

Note to ICDPPC Executive Committee from Secretariat, 5 July 2016

Strategic Priority: Strengthening Our Connections, Working With Partners

Action: Develop supportive connections between networks involved in cross-border data protection and privacy enforcement

Secretariat: General Paper on Recent Work by Chair and Secretariat on advancing Enforcement Cooperation and Coordination Goals

Since the May meeting the Secretariat has taken two relevant initiatives on the Chair's instruction:

1. Possibility of an ICDPPC-GPEN MOU

On 1 July 2016 the Secretariat wrote to the GPEN Committee to explore the potential usefulness of documenting the relationship between the two networks.

The message made no commitments but referenced the 36th Conference's Resolution on Enforcement Cooperation that mandated the Executive Committee to "... initiate discussions with GPEN and other relevant networks with a view to exploring practical options and opportunities for better coordinating their efforts to improve enforcement cooperation ...". The message noted that the task had been delegated to the Chair who commenced informal discussions with relevant networks in the margins of the 37th Conference in Amsterdam including during the GPEN side meeting.

The message noted that the Chair had suggested that a further practical step might be to create a document, such as a memorandum of understanding that records the relationship. It would also express a commitment to close cooperation and to identify opportunities to coordinate enforcement cooperation efforts. In the course of developing that document, or following from its mutual adoption, concrete ideas for deepening the relationship to mutual benefit might emerge.

The GPEN Committee was asked to respond in principle to the proposal, ideally in time for the GPEN Committee's views to be known by the time of the Executive Committee meeting in Singapore. The message indicated that if the respective Committees were to be supportive of taking this step, the Secretariat would endeavour to prepare a first draft of the document by early August to allow discussions on the substance to commence.

No response from GPEN had been received as at 6 July.

2. Website material on 'Other Networks'

At the end of June, the Secretariat constructed a new part of the website focused upon '[Other networks](#)', essentially being other privacy and data protection networks that involve ICDPPC member authorities. This new part of the supports the Conference's vision of "supportive connections" and the mission of "connecting and supporting" efforts at domestic, regional and international levels.

In terms of the strategic priorities the material is focused upon “**Strengthening Our Connections, Working With Partners**” and seeks both to:

- Develop supportive connections between networks involved in cross-border data protection and privacy enforcement, and
- Explore ways in which the Conference and regional forums of DPAs can better connect and enrich each other.

The material is in 5 sub-parts:

- The first 4 sub-parts describe the other networks under the categories:
 - [Regional networks](#)
 - [Linguistic/cultural networks](#)
 - [Specialised networks](#)
 - [Miscellaneous networks](#)
- The final sub-part describes the [resources](#) available with each network.

It is anticipated that the website content would be improved and expanded as we engage with the other networks and as new initiatives are taken to advance the strategic priorities.