

Meeting: 9th SSN / LRIT Group Meeting

Place and date: Videoconferencing, 25 May 2021

Agenda item: Phasing out of the XML protocol

Document number: SSN/LRIT 9.4.3

Submitted by EMSA

Summary	Presents a proposal for phasing out of the XML protocol.
Action to be taken	As per paragraph 3.
Related documents	8 th SSN LRIT Group meeting report (action point 1)

1 Background

The phasing out of the “proprietary” XML interface was proposed by EMSA in 2017 but the HLSG decided to postpone it because of the impact on some MS’ national systems and the development of SSN v4. The 8th SSN LRIT Group meeting (October 2020) discussed the issue and agreed again to postpone the phasing out of the “proprietary” XML protocol.

The SSN “proprietary” XML interface was initially set-up in 2004 in SSN v1. When SSN v2 was developed in 2009, a SOAP interface was added to align to industry best practices and the “proprietary” XML interface was maintained. Although the “proprietary” XML interface serves the same scope of data exchanges as the SOAP interface, it implies an additional maintenance effort and complexity to the central SSN system. In addition, it does not offer the same level of support as the SOAP for the transition between major versions of SSN.

14 Member States currently use the “proprietary” XML interface: Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal and Romania.

2 Proposal

SSN v5 will be made available in the production environment in December 2021. To facilitate the transition, it is foreseen that SSN v4 messages will be supported until December 2023. The next major SSN release v6, is foreseen to address the requirements from the EMSWe Regulation. The requirements are not yet defined, but the date for the implementation of the EMSWe Regulation is set to August 2025.

EMSA proposes to proceed with the phasing out the “proprietary” XML by **August 2024** when SSN development will be between SSN v5 and SSN v6.

3 Actions required

Member States are invited to agree on the proposed date of **August 2024** for the phasing out of the “proprietary” XML protocol.