DUBAI INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE AUTHORITY
Summary of Covid-19 Lessons Learned Webinar, August 24, 2021

COVID-19 has presented unprecedented challenges for organizations over the past 16 months. It also presented an opportunity to use data in new and unforeseen ways, many of which will remain once the pandemic subsides globally. However, it was not just organizations that grappled with hard questions on data use brought to the fore by this crisis – data privacy regulators also had to act quickly and provide critical guidance on novel issues and relevant compliance obligations.

This roundtable looked back at how regulators and organizations handled the data use and privacy aspects of responding to the pandemic, as well as discussing key lessons learned from this experience and what it means moving forward. Regulators from DIFC and Jersey also presented the key findings of a recent study by the Global Privacy Assembly COVID-19 Taskforce.

As leaders of Taskforce sub-group 2 on Regulatory capacity building, the objectives for the webinar were focused on identifying the most common issues, asking questions such as how can apps (contract tracing and others) help us after the pandemic is over; what happens next, do we continue using such apps for example, or will the "purpose" principle no longer apply when this is all over?; how do we as regulators develop faith of our constituents in the "new normal" privacy culture and processes?

The Centre for Information Policy Leadership (CIPL) kindly provided its resources and think tank power to creating a vibrant, interesting debate between top industry privacy experts and regulators from smaller jurisdictions managing very big privacy issues.

The agenda was as follows:

Opening Remarks

❖ **Bojana Bellamy**, President, CIPL

Regulatory Response to COVID-19

Spring and summer of 2020 was hallmarked in the data protection regulatory space by an influx of guidance globally on how organizations can use and manage data to address a myriad of issues from processing personal data for health research to ensuring appropriate security for remote working operations to sharing data with public health officials and government agencies. During this session, data privacy regulators will present the results of a recently conducted Global Privacy Assembly COVID-19 Taskforce Regulatory Capacity "Lessons Learned" Survey, designed to understand what regulators did right and what they could have done better during the pandemic. The discussion will also reflect on the key lessons learned and what this means for data protection regulation going forward.

❖ **Lori Baker,** VP, Legal & Director of Data Protection, Dubai DIFC
❖ **Paul Vane,** Commissioner, Jersey Information Commissioner's Office

Organizational Perspectives on New Data Uses Post COVID-19

COVID-19 has accelerated digital transformation for practically every organization. Companies are using data in new and more efficient ways and privacy considerations have become even more critical to ensuring success. This session will discuss key lessons learned for data management policies and compliance as a result of the crisis and provide insights into how organizations are using data in new ways, both from an innovation standpoint and a social impact perspective. Organizations will also discuss new opportunities and challenges they are facing as more of the population is getting vaccinated and thinking about the return to work, the continuation of remote services, and as the world starts to re-open.

❖ Moderator: **Bojana Bellamy**, President, CIPL
❖ **Vivienne Artz**, Chief Privacy Officer, London Stock Exchange Group
❖ **Dana Simberkoff**, Chief Risk, Privacy and Information Security Officer, Avepoint
❖ **Christina Montgomery**, Chief Privacy Officer, AI Ethics Board Chair, IBM

The Lessons Learned report is available at the following link on the GPA website:

https://globalprivacyassembly.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/GPA-C-19-WG-and-CIPL-Lessons-Learned.pdf

https://globalprivacyassembly.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Covid-19-regulatory-capacity-survey-results-final-WG2-report.pdf