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ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

Mr Michel SERVOZ
Director-General
Directorate General Employment, Social
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BRU-J-27 08/036
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

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WW/UK/sn/(2017)0645 C 2016-0441 & 2013-0340
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Dear Mr Servoz,

Thank you very much for Mr Merchan Cantos' letter of 25 January 2017 concerning the follow-up by the Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) of the recommendations made in the EDPS Inspection Report concerning the inspection conducted by members of the EDPS staff on 30 June and 1 July 2016. The inspection was designed to investigate the follow-up of and ensure compliance with the recommendations by the EDPS in his Opinion of 17 February 2014 in case 2013-0340 regarding *Arachne*.

The EDPS appreciates the significant effort that has gone into this follow-up exercise. In the light of the measures taken by DG EMPL as outlined in detail in the letter of 25 January 2017 regarding the implementation of recommendations made by the EDPS in cases 2016-0441 and 2013-0340, the EDPS has the following suggestions:

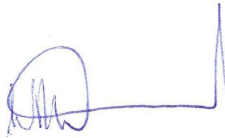
- Regarding recommendation 10 for case 2016-0441 (*"Review security plan and deliverables in the context of release 2.0 of Arachne..."*), we suggest ensuring that the methodology used for the Security Risk Analysis of *Arachne* be repeatable whenever a need to perform it again (even partially) occurs.
- Regarding recommendation 12 for case 2016-0441 (*"Instruct and monitor DG DIGIT as to the effectiveness of the SSL/TLS implementation and configuration for the Arachne web server"*), we suggest periodically checking that DG DIGIT use the best available practices/configurations to implement the TLS channel. In line with the principle of

accountability, despite DG DIGIT's expertise and their role as service providers, the ultimate responsibility for compliance remains with DG EMPL as co-controller of *Arachne* (next to DG REGIO).

Against this background, the EDPS welcomes the quick and comprehensive implementation of the recommendations made and has decided to close both cases (2016-0441 and 2013-0340).

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity for expressing the appreciation of the EDPS for the good cooperation between our two services and to thank your staff again for their friendly and constructive cooperation with the inspection team.

Yours sincerely,



Wojciech Rafał WIEWIÓROWSKI

Cc: Mr Philippe RENAUDIÈRE, Data Protection Officer European Commission

Mr Francisco MERCHAN CANTOS, Director DG EMPL G, European Commission

Mr Marc SCHELFHOUT, HoU DG EMPL G2, European Commission

Mr Octavian PURCAREA, HoU DG EMPL R4, European Commission

Mr Luc MOLEMANS, DG EMPL R4, European Commission

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Mr Marc LEMAITRE, Director General DG REGIO, European Commission

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