



GPA

Global Privacy Assembly

Digital Economy Working Group

Report – September 2022

(CNDP) Commission Nationale de contrôle de la protection des Données à caractère Personnel – Morocco

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1. Background

The digital economy is, today, a vector of growth, productivity and competitiveness of companies and countries. Its transversal character impacts all sectors of the economy, it is also at the origin of new innovative sectors and has made others dependent on it.

The establishment of the DEWG (Digital Economy Working Group) results from the [2019 Resolution on the Conference's Strategic Direction](#). Its past activities include:

1. [The activity report of 2020](#) which also includes a background paper developed to explain how data protection and privacy regulation provides safeguards for the public and supports trust in the digital economy. This report also provided some examples which might also be relevant to the topic of surveillance in the context of the digital economy, such as consumer wearables, virtual assistants and micro-targeting;
2. [The activity report of 2021](#) which summarises the main engagement activities that were undertaken, using the background paper as a basis for the engagement.

Following its appointment to chair the Working Group on March 30th, 2022, Mr. President Seghrouchni of the CNDP of Morocco has held a scoping meeting on May 19th, 2022 with Mr. Brendan Van Alsenoy, former Chair of the DEWG, in order to review the latest work of the group, provide an overview of current tasks, draw up a list of members, discuss relevant stakeholders and provide any other information that the CNDP may need to conduct its first meeting as Chair of the DEWG

This Working Group has not met since May 2021. The CNDP of Morocco has tried to revitalize this group by organizing a meeting, but to no avail since it had some difficulties to reach all the members.

For this reason, we have proposed to hold the first meeting of the DEWG since the appointment of the CNDP alongside the GPA's Annual meeting, in Istanbul.

Furthermore, the following pages outline the core elements of the DEWG, namely its mandate, objectives, key issues to be covered and its members.

2. Mandate and objectives

The establishment of the Digital Economy Working Group results from the 2019 Resolution on the Conference's Strategic Direction. This is the Policy Strategy to implement the first strategic priority, "Advancing Global Privacy in a Digital Age", which works towards a global regulatory environment with clear and consistently high standards of data protection. The second priority 'Maximizing the Conference's voice and influence' will be crucial in taking these priorities out into the outside world.

The policy themes specify the areas which the conference will prioritize in order to address the strategic priority 3 "Capacity Building for the Conference and its Members".

This resolution has also assessed the vision of the Assembly which is: *"An environment in which privacy and data protection authorities around the world are able effectively to act to fulfil their mandates, both individually and in concert, through diffusion of knowledge and supportive connections"*.

The 2021-2023 strategic plan of the GPA makes the digital economy a priority, as stated:

"The reality and challenges of the global digital economy continue to highlight the need for mechanisms to ensure that personal data is protected wherever it is processed and flows".

"The growing digital economy is driving increasing volumes and scope of data collection. As society increasingly operates online, concerns have persisted about global online platforms, and their breadth of access to, and control of, personal data. These issues should remain high on the GPA's agenda, alongside the recognition that data protection and privacy authorities cannot regulate alone and, especially where there may be other overlapping or intersecting regulatory regimes, must cooperate with regulators from other sectors".

3. Current Working Group members

	Country	Organization
Members	Morocco (Chair)	Commission Nationale de contrôle de la protection des Données à caractère Personnel (CNDP)
	United Kingdom	Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)
	France	Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés (CNIL)
	Luxembourg	Commission Nationale pour la Protection des Données (CNPDP)
	Philippines	National Privacy Commission (NPC)
	Turkey	Personal Data Protection Authority (KVKK)
	Gabon	Commission Nationale pour la Protection des Données à Caractère Personnel (CNPDCP)
	Mexico	Instituto Nacional de Transparencia, Acceso a la Información y Protección de Datos Personales (INAI)
	European organisations	European Data Protection Board (EDPB)
	USA	Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
	San Marino	Autorità Garante per la Protezione dei Dati Personali (San Marino Data Protection Authority)
	Senegal	Commission de Protection des Données Personnelles (CDP)
	Côte d'Ivoire	Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications/TIC (ARTCI)
	Germany	Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (BfDI)
	Macao	Gabinete para a Protecção de Dados Pessoais (GPDP) Office for Personal Data Protection
	Argentina	National Access to Public Information Agency (AAIP)
Burkina Faso	Commission de l'Informatique et des Libertés (CIL)	
Andorra	Agència Andorrana de Protecció de Dades (APDA)	
Observers	Qatar	Qatar Financial Centre (QFC)

4. Key themes

As stated in the report of July 2021, the Digital Economy Working Group intends to focus on surveillance technologies, as outlined in the GPA strategic plan for 2021-2023.

In particular, the Working Group intends to identify and consider topics of focus relating to surveillance of citizens and consumers in the digital economy, such as advertising technologies, web scraping, smart cities and connected vehicles, and monitoring of mobile workers.

As part of its new mandate, the Working Group will also consider emerging technologies relating to this area of work and any potential privacy or data protection concerns.

Finally, the Working Group aims to deepen engagement with existing stakeholders by actively seeking new activities for more significant impact, voice and influence, in coordination with the Strategic Direction Sub-Committee.