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MEETING DOCUMENT

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society
Subject:	Interoperable Europe Act: NL proposals

Delegations will find in the annex the NL proposals.

Interoperable Europe Act - Proposals

The Netherlands, Friday 27 January 2023

1. Central Public Services Registry

When the portal is going to showcase dozens if not hundreds of interoperability solutions, useability of the portal is very important. We suggest to create a central registry of public services that use cross-border interoperable network and information systems. This registry would be used to...

1. Categorize interoperability solutions
2. Categorize interoperability assessments
3. Provide metadata to these services, like the legal basis of these services, as well as references to applicable vocabularies and standards.
4. Monitor interoperability in a more efficient and effective manner

Why?

Because the organizations that need to implement software for specific services as mandated by specific laws need to be able to easily find reusable solutions, standards and documentation. This registry should preferably be maintained centrally, in order to have continuously updated records, close to the source. Distributing the responsibility for the contents of the registry would mean that no one will feel ownership, resulting in disuse.

For this, we propose the following changes:

- Art 2
Add a definition for the Central Public Services Registry
 - o Text suggestion:
'central public services registry' means a centrally maintained registry of public services that are to be enabled with cross-border interoperability, accompanied with references to the legal basis and applicable vocabularies and standards.
- Art 3(4)
Include a reference to the Central Public Services Registry on every assessment
 - o Text suggestion (add a sub)
a reference to legal basis of the public service(s), which this system enables, preferably by referring to the Central Public Services Registry;
- Art 4(1)
Add to the first paragraph that a interoperability solution should include a reference to the public service(s) it implements.
 - o Text suggestion (insert underlined piece):
The shared content shall include the technical documentation, references to the services from the Central Public Services Registry it implements and, where applicable, the documented source code.
- Art 8(1)
The Central Public Services Registry should be accessible on the Portal
 - o Text suggestion (add a function):
Access to the Central Public Services Registry, with references to their legal basis and other information that are useful for developing solutions for this service.
- Art 15(4)
Add a new task for the Board

- Text suggestion:
maintain the central public services registry
- Art 20(2)b
Also monitor implementations for specific public services
 - Text suggestion (add underlined)
the take-up of the interoperability solutions in different sectors, for different public services, across the Member States, and at local level;

2. Guidelines for sharing of interoperability solutions

Just like the Interoperable Europe Board will adopt guidelines on the content of the interoperability assessment, we propose that there will also be guidelines on sharing of interoperability solutions, to ensure all shared solutions have a minimal set of common elements, which allows them to be comparable and easier to find and monitor. This is in line with recommendation 8.2 from the Sharing and Reuse Framework for IT Solutions¹.

Why?

Metadata that is gathered from these guidelines can be used to increase findability of solutions on the portal. Like the aforementioned Sharing and Reuse Framework mentions: Common registries should provide guidance on entering records into the registry. Practical check lists lower the threshold to participate in sharing of solutions.

For this, we propose the following changes:

- Art 4
Introduce the guidelines for sharing
 - Add a new paragraph:
The Interoperable Europe Board shall adopt guidelines on the sharing of interoperability solutions by ... at the latest [one year after the entry into force of this Regulation], including practical check lists.
- Art 15(4)
Define a task to adopt guidelines
 - Add a task
adopt guidelines on sharing the interoperability solutions referred to in Article 4(t.b.d.);

¹ https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/custom-page/attachment/2017-10/sharing_and_reuse_of_it_solutions_framework_final.pdf