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**82nd GPA Executive Committee Agenda**

**Thursday 19 September 2024**

**Timing 8:00 (UTC -6)**

**Attendees:**

Chair: Josefina Román Vergara (Commissioner at INAI Mexico)

Bermuda: Alexander White, Commissioner

Bulgaria: Hristo Alaminov, in representation of Chairman Ventsislav Karadjov

Germany: Marc Schlegel, Izumi Kneer and Stefan Niederer in representation of Commissioner Louisa Specht-Riemenschneider

Jersey: Paul Vane, Commissioner

Korea: Yoon Jeong Choi, in representation of Chairperson Haksoo Ko

Mexico:               Josefina Román Vergara, Commissioner

Morocco: Omar Seghrouchni, President Commissioner

Philippines: Lee Anne Santos Javier, Executive Assistant IV of the National Privacy

Commission

**Secretariat:** Rolan Haroldo Sánchez Moran, General Director of International Affairs at INAI

1. **Welcome and review of the agenda and 81st meeting action reviews**

* The meeting´s agenda was unanimously adopted without any amendments or objections.
* The 81st meeting minutes were unanimously adopted.

1. **Presentation on Jersey Advancements as the Host for the 46th GPA 2024**

* Commissioner Paul Vane informed that the organization of the conference is nearing complete, with just over five weeks remaining. He was noted that the Open Session program is now finalized and has been posted on the conference website. Confirmation from two additional speakers is pending, after which the full program will be complete.
* It was reported that the sponsorship outlook is very positive, with strong interest from several major organizations eager to participate in the conference. Commissioner Paul Vane expressed satisfaction with the progress in this area and welcomed any further questions from the Executive Committee.

1. **Presentation of the 46th GPA Closed Session Agenda**

* The Chair presented the progress on the Closed Session Agenda. The session will begin with delegate registration at 9:00 AM, followed by the Welcome Ceremony at 9:30 AM. Shortly after, the assembly will move into governance matters, including the accreditation of new members and observers, and the presentation of the SDSC's annual report.
* The agenda will also feature updates from the GPA Working Groups, a keynote on bias in artificial intelligence and vulnerable groups, and reports from partner organizations, as well as the GPA Presidency and Secretariat report from INAI, Mexico. There will be a series of quick talks on disruptive technologies such as deepfakes and cyber surveillance, followed by a panel on regional challenges of these technologies. Parallel training sessions on topics like cybersecurity and neurotechnologies will be held in the afternoon, with a workshop summary wrapping up the first day.
* The second day will begin with a review of the previous day's highlights, followed by a panel on children's rights in the metaverse. Key reports, including a video message on ethical governance of human-centric AI, will be presented. Parallel sessions and the Berlin Group report will also take place before concluding with governance matters, such as the announcement of the 2024-2025 Executive Committee members and the adoption of GPA resolutions. The day will end with the Closing Ceremony in the afternoon.

1. **Presentation of the second quarterly financial report of the National Privacy Commission of Philippines as the appointed Secretariat**

* Lee Anne Javier Santos under the leadership of Privacy Commissioner John Henry Teehankee, from the NPC, presented the second financial report as the appointed Secretariat. As of this date, the total collection from membership fees amounts to $98,821, with outstanding collectables totalling $127,389. These figures are already net of bank charges and an interest of approximately $5 from the Philippine bank.
* There was an increase in collectables, due in part to some authorities receiving invoices after verification, which had initially been missed in the records. As a result, collections increased by $30,000 from the first to the second quarter and by $5,000 from the second to the third quarter. However, only 35% of members have paid their fees so far, and 83 authorities are still pending payment. To date, 15 formal acknowledgment receipts have been issued for verified payments, while 33 authorities are still pending verification as they have not yet submitted their proof of payment.
* It was noted that one of the causes for delays in payment could be that invoices were sent to general email addresses and failed to reach the appropriate contacts. Additionally, the deadline set for December 31, 2024, may have reduced the sense of urgency among some authorities. Other challenges include limited payment options, as some members expressed difficulty with bank transfers and requested credit card payment options, which are not currently available.
* The NPC and the subcommittee are working to increase collections before the deadline through newsletters, working group meetings, and announcements during the assembly’s closed session. Regular email reminders will also be sent. The full financial report will be submitted to the DPA Secretariat for review and shared with the Executive Committee for further examination.
* Commissioner Omar Seghrouchni raised a question regarding the possibility of issuing an invoice with both a signature and a stamp, as it appears this has not been feasible.
* On behalf of the Bulgarian Commission for Personal Data Protection, a clarification was also sought regarding the financial report, specifically confirming that as of the third week of September, 65% of GPA members, or 83 members, had not yet paid their fees.

1. **Winner of the Giovanni Buttarelli Award 2024**

* The Chair presented an update on the Giovanni Buttarelli Award, highlighting that the voting for the Award concluded on August 30 with 44 responses. Bruno Gencarelli won with 17 votes.
* The Buttarelli family and the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) were informed of the results, and Bruno Gencarelli has confirmed his attendance at the 46th GPA.

1. **Results of the voting process of the GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Award 2024**

* The Chair presented the results of the voting process of the GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Award 2024 highlighting that a total of 61 projects were submitted for the GPA Awards 2024, distributed across four categories: 37 projects for "Public Education and Awareness," 12 for "Innovation," 8 for "Accountability," and 4 for "Dispute Resolution and Enforcement."
* Voting concluded on September 13, and the winners are as follows:
* **Category A (Public Education and Awareness):** A4, Catalan Data Protection Authority
* **Category B (Innovation):** B12, Spanish Data Protection Agency (AEPD)
* **Category C (Accountability):** C1, Agency for Access to Public Information (AAIP)
* **Category D (Dispute Resolution and Enforcement):** D1, Office of the Information Commissioner (ICO UK)
* The **People´s Choice Award** was also won by B12, AEPD.
* Two duplicate votes were removed, with the first submission being accepted. The voting process saw competitive participation, and the GPA is proud of the member engagement.

1. **Executive Committee Elections**

* Regarding the elections for the Executive Committee, it was noted that the following authorities have submitted their applications to join:
* The Personal Data Protection Agency of Armenia.
* The Information Regulator of South Africa (IRSA).
* The Dubai International Financial Centre.
* Currently, there is no information available on the voting results, as the voting deadline has been extended to September 25 at the request of some authorities.

1. **New members and observers´ recommendation - GPA Accreditation Subcommittee**

* The committee received 8 membership applications from the following authorities: Astana International Financial Centre; the Personal Data Protection Authority of Mauritania; the Access to Information and Personal Data Protection Institute of Quintana Roo; the Transparency, Access to Information and Personal Data Protection Institute of Tamaulipas; the National Cybersecurity Agency; the Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe; the Data Protection Office of the Qatar Financial Centre; and Data Protection Office of Uganda.
* Additionally, 5 applications for observer status were submitted by the World Bank, Consumers International (UK), Financial Stability Board, Global Online Safety Regulators Network (GOSRN), and National Data Protection Authority of Somalia.
* These applications will be reviewed by the Accreditation Subcommittee, which will send its recommendations after thorough evaluation.

1. **AOB**

* The Chair addressed additional matters of interest. First, it was noted that, in accordance with Section 3.1 of the GPA Rules and Procedures, an invitation was extended to the Office of the Privacy of Jersey to continue serving as a member of the Executive Committee for an additional two-year term (2024-2026). In response to this invitation, a favourable reply was received, confirming their acceptance to continue during the specified period.
* Commissioner Paul Vane expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve an additional term on the Executive Committee. He emphasized the importance of the work of the GPA, particularly for the small island of Jersey.
* Furthermore, the Chair noted the termination of the membership of the Office of the Information Commissioner of the Northern Territory of Australia. Due to insufficient resources, they are unable to cover the GPA membership fee and have decided to withdraw. It was informed that the GPA Secretariat contacted the Office of the Information Commissioner of Australia to seek their assistance in encouraging the Northern Territory Office to remain a member. However, they indicated that, as an independent entity, they cannot guarantee success in this matter.
* For its part, Commissioner Alexander White noted that the current chair of the reference panel's term is concluding, and the new chair must be a member of the Executive Committee. As the current chair will no longer be a member by the next meeting, members were invited to express their interest in serving as the reference panel chair so that this selection can be addressed at the upcoming meeting.
* The representative of Germany expressed concern about the changes outlined in the resolution to modify the rules and procedures, in particular the voting process during closed sessions, and suggested that certain aspects be reviewed before proceeding with the modifications.
* The Chair reiterated that the primary objective of the rule changes is the introduction of a new Secretariat, which will help clarify the roles and responsibilities within the organization.
* Member suggestions were taken into account. It was proposed that the draft resolution, with the inclusion of member feedback, be circulated for review. Further discussion on the voting process will take place during the Closed Session.