



ADOPTED BY THE 41ST CONFERENCE

REPORT OF THE ICDPPC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2018-2019

TO THE ICDPPC CLOSED SESSION

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CONTENTS – ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ICDPPC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2018-19

Foreword from the Chair, UK Information Commissioner, Elizabeth Denham CBE - Main achievements of the Executive Committee 2018-2019	3
Introduction – the Committee’s mandate, and the role of Committee/Secretariat	3
Composition - the members and past /future Conference Hosts	3
Tribute to Giovanni Buttarelli, European Data Protection Supervisor	3
Spotlight on a high profile project: ICDPPC Policy Strategy and Conference Strategic Plan	3
Executive Committee meetings	4
Conference communications	5
Relations with the ICDPPC Working Groups	5
Relations with the observers at international organisations	5
Relations with the international networks	5
ICDPPC Global Data Protection and Privacy Awards	6
Selection of ICDPPC conference host 2021	6
Discussion topics at closed session	6
Proposals for clarifications to the ICDPPC Rules and Procedures	6
ICDPPC Secretariat	7
Acknowledgements	7

Foreword by Elizabeth Denham CBE, ICDPPC Chair, Executive Committee 2018-2019 /UK Information Commissioner: Main achievements of the Executive Committee, 2018-2019

When I was appointed chair a year ago, I reflected there has never been a more important time for global coherence in data protection and privacy. My vision for the ICDPPC was for a global forum that could both support its members in their increasingly high-profile work, and develop a united voice on key issues.

We can reflect that our achievements over the past twelve months show strong progress towards that vision.

Perhaps most noticeable has been the progress towards a structure that reflects a move from a once-a-year conference to an organisation that can support members year round. Our working groups now join more closely with our overarching strategy, led by the Executive Committee, meaning we can progress issues between conferences.

Our voice is heard throughout the year. I've been proud to represent our group on the international stage at G20 in Japan and at IAPP in Washington, and Executive Committee members have represented us at regional networks including APPA (Asia-Pacific Privacy Authorities), the African Network and the Ibero-American Network, amongst others.

The ICDPPC now has a bigger and better regular newsletter, and we will be speaking in Tirana about a new name and logo that demonstrates that we are a group that supports one another year round. Data protection and privacy is too important an issue for our community to only engage with each other once a year.

The selection of our new name is a good example of the growing number of conversations we now enjoy between our annual meetings. The policy strategy we will discuss at ICDPPC 2019 in Tirana is the result of similar collaboration. It builds on the Resolution on a Roadmap on the Future of the Conference, which so many of you in this room contributed to in Brussels, as well as discussions of the Executive Committee, who met in March, representing every corner of the globe and so many regional forums.

The result is a proposed approach that reflects the expertise and advice of so many insightful members. It is a truly international document, and sets out a bold approach that builds on our collective history.

There is still much work to do, and this year's conference promises to be one of the most defining conferences in our 40-year history. We'll discuss the policy strategy, the future of the conference, and how we make sure our voice is heard when we see the next international data breach or the next emerging data protection challenge.

We've also responded to community feedback on the conference, notably with a practical AI session and updates from regional networks, reflecting the convergence and connectivity theme.

The ICDPPC remains a truly unique global forum, bringing together organisations playing a crucial role in data protection and privacy. I'm pleased to reflect that our work continue to make a difference.

The main achievements of the ICDPPC Executive Committee under my tenure as Chair have been:

- Increasing the Conference's voice and influence, including a new look communications and newsletter
- Delivering a new and ambitious Conference Strategic Plan and Policy Strategy
- Delivering the Future of the Conference roadmap resolution
- Listening to the ICDPPC community's needs for practical insights during a diversified closed session, including a practical approach at the AI session
- Optimising the ICDPPC Executive Committee ways of working with the ICDPPC Working Groups
- Optimising communications between conference members in between annual meetings
- Strengthened ICDPPC engagement with international and regional organisations and networks

Introduction: the Executive Committee’s mandate, and the role of the Executive Committee and the Secretariat

This annual report is the first annual report produced by Elizabeth Denham, Chair of the Executive Committee since her election at the Brussels 40th Conference in October 2018. This annual report is required by the conference Rules and Procedures, rule 2.2.(f).

The Committee derives its mandate principally from the [Conference Rules and Procedures](#). It also receives mandates from Conference resolutions and the Conference Strategic Plan, the latter which is due to be refreshed in October 2019. The Committee has roles both of a governance and operational nature.

The governance roles are exercised with, and subject to the conference closed session, while the operational roles are performed principally by the Secretariat. Some tasks are delegated to particular Committee members.

Composition - the members and past /future Conference Hosts

The 8th Executive Committee established at the 40th Conference is as follows:

Elizabeth Denham, Information Commissioner of UK (Chair)

- **Daniel Therrien**, Privacy Commissioner of Canada
- **Marguerite Ouedraogo Bonane**, President of CIL, Burkina Faso
- **Angelene Falk**, Australian Information Commissioner and Privacy Commissioner at the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
- **Raymund Enriquez Liboro**, Privacy Commissioner and Chairman, Philippines National Privacy Commission
- **Giovanni Buttarelli**, EDPS (following the death of this Member in August 2019, he was replaced by his Assistant Supervisor, Wojciech Wiewiorowski), (EDPS – Co-Host 2018) and **Ventsislav Karadjov**, Commission for Personal Data Protection, Bulgaria (Co-host 2018)
- **Besnik Dervishi**, Information and Data Protection Commissioner, Albania (Host 2019)
- **Francisco Javier Acuña Llamas**, President Commissioner, National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information and Protection of Personal Data (INAI), Mexico (Host 2020) (Observer to the Committee)

Tribute to Giovanni Buttarelli, European Data Protection Supervisor

Chair Elizabeth Denham and her colleagues on the Executive Committee of the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners (ICDPPC) would like to take this opportunity to recognise the great contribution from Giovanni Buttarelli to the international ICDPPC community. They issued a statement in August 2019 to express their sadness on the news of Giovanni Buttarelli’s death as follows:

“Mr Buttarelli, the European Data Protection Supervisor, was a truly inspiring figure in the international privacy community. A renowned legal scholar, he paved the way towards establishing strong standards of personal data protection, first in his home country through

his pivotal role in the drafting of Italian privacy law, and subsequently through his outstanding work on the international stage.

Mr Buttarelli brought his long experience and deep-felt humanity to bear in steering the work of the ICDPPC as a member of its Executive Committee. Nowhere was this more evident than in his role as co-host of the fantastic 40th ICDPPC Conference in October 2018, where he presided over an in-depth and creative examination of dignity and respect in data driven life. His sure guiding hand will be sorely missed, but his legacy will never be forgotten.

The Executive Committee would like to express its deepest sympathies to Mr Buttarelli's family, friends and colleagues."

High profile project: ICDPPC Policy Strategy and Conference Strategic Plan – Spotlight

A key objective in the Resolution on a Roadmap on the Future of the Conference, adopted at the 40th annual meeting in October 2018, is for the Conference to become a more effective platform for international cooperation and for policy influence, with the establishment of a permanent network advancing data protection and privacy at international level.

To strengthen the Conference's policy role and influence, members committed to adopt a "multi-annual policy strategy", as part of the Conference Strategic Plan for 2019-2021, to coordinate members' messages and positions towards Governments and decision-makers on key policy issues.

The Executive Committee therefore proposed a 3-year policy strategy, to dovetail with the 3-year Conference Strategic Plan, for adoption, after consultation with members, at the 41st Conference in October 2019. Executive Committee members held a workshop in London in March 2019 to discuss policy priorities, which were then put to the wider membership in a consultation.

The results of that consultation led to the Resolution on the Conference's Strategic Direction (2019-21), which was put to the membership for further consultation. The Executive Committee welcomes the wide range of diverse contributions received from the membership. The resolution has been developed to take account of those diverse member contributions and should include something for all. It is a resolution by the members, for the members.

This is a real and valuable opportunity for the ICDPPC to realise its potential. We all have limited resources available to address ever-increasing challenges on a global scale, so authorities need to work together to maximise our impact. The strategic plan and new policy strategy capture the ambition of members, transforming the ICDPPC into a more effective platform for international cooperation and policy influence – enhancing members' voice and influence, and adding real value to the privacy world. The policy strategy will create a clear, overarching framework and coherent rationale for work to be taken forward – focussing on regulatory co-operation as the heart of our work as data protection and privacy enforcement authorities.

In the strategy, regulatory co-operation is made up of three pillars: Global frameworks and standards; Enforcement co-operation; and Policy themes, and within each pillar are the actions that the members prioritised in the consultation.

Although we operate within different jurisdictions and have different mandates and approaches, the policy strategy, with regulatory co-operation at its centre, supports co-operation and collaboration when developing policy positions, guidance, tools and enforcement, to protect individuals wherever their data travels, and to ensure consistency and predictability in the system of oversight as data continues to flow.

Getting the new policy strategy adopted as part of the Conference Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2021 will be critical to achieving members' ambition to enhance ICDPPC's voice and influence in the international arena.

Executive Committee meetings

The Executive Committee has had a very full agenda, not least because of Future of the Conference workstreams, and the rolling out of a new Conference Strategic Plan. Therefore, the Committee more than met its responsibilities as set out in the rules and procedures, meeting a total of nine times, including a meeting complemented by a Policy Brainstorming workshop (see above for details on the Policy Strategy). The Committee met face-to-face on four occasions and by teleconference on five occasions. It should be considered for future whether a minimum of two meetings per year as set out in the Rules and Procedures is sufficient for such a strategic steering role to be effectively carried out.

Summaries of meetings as of April 2019 are recorded on the [ICDPPC website](#), which has helped to improve the transparency of the Committee's work. Meeting minutes are available upon request to the Secretariat.

Conference communications

The Conference Executive Committee relaunched the conference newsletter to a positive welcome amongst members and observers in January 2019. The newsletter knits together the experiences of the ICDPPC community and shines a light on the common and unique member projects to help educate and raise awareness, promote good practice and connect members and observers. All issues of the newsletter are available [HERE](#).

The Committee worked actively with the Albanian Host Authority to create relevant and timely promotion of the Tirana ICDPPC 2019 conference through social media Twitter and website presence. The ICDPPC Twitter account now has more than 2500 followers and counting, and more than 100 tweets during the year.

Relations with the ICDPPC Working Groups

The Executive Committee called on the six working groups of the conference to produce quarterly updates to check against progress in the run up to Tirana. Annual Working Group reports to the conference in Tirana were circulated to the membership in early September for the first time, following up on the Conference Roadmap and now conference Rules and Procedures commitments introduced at the 40th conference. If the resolution on the

Conference Strategic Direction is adopted in Tirana with the relevant enabling clause, then the Committee has the discretion to set up new Working Groups and is considering a sub-committee of the Executive Committee to oversee the proposed Policy Strategy which will be discussed at the 41st Conference. The Executive Committee offers its particular thanks to all authorities who have offered their time as Working Group Chairs in the past twelve months. Working Group reports will be published after the 41st conference [HERE](#).

Relations with the observers at international organisations

The ICDPPC was represented at APEC meetings by the NPC Philippines; at the Council of Europe, by the CNIL, France and then the EDPS, EU; at the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee by the OPC Canada, and at the OECD by the CNIL, France. Sincere thanks from the Committee go to all representatives at these meetings. This will feed into the reflections of the Executive Committee on the new Conference Strategic Plan.

Relations with the international networks

A wider range of international networks were featured for the first time in the Closed Session agenda in Tirana. More networks are now expressing their interest in becoming observers to the conference, some with reciprocal arrangements for observer status at the conference. This is an important sign of the conference's support and openness to exchange ideas with other relevant entities to the advancement of privacy and data protection authorities' regional and global thought leadership.

ICDPPC Global Data Protection and Privacy Awards

The ICDPPC Global Data Protection and Privacy Awards take a strong step forward in 2019, their third year, with an improvement to the system of voting for the winning entries, which takes account of feedback from previous years' awards to reduce burden on members and also shines a light on good practice. The Executive Committee conducted its shortlisting of the awards entries in September, with finalists being put forward for the People's Choice award to be awarded in Tirana.

Selection of ICDPPC conference host 2021

The Executive Committee ran its contest according to the Conference rules and procedures for hosting the conference in 2021. It was confirmed by the membership in August that New Zealand was the successful bidding authority. The Executive Committee looks forward to working with New Zealand, and expects to welcome them as an Observer to the Executive Committee for the coming year as of the 41st conference in Tirana, as was done with Mexico at the 40th Conference in 2018, ahead of the 2020 conference. The Committee's experience of working with Mexico to date in this Observer capacity has been very positive which will lead to the Chair's recommendation of continuation of such a practice with future hosts.

Discussion topics at closed session

The Committee recognised the utmost importance of listening carefully to feedback gathered from conference members regarding the conference's need to follow up on understanding the theory and its own Resolutions, with practical solutions that authorities

can try in their home territory. The Conference chose to single out principal aspects of the AI discussion and the 2018 Declaration on AI and Ethics, rounding up and exploring what practical steps authorities can now take. Small and large member authorities are also strongly encouraged to interact and share practical experiences in the Closed Session discussion on 'Running an Effective DPA'.

Proposals for clarifications to the ICDPPC Rules and Procedures

The Committee made a proposal to clarify the rules and procedures of the conference in relation to notifying the Executive Committee of their intention regarding the extension of their tenure.

The Committee recommends that the incoming committee considers introducing minor adjustments to ICDPPC Members/Observers (accreditation) rules in the coming year to give applicants more time between the application deadlines, the outcome of the Accreditation sub-committee's deliberations, and the Conference early bird registration deadline.

The ICDPPC Secretariat

The Secretariat has followed up on the intense work programme set forth by the 40th conference in Brussels regarding the update and preparation for ensuring the conference is fit for a larger membership and with the resources necessary to make its voice heard in an appropriate way, via the Future of the Conference workstreams and the roadmap adopted at the 40th conference.

The Secretariat has provided support to the Hosts of the 2019 ICDPPC in Tirana, Albania, including a fact finding mission completed in March to prepare for the conference and assistance with establishing the 2019 Programme Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Peter Hustinx, and the Albania IDP Hosts. The Secretariat also introduced a number of processes to develop a more joined up approach in the conference and increase transparency, notably in relation to the resolutions adoption process, the Conference future host selection, the Executive Committee tenure and the Global Awards.

With particular recognition of the work of Christine Ferguson, Hannah McCausland, Fabiana Marinaro, Annabelle McGuinness, Victoria Cetinkaya, Alain Kapper and Alex Delaney-Bhattacharya, Debora Biasutti, Hannah Smith, Dave Murphy and the ICO Communications Team for their contributions to the day-to-day running of the Secretariat.

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