



SUMMARY OF THE 63rd GPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Executive Committee Meeting: 25 March 2021

The meeting was chaired by Elizabeth Denham CBE, Information Commissioner, Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), UK, GPA Chair.

UPDATE FROM THE GPA STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Strategic Direction Sub-Committee (SDSC), Ms. Angelene Falk, Information Commissioner, Office of the Australian Information Commission (OAIC), provided an update regarding SDSC activity.

Since the Executive Committee meeting in November, the SDSC has held two meetings and Ulrich Kelber, The Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (BfDI), Germany has joined the Sub-Committee. The first meeting focused on planning and adopting the SDSC's Work Plan. Meeting 2 included a Working Group Deep Dive with four GPA Working Group Chairs.

The SDSC Chair provided a brief update on the SDSC workplan, comprising three themes:

- **Overseeing the Strategic Plan:**
 - Following discussions at the 17 March 2021 Workshop, the draft Strategic Plan 2021-2023 will be circulated for members' consultation.
- **Coordinating Strategic messaging:**
 - The slide deck used by GPA Representatives at external meetings has been revised to include some practical examples of current work; and
 - Part of the SDSC's role is to review the use of the Joint Statement mechanism since its adoption in October 2020; to advise on the process, facilitate its use and to co-ordinate the review of the mechanism, rather than consider the merits of the content. The SDSC will report back at the GPA 2021 Closed Session.
- **Facilitating strategic engagement:**
 - The SDSC will make proposals to enable the GPA to engage better with these networks.

GPA REFERENCE PANEL

The GPA Reference Panel Assessment Group, chaired by the UK, has completed its work. The panel application process was rerun after the 2020 Closed Session to encourage more geographic diversity, and to clarify the assessment criteria for candidates and the approach to shortlisting.



No objections were received during the all-GPA member consultation on the 16-member shortlist; therefore, the Executive Committee endorsed the shortlist. The GPA Chair noted this important step forward in the modernisation of the GPA and its outward-looking approach and thanked Ulrich Kelber, BfDI, Germany for agreeing to be the Reference Panel Chair.

43rd GPA 2021 CONFERENCE

The INAI, Mexico gave a presentation on its plans for hosting the GPA 2021 as a hybrid event, both online and in-person depending on individual circumstances/preferences. The decision arose from the results of a GPA member survey which confirmed that out of the member responses approximately 50% could be able to attend in person in Mexico City in October, with the remainder attending online. The new Reference Panel will act as the Programme Advisory Committee for the GPA 2021 Open Session.

GPA REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AS OBSERVER 2021-2023 REFRESH

The Executive Committee adopted the list of representatives which remains the same as for the past two years; the renewal of their term is until March 2021. The GPA has obtained observer status for the following international organisations. The GPA Member representative is also listed:

- [APEC](#) – National Privacy Commission, The Philippines
- [Council of Europe](#) – CNIL, France
- [International Organization for Standardization \(ISO\)](#) – National Privacy Commission, The Philippines
- [OECD](#) – European Data Protection Supervisor
- [UN Counter-Terrorism Committee](#) – Office of the Privacy Commissioner, Canada

WORKING GROUP ON COVID-19 RELATED PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION ISSUES

Privacy Commissioner, Raymund E. Liboro of the Philippines provided a written update to the Executive Committee on the work of the working group and the proposed draft Joint Statement on the use of health data for international and domestic travel purposes for review, consultation and publication by the Executive Committee.

GPA HOST BIDS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Information and Data Protection Commission, (IDP) Albania joined the Host Bids Sub-committee (as did Germany's Federal Commissioner after the meeting).