iSupport Governing Body 26 June 2023 online meeting
Summary of discussions

The meeting was attended by representatives of the European Commission, Brazil, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the European Union Bailiffs Foundation (EUBF) and the National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA). The Permanent Bureau (PB) was represented by First Secretary Philippe Lortie (PL) and iSupport coordinator Jean-Marc Pellet (JMP). The meeting was chaired by Paulo Gonçalves (Portugal).

I.   2023 EU call for proposals

1   The coordinator announced that a response to the EU 2023 call for proposals for action grants to promote judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters was submitted in April for a new iSupport project. He highlighted the importance of Voluntary Contributions to supplement EU funding and thanked participants which have already pledged funds to this effect.

II.   Implementation agreement and sharing of maintenance costs

2   Germany made several comments on the draft document "230609 Implementation Agreement w TC". The PB will circulate those comments with drafting proposals. The coordinator clarified that this Agreement would be used from September 2023.

3   In respect of the document "iSupport maintenance fee 2021-2023", Brazil indicated not being in a position to contribute. An amended version of the document will be circulated along with this summary. PL noted this development and hoped that the conclusion of an Agreement would facilitate payments in future.

III.   Update on the installation of iSupport and e-CODEX, plans for the integration of e-CODEX components

4   The coordinator indicated that successful testing took place between the sandbox and Germany. Work on the integration of e-CODEX components in iSupport is continuing. Sweden and Germany plan to start bilateral testing in September. The coordinator also reminded participants that technical support continues to be available. The Czech Republic announced plans to install iSupport.

5   After the meeting, the coordinator was informed that the Central Testing Platform (CTP) for iSupport is almost ready.

IV.   Implementation of the EU Regulation on e-CODEX and update on the EU digitalisation Regulation, working arrangement with eu-LISA

6   The European Commission indicated that the negotiations were continuing on the digitalisation Regulation and that it was still too early to say when exactly the Regulation would be adopted.

7   In respect of the arrangement with eu-LISA, it has already been shared informally with the European Commission. It highlighted the need to be in line with Article 17: the aim of the agreement is solely technical support and there should be no budgetary impact for the EU. PL

remarked that interacting only with the HCCH would increase efficiency for eu-LISA when it came to support for iSupport users in the European Union. He envisaged two solutions: for the HCCH to be subrogated in the rights of EU States when it comes to support for iSupport. This could be regulated by the implementation agreement discussed earlier in the meeting. A second possibility would be for regular coordination meetings to be held involving designated eu-LISA / eCODEX correspondents and Members of the iSupport Governing Body.

V.   Plans for iSupport ITMF

8   The PB will circulate a questionnaire with responses until 25 August. A working group meeting will take place on 12 September.

VI.   2-factor authentication and single sign-on

9   Sweden invited participants to share their experience and requirements in terms of 2-factor authentication. A representative from Sweden remarked that users are currently managed manually in iSupport and asked whether other States would be interested in integrating their user store with iSupport.