The Register has expanded considerably over the years and reached a level of such complexity that it is considered being a high level risk to do any more development work in the current Register. This action aims to prepare the grounds for the building of a RegCom2 in 2019, by analysing how best to integrate it with other corporate tools (notably Decide and Agora Meetings – AGM), how to streamline transmissions to the other institutions (notably by moving away from e-mail and relying on eTrustEx/eDelivery) and how to improve transparency and access to information for the users. .

### 6.10.3 OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this action is to analyse how best to rebuild the Comitology Register, in order to make it interoperable, sustainable, more user-friendly, and better equipped to respond to the needs of Member State administrations, the other institutions and stakeholders in general.

### 6.10.4 SCOPE

This action will investigate how best to develop the new Comitology Register (RegCom2). As such, it will analyse the best integration scenarios, both with the corporate Commission internal decision-making and meeting organisation tools, and with the more modern transmission tools (eTrustEx/E-Delivery). It will also look at the Register from a transparency perspective and suggest the way

---

forward for the public interface. There is no development work in scope for this action, the purpose is only to analyse the best way forward, before moving to implementation in 2019.

### 6.10.5 ACTION PRIORITY

The proposed action complies with all the prioritisation criteria listed in art 7 of the ISA2 Decision (Decision (EU)2015/2240), as follows:

(a) the contribution of the action to the interoperability landscape, measured by the importance and necessity of the action to complete the interoperability landscape across the Union;

The current Comitology Register responds to the legal obligation of the Commission to make public a set of documents (either in full or only at the level of the metadata) listed in art. 10 of Regulation 182/2011 (the Comitology Regulation). The current Register also serves as an official transmission channel of such documents to the European Parliament and the Council (although the transmission method used is outdated and clearly improvable). Nevertheless, it stands in complete isolation from the other IT tools in the Commission (such as Decide or AGM). Currently the transmission of the documents to the Member States is done by various different means (in the future it should happen via AGM), requiring in all cases to be uploaded to Comitology Register separately from that transmission. Similarly, the documents that must be adopted as a result of the comitology procedure must be uploaded in Decide in order to proceed with the adoption process. This need to upload the same documents twice or more in different systems is both inefficient and prone to errors. Analysing how the Register of the future should look like from an interoperability perspective is a first step towards putting the Comitology Register on the interoperability map, not only within the Commission but also in relation to the other institutions and the Member States.

(b) the scope of the action, measured by its horizontal impact, once completed, across the sectors concerned;

The Commission adopts every year around 1600 acts following a comitology procedure. The process leading to the adoption of these acts, at committee stage, is documented in the Register, who is therefore home (and transmission vehicle) for thousands of acts every year<sup>118</sup>, across all policy areas.

(c) the geographical reach of the action, measured by the number of Member States and of European public administrations involved;

Member States are members of the comitology committees whose work is documented by the Register. Member State administrations have, therefore, a great interest in being able to follow such files and would all benefit from an improved Register. Moreover, the analysis should identify the services needed to better share the information between the institutions. Such services could also be used by the Member States should they be interested.

(d) the urgency of the action, measured by its potential impact, taking into account the lack of other funding sources;

---

<sup>118</sup> For more detailed numbers see the Annual Reports on the functioning of the comitology committees on <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regcomitology/index.cfm?do=Report.Report>

The current Comitology Register dates back to 2008. The technology underlying it is out-dated and any further development work is high risk. Moreover, it was conceived in isolation from all the other IT tools in the Commission (it is older than Decide for instance).

(e) the re-usability of the action, measured by the extent to which its results can be re-used;

Building on the experience acquired with building the Inter-Institutional Register of Delegated Acts, the study will look at the Comitology Register in the context of its interoperability with Parliament, Council and Member State tools. On the basis of the study developments will be launched in 2019. In this context, the relevant existing services will be reused and any new services to be developed will be conceived with interoperability in mind. One such service, of interest beyond the future Comitology Register, is one linking the steps and documents in the decision-making process with documents exchanged with Member State administrations/experts in official fora (comitology committees, expert groups) that are part of the same logical file.

Also, the analysis will take into account the results of the study on the Digital OLP management ("to be" landscaping exercise). As the purpose of this study is to look into how to improve document exchanges between the institutions in the framework of the Ordinary Legislative Procedure, its findings and proposed next steps are relevant for implementing acts as well. Although not part of the Ordinary Legislative Procedure, such acts are nevertheless officially adopted by the Commission and transmitted to the other institutions, so any improvements that are relevant for this process will be taken into account. As such, this analysis will pave the way for extending the findings and recommendations of the "to be" landscaping exercise to other areas of decision-making and inter-institutional exchanges.

(f) the re-use by the action of existing common frameworks and elements of interoperability solutions;

The study should identify such solutions to be re-used. As a minimum, one can already mention the IMMC Core Metadata exchange protocol, eTrustEx/e-Delivery and TESTA-NG.

(g) the link of the action with Union initiatives to be measured by the collaboration and contribution level of the action to Union initiatives such as the DSM.

This project has a clear link with one of the ten priorities of the Juncker Commission, namely "democratic change". Increased transparency over the decision-making process and facilitating stakeholder participation in the policy-making process are elements of this strategic objective. The study on the future Comitology Register will look at both interoperability and increased transparency, with a view to set the grounds for a better functioning and more user-friendly Register.

#### 6.10.5.1 Contribution to the interoperability landscape

The contribution of the action to the interoperability landscape, measured by the importance and necessity of the action to complete the interoperability landscape across the Union

Question	Answer
<i>How does the proposal contribute to improving</i>	Implementing acts are the largest number

<p><i>interoperability among public administrations and with their citizens and businesses across borders or policy sectors in Europe?</i></p> <p><i>In particular, how does it contribute to the implementation of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>the new European Interoperability Framework (EIF),</i></li> <li>• <i>the Interoperability Action Plan and/or</i></li> <li>• <i>the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecom guidelines</i></li> <li>• <i>any other EU policy/initiative having interoperability requirements?</i></li> </ul>	<p>of legal acts produced by the Commission and the system which supports their processing works in isolation. Analysing the possibility of replacing it by an interoperable solution will contribute to the implementation of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regarding the EIS</b>, our proposal falls in the scope of the following clusters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ "Access to data/Data Sharing/Open Data".</li> <li>○ "EU policies – supporting instruments"</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Regarding the EIF</b>, our action promotes the following principles: user-centricity, multilingualism, transparency, openness and reusability and supports scenarios of technical interoperability to exchange information between the Commission and other European (European Parliament, Council of the European Union) or national Institutions</li> </ul>
<p><i>Does the proposal fulfil an interoperability need for which no other alternative action/solution is available?</i></p>	<p>It addresses a <b>technical interoperability</b> issue, by identifying an interoperable solution for the Comitology Register, which currently supports the process that produces the largest number of legal acts at the EU level</p>

### 6.10.5.2 Cross-sector

*The scope of the action, measured by its horizontal impact, once completed, across the policy sectors concerned.*

Question	Answer
<p><i>Will the proposal, <b>once completed</b> be useful, from the interoperability point of view and utilised in two (2) or more EU policy sectors? Detail your answer for each of the concerned sectors.</i></p>	<p>All policy sectors are concerned, as implementing acts with committee control are adopted in all policy areas.</p>
<p><i>For proposals completely or largely <b>already in operational phase</b>, indicate whether and how</i></p>	

<i>they have been utilised in two (2) or more EU policy sectors.</i>	
--	--

### 6.10.5.3 Cross-border

*The geographical reach of the action, measured by the number of Member States and of European public administrations involved.*

Question	Answer
<i>Will the proposal, <b>once completed</b>, be useful from the interoperability point of view and used by public administrations of three (3) or more EU Members States? Detail your answer for each of the concerned Member State.</i>	All Member States are concerned, as they all are members of the different comitology committees and will need to be able to follow this process.
<i>For proposals completely or largely <b>already in operational phase</b>, indicate whether and how they have been utilised by public administrations of three (3) or more EU Members States.</i>	

### 6.10.5.4 Urgency

*The urgency of the action, measured by its potential impact, taking into account the lack of other funding sources*

Question	Answer
<i>Is your action urgent? Is its implementation foreseen in an EU policy as priority, or in EU legislation?</i>	The volume of produced acts, together with the isolation of the current IT tools, makes the revision urgent.
<i>How does the ISA<sup>2</sup> scope and financial capacity better fit for the implementation of the proposal as opposed to other identified and currently available sources?</i>	Given the cross-policy and cross-administration (both national and EU-level) dimensions of this project, ISA2 seems its natural home. Moreover, this would place the future Register within the wider scope of on-going ISA2 actions such as the

	landscaping exercise <sup>119</sup> and the Inter-institutional Register of Delegated Acts.
--	---

### 6.10.5.5 Reusability of action's outputs

*The re-usability of the action, measured by the extent to which its results can be re-used.*

Can the results of the action (following this proposal) be re-used by a critical part of their target user base, as identified by the proposal maker? For proposals or their parts already in operational phase: have they been re-used by a critical part of their target user base?

Name of reusable solution to be produced (for new proposals) or produced (for existing actions)	Study on technical solutions for the Comitology Register
Description	The conclusions of the study will be a reusable element, that might feed other on-going works like the further evolution of the Inter-institutional Register of Delegated Acts or the future implementation actions stemming from the "to be" landscaping exercise ("Digital OLP management")
Reference	
Target release date / Status	2018Q4
Critical part of target user base	European Institutions, Member State administrations
For solutions already in operational phase - actual reuse level (as compared to the defined critical part)	

### 6.10.5.6 Level of reuse of existing solutions

*The re-use by the action (following this proposal) of existing common frameworks and interoperability solutions.*

Question	Answer
<i>Does the proposal intend to make use of any ISA<sup>2</sup>, ISA or other relevant interoperability solution(s)? Which ones?</i>	The study will take into account the experience acquired in other ISA2 actions (landscaping exercise, Inter-Institutional Register of Delegated Acts).

<sup>119</sup> Action 2016.17. Interinstitutional Framework for Digital OLP Management

	The feasibility of using standards like IMMC and technical elements like TESTING within the proposed solution will also be analysed during the study.
<i>For proposals completely or largely <b>already in operational phase</b>: has the action reused existing interoperability solutions? If yes, which ones and how?</i>	

### 6.10.5.7 Interlinked

*The extent to which the action (following this proposal) contributes to Union's initiatives such as the DSM.*

Question	Answer
<i>Does the proposal directly contribute to at least one of the Union's high political priorities such as the DSM? If yes, which ones? What is the level of contribution?</i>	This project has a clear link with one of the ten priorities of the Juncker Commission, namely "democratic change". Increased transparency over the decision-making process and facilitating stakeholder participation in the policy-making process are elements of this strategic objective.

### 6.10.6 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Describe using the table below one or more problems addressed by the proposal.

The problem of	The Comitology Register not being interoperable with other systems from other EU Institutions and Member States
affects	The efficiency of staff in the Commission, European Parliament, Council and Member State administrations and the transparency of the European public administration
the impact of which is	Increased difficulty to follow comitology files, double-encodings, difficult transmission processes and impact on the reputation of the Institutions
a successful solution would be	A future Register that is fully part of the interoperable

	landscape and takes into account the conclusions of the related previous interoperability actions
--	---

## 6.10.7 IMPACT OF THE ACTION

### 6.10.7.1 Main impact list

List the impacts of the action's outputs (following the proposal) on the beneficiaries to the extent possible. Some impacts are listed below – add others as needed.

Not applicable as the objective of this action is a study. Once the results of the study implemented through the development of a new Register in 2019 one can start discussing about savings.

Impact	Why will this impact occur?	By when?	Beneficiaries
(+) Savings in money			
(+) Savings in time			
(+) Better interoperability and quality of digital public service			
(-) Integration or usage cost			
<i>[add other impacts as needed]</i>			

### 6.10.7.2 User-centricity

One of the conditions for maximizing the impact of the ISA<sup>2</sup> actions is by ensuring that they meet users' needs. For this to happen, users' engagement and involvement is needed before and during solutions' implementation, and users' feedback is sought after solutions are in operation. Explain how you intend to achieve the above.

Users will be at the center of the study, as the focus will be both on institutional users (staff from the European Commission, European Parliament, Council and Member State administrations) and on citizens and stakeholders in general (from a transparency and user friendliness perspective). Within the Commission, the network of DG comitology coordinators will be the main vehicle for engaging with the internal users. This network meets regularly and will be consulted specifically on the future of the Comitology Register.

## 6.10.8 EXPECTED MAJOR OUTPUTS

[Include here only additional major outputs which were not already mentioned under section 1.1.5.5]



Output name	Study on technical solutions for the new Comitology Register
Description	An analysis of the best way to re-build the Comitology Register, in order to maximize inter-operability, increase transparency and facilitate the work of its users.
Reference	
Target release date / Status	Q4 2018

## 6.10.9 ORGANISATIONAL APPROACH

### 6.10.9.1 Expected stakeholders and their representatives

Stakeholders	Representatives	Involvement in the action
European Commission	SG.B2	System owner/business manager
European Commission	DIGIT.B2 and SG.R3	Main contributors to the analysis
European Commission	DG comitology coordinators	Main user group
European Parliament	Reception and Referral Unit	Consulted, main stakeholder
Council of the EU	General Secretariat	Consulted, main stakeholder

### 6.10.9.2 Identified user groups

While the study itself will be mostly directed at the European Commission (who will then need to implement its findings), the users that would most benefit from a renewed Comitology Register are: staff in the EU institutions (Commission, European Parliament, Council), in the Member State administrations (including Permanent Representations), stakeholders and citizens.

### 6.10.9.3 Communication and dissemination plan

The study itself will be nourished through dialogue with relevant stakeholders, who would thereby already be informed of the upcoming revision of the Comitology Register. Once the study is finished, its findings will be communicated both to the specialized stakeholder groups (notably in the institutions and the Member State administrations) and to the wider audience (notably via the ISA2 communication actions).

#### 6.10.9.4 Key Performance indicators

Provide a list of KPIs allowing the measurement of the progress and completions of milestones and the action. In case of an on-going action with already identified metrics<sup>120</sup> indicate the current values.

Description of the KPI	Target to achieve	Expected time for target
Future architecture of the Comitology Register clear	100%	Q4 2018
Impact of the future architecture on other systems (notably Decide and AGM) clear	100%	Q4 2018
Impact of the future architecture on other institutions and Member State systems clear	100%	Q4 2018

#### 6.10.9.5 Governance approach

The study will be managed by SG.B2, as system owner of the current Comitology Register (and owner of its successor). It remains to be seen through which contractual channels the study will be commissioned. In any case, both SG.R3, as current supplier of the Comitology Register, and DIGIT.B2, as current supplies of Decide and future supplier of AGM, will be closely associated to the analysis.

#### 6.10.10 TECHNICAL APPROACH AND CURRENT STATUS

Not applicable, as the action is a study.

#### 6.10.11 COSTS AND MILESTONES

##### 6.10.11.1 Breakdown of anticipated costs and related milestones

Phase: Initiation Planning Execution Closing/Final evaluation	Description of milestones reached or to be reached	Anticipated Allocations (KEUR)	Budget line ISA/ others (specify)	Start date (QX/YYYY)	End date (QX/YYYY)
--	--	--------------------------------------	---	-------------------------	-----------------------

<sup>120</sup> For examples see the ISA2 dashboard <https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/dashboard/isadashboard> , effectiveness tab.

Execution	Study completed	80K	ISA 80K	Q1 2018	Q4 2018
	<b>Total 80K</b>				

#### 6.10.11.2 Breakdown of ISA<sup>2</sup> funding per budget year

Budget Year	Phase	Anticipated allocations (in KEUR)	Executed budget (in KEUR)
2018	Analysis	80 K	
2019			
2020			

#### 6.10.12 ANNEX AND REFERENCES

Description	Reference link	Attached document
Regulation 182/2011	<a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32011R0182">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32011R0182</a>	
Comitology Register	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regcomitology/index.cfm">http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regcomitology/index.cfm</a>	