

# Annual Activity Report 2021

Annexes

Legal Service

### **Table of Contents**

| ANNEX 2:                  | Performance tables  | 4   |
|---------------------------|---|-----|
| ANNEX 3:                  | Draft annual accounts and financial reports   | 13  |
| ANNEX 4:                  | Financial Scorecard   | 23  |
| ANNEX 5:                  | Materiality criteria  | 25  |
| ANNEX 6:                  | Relevant Control Systems for budget implementation (RCSs)   | .26 |
| ANNEX 7:                  | Specific annexes related to "Financial Management"  | .31 |
| ANNEX 8:<br>internal con  | Specific annexes related to "Assessment of the effectiveness of th  |     |
| ANNEX 9:<br>Reservation:  | Specific annexes related to "Control results" and "Assurancs"   |     |
| ANNEX 10:<br>managemer    | Reporting – Human resources, digital transformation and information and sound environmental management                                    |     |
| ANNEX 11:<br>and bodies ( | Implementation through national or international public-sector bodie governed by private law with a public sector mission (if applicable) |     |
| ANNEX 12:                 | EAMR of the Union Delegations (if applicable)   | 39  |
| ANNEX 13:                 | Decentralised agencies and/or EU Trust Funds (if applicable)  | .40 |
| ANNEX 14:                 | Reporting on the Recovery and Resilience Facility   | .41 |

### ANNEX 1: Statement of the Head of Unit in charge of Risk **Management and Internal Control**

I declare that in accordance with the Commission's communication on the internal control framework (1), I have reported my advice and recommendations on the overall state of internal control in the Legal Service to the Director-General.

I hereby certify that the information provided in the present Annual Activity Report and in its annexes is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and complete.

Brussels at March 22, 2022

Electronic signature in ARES

William O'Leary Head of Unit HR, IT and Finance and RMIC

<sup>(1)</sup> C(2017)2373 of 19.04.2017.

### **ANNEX 2: Performance tables**

General objective 7: A modern high performing and sustainable European Commisson Impact indicator 1: Image of the European Commission Source of the data: Standard Eurobarometer 95 Baseline Interim Milestone (1) **Target** Latest known results (2022)(2021)(2019)(2024)43% (EU 27) increase 45% increase

This indicator is based on the question 'In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or negative image?' The indicator gives the share of positive and fairly positive views on this question.

| Impact indicator 2: Staff engagement index in the Commission Source of the data: European Commission |                             |                      |                                |  |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Baseline<br>(2018)   | Interim Milestone<br>(2022) | <b>Target</b> (2024) | Latest known results<br>(2021) |  |
| 69% EC rate  | increase                    | increase             | 72%                            |  |
| 73% Legal Service rate   | increase                    | increase             | 76%                            |  |

Staff engagement measures staff's emotional, cognitive and physical connection to the job, organisation and thepeople within it.

| Impact indicator 3: Percentage of female representation in the Commission  Source of the data: DG HR |                             |                      |                                |  |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Baseline<br>(2019)   | Interim Milestone<br>(2022) | <b>Target</b> (2024) | Latest known results<br>(2021) |  |
| 40.5%  | increase                    | >=50%                | 45%                            |  |

This indicator gives the percentage of female representation at middle and senior management level in the European Commission.

| Impact indicator 4: Environmental performance in the Commission  Source of the data: ES_2021_Results_2020_Corporate_Summary (europa.eu) (Page 17) |        |                                     |        |  |
|---|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|--|
| Baseline Interim Milestone Target Latest known results  |        |                                     |        |  |
| (2014)  | (2022) | (2024)                              | (2020) |  |
| 0.24 tonnes/ person of non-hazardous waste  | -9.7   | -26% or - 0.17<br>(tonnes / person) | -0.1   |  |

<sup>(1)</sup> In case of short- or medium-term objectives (all targets are set to be achieved in less than 3 years) the milestones column should be deleted from the table.

This indicator looks at percentage reductions compared to 2014 levels. It gives the weighted average for eight Commission sites participating in the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) on specific core parameters. The sites are Commission buildings in Brussels and Luxembourg, as well as JRC sites Geel (Belgium), Petten (the Netherlands), Seville (Spain), Karlsruhe (Germany), and Ispra (Italy), along with DG SANTE at Grange (Ireland).

| General objective  | <b>6</b> : A push for Eur | A push for European democracy   |                      |  |  |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|----------------------|--|--|
| Impact indicator 8 |                           | Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the European Union  |                      |  |  |
| Source of the data | a: Flash Eurobard         | Flash Eurobarometer n° 489 Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the EU among the general public. |                      |  |  |
| Baseline           | Interim Milestone         | Target  | Latest known results |  |  |
| (2019)             | (2022)                    | (2024)  | (2021)               |  |  |
| 56% (EU 2/28)      | increase                  | increase  | 54%                  |  |  |

This indicator measures the percentage of the general public that perceives the independence of national justice systems as very or fairly good.

### 1.1 Legal Advice

| Specific obje  Result indica  Source of the | ar<br>to<br><b>tor 1.1</b> : R           | e transparent and<br>the EU citizens. | l high quality to e       | Council and the Parliament insure full benefit of rules  Administrative spending ission DGs and Services |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Baseline</b> (2020) 93%                  | Interim Milestone (²) (2022) >92%        |                                       | <b>Target</b> (2024) >92% | Latest known results<br>(2021)<br>88%  |
| Main outputs Other import                   |  |                                       |                           |  |
| Output                                      |  | Indicator                             | Target                    | Latest known results<br>(situation on 31/12/2021)  |
|   | track consultations<br>normally 48hours) | Reply rate                            | 100%                      | 100%   |
| Reply to Parliame within deadline           | entary questions                         | Reply rate                            | 99%                       | 99%  |

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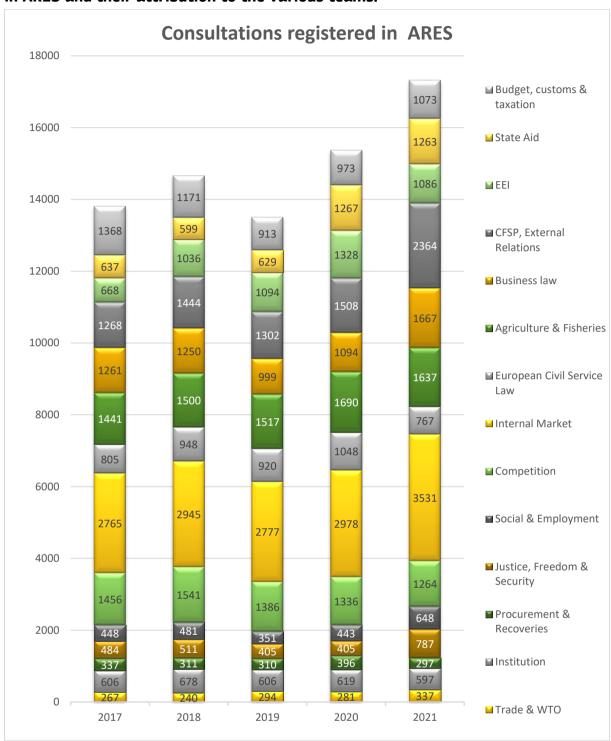
The column should be deleted if only short-and medium term (less than 3 years) targets are set.

Table 1 below presents the evolution of the number of consultation requests per different category and their respective reply rate for 2021.

| Number of consultations and reply rates |        |        |        |        |        |      |  |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|--|
|   | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | ļ    |  |
| ARES                                    | 13.811 | 14.655 | 13.503 | 15.336 | 17.318 | n/a  |  |
| Decide                                  | 8.624  | 8.963  | 8.002  | 8.923  | 10.536 | 82%  |  |
| Fast track                              | 157    | 207    | 152    | 144    | 112    | 100% |  |
| Requests to Access to documents         | 250    | 225    | 275    | 209    | 205    | 100% |  |
| Requested number of documents (         | 709    | 593    | 635    | 524    | 477    | n/a  |  |
| Parliamentary questions                 | 7.365  | 6.264  | 4.400  | 6.853  | 5.681  | 99%  |  |
| Petition                                | 988    | 812    | 729    | 768    | 832    | 90%  |  |
| Ombudsman                               | 70     | 73     | 65     | 39     | 31     | 55%  |  |
| Consolidated average reply rate         | 93%    | 91%    | 93%    | 93%    | 88%    |      |  |

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of Decide consultations has increased by 18% compared to 2020 and with a total of 32% compared to 2019.

### Graph A below presents the evolution of the number of consultations registered in ARES and their attribution to the various teams.



Graph A: Evolution of consultations registered in ARES per year and legal team (Source: ARES)

The number of consultations received and registered in ARES increased by 13% compared to 2020, and an all-time high figure for the second year in a row with a total increase since 2019 of 28%.

### 1.2 Infringements procedures (consultations)

### Table 2 presents the evolution of Infringement procedures. Over the past two years, there is an increase of 33,5% for on-going infringement procedures.

| Number of Infringement procedures managed by the Legal Service per year |       |       |       |       |       |  |  |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|
| 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021  |       |       |       |       |       |  |  |
| New   | 716   | 710   | 797   | 903   | 807   |  |  |
| Closed  | 874   | 644   | 805   | 757   | 736   |  |  |
| On-going  | 1.831 | 1.581 | 1.564 | 1.786 | 2.088 |  |  |

Table 2: Number of Infringement procedures (Source: NIF database)

#### Graph B below presents the evolution of infringement procedures by subject.



Graph B: Evolution of Infringement procedures (consultations) (Source: NIF database)

The number of on-going infringement consultations has increased by 17% compared to 2020, and an all-time high figure for the second year in a row with a total increase since 2019 of 32%.

### Table 3 below presents the evolution of Infringement court cases over the past five years.

### Number of Infringement court cases registered by the Legal Service per year

|                      | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| New cases            | 37   | 58   | 34   | 16   | 19   |
| Closed cases         | 27   | 53   | 35   | 33   | 23   |
| Of which "Radiation" | 9    | 21   | 9    | 3    | 3    |
| On-going cases       | 48   | 58   | 57   | 40   | 36   |

Table 3: Number of Infringement court cases (Source: THEMIS database).

### 1.3 Quality of Legislation

**Specific objective 1:** Legal proposals for adoption by the Council and the Parliament are transparent and high quality to ensure full benefit of rules to the EU citizens.

Administrative spending

**Result indicator 1.2:** Contribution to ensure that draft legal proposals are of high

linguistic quality when they are sent to the Council and

European Parliament for adoption

**Source of the data:** Decide, Commission Agenda planning

| Baseline  | Interim Milestone | Target                   | Latest known results                   |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------|--|
| (2020r)   | (2022)            | (2024), annual<br>target | (2021)                                 |
| All selected draft legal proposals to undergo legal revision            | maintain          | 100%                     | 2.243 legal acts selected and reviewed |
| All identified acts to be codified as of the Commission agenda planning | maintain          | 100%                     | 3 acts codified representing 100%      |

#### Main outputs in 2021:

#### Other important outputs

| Output  | Indicator                             | Target | Latest known results      |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
|   |                                       | (2024) | (situation on 31/12/2021) |
| Legal revisions in two or more official languages | Number of texts selected and reviewed | >100   | 112                       |
| Corrigenda texts                                  | Number of texts selected and reviewed | >250   | 400                       |

Table 4 below presents the evolution of the work performed by the LEG team over the past five years.

| Number of legal texts dealt with by the Quality of Legislation team per year |        |        |        |        |        |        |  |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|
|  | 2017   | 2018   | 2019   | 2020   | 2021   | Target |  |
| Selected draft legal proposals from <i>Decide</i>                            | 1.487  | 1.675  | 1.403  | 1695   | 1.843  | 1.800  |  |
| % of total proposals in Decide   | 19%    | 21%    | 18%    | 19%    | 21%    | -      |  |
| Of which revised in >2 official languages                                    | 98     | 150    | 150    | 89     | 112    | >100   |  |
| Number of corrigenda   | 420    | 303    | 394    | 395    | 400    | >250   |  |
| Codified texts from the<br>Commission Agenda Planning                        | 6      | 4      | 3      | 5      | 3      | 3      |  |
| Number of pages reviewed   | 32.000 | 61.000 | 38.000 | 40.816 | 50.762 | 38.000 |  |

Table 4: Number of texts revised (Sources: Decide and Jurrev)

### 1.4 Legal Representation

| Specific objective 2:  | Guarding the Treaties and defending the interests of the European Commission in courts, tribunals and other arbritation bodies to ensure full benefit of law for all EU citizens.  Administrative spending |                    |  |  |  |
|--|--|--------------------|--|--|--|
| Result indicator 2.1:  Source of the data:   | Legal representation is timely and of high quality in order to defend the interests of the European Commission and the EU citizens  Base Contentieux, and NAT (Legal Service databases)                    |                    |  |  |  |
| Baseline (2020)  All written documents are files   | Interim Milestone (3) (2022) Maintain at 100%  | Target (2024) 100% | Latest known results<br>(2021)<br>100% |  |  |
| at the courts within deadline  Presence by Legal Service staff in all court hearings in the  Courts of the Union | Maintain at 100%   | 100%               | 100%                                   |  |  |
| Legal representation in all  | Maintain at 100%   | 100%               | 100%                                   |  |  |

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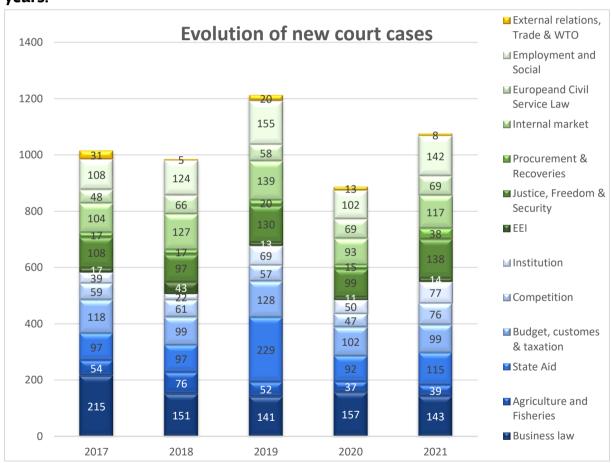
The column should be deleted if only short-and medium term (less than 3 years) targets are set.

Table 5 below presents the evolution of cases registered in the Union Courts over the past five years.

| Number of registered cases in the Courts of the Union per year |       |       |       |       |       |  |  |  |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|--|
|  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  |  |  |  |
| New cases registered at the<br>Courts of the Union             | 1.224 | 1.140 | 1.465 | 1.098 | 1.244 |  |  |  |
| No intervention by the Commission                              | 209   | 155   | 254   | 211   | 165   |  |  |  |
| New cases dealt with by the Legal Service                      | 1.015 | 985   | 1.211 | 887   | 1.079 |  |  |  |
| Closed cases   | 1.047 | 1.223 | 1.218 | 1.065 | 1.238 |  |  |  |
| On-going cases   | 1.759 | 1.676 | 1.923 | 1.956 | 1.962 |  |  |  |

Table 5: Evolution of cases in the Courts of the Union (Source: *Base Contentiuex* database)

### Graph C: presents the number of cases attributed to the legal teams the past five years.



Graph C: Number of new Court cases before the European Court of Justice registered in the Legal Service (Source: Base Contentieux database)

### Table 6 below presents the outcome of the closed cases in the Courts of the Union and the EFTA court over the past five years

### **Outcome of Court decisions per jurisdiction for 2021**

| Jurisdiction     | Won | Lost | Partly | Non-<br>applicable | No<br>intervention | Total Court<br>decisions |
|------------------|-----|------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Court of Justice | 437 | 30   | 42     | 191                | 20                 | 720                      |
| General court    | 223 | 46   | 9      | 64                 | 176                | 518                      |
| EFTA             | 15  | 0    | 1      | 0                  | 0                  | 16                       |
| TOTAL            | 675 | 76   | 52     | 255                | 196                | 1.254                    |

Table 6: Results of the proceedings before the Union Courts (Source: Base Contentieux).

Out of the 1.254 Court decisions, 1.238 were taken by the Union Courts and 16 by the EFTA court.

<u>Non-applicable:</u> These are cases registered at the Courts of the Union for which a decision has already been taken, for direct orders, for inadmissible cases and for cases where the Commission only gives advice.

<u>No intervention:</u> Cases in which the European Commission is not a party, but the European Council, the European Parliament or one of the European Agencies is.

### 1.5 Negotiation on the access to the European Convention of Human Rights

| Specific objective 3:   | Negotiations on the accession for the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   |  |  | Administrative spending  |  |  |  |  |
| Result indicator:   | Regular reporting on the progress on the negotiations to the Commissioners                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source of the data: Number of reports   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Baseline (2019)   | Interim Milestone (4)) (2022)  | <b>Target</b> (2024 )                  | Latest known results<br>(2021)                                       |  |  |  |  |
| Appointment of the Legal<br>Service to negotiate the<br>accession for the European<br>Union to accede to the ECHR | Regular reports on the progress on the negotiations to the Council and European Parliament             | Initiation of the ratification process | 5 negotiation rounds held<br>in 2021 which have been<br>reported on. |  |  |  |  |
| Main outputs in 2021:   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other important output  | ts   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Output  | Indicator  | Target                                 | <b>Latest known results</b> (situation on 31/12/2021)                |  |  |  |  |
| Regular communication on<br>the progress in the<br>negotiations to accede to the<br>ECHR                          | Number of reports  | >2 per year                            | The five negotiation rounds have been reported on                    |  |  |  |  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The column should be deleted if only short-and medium term (less than 3 years) targets are set.

### **ANNEX 3: Draft annual accounts and financial reports**

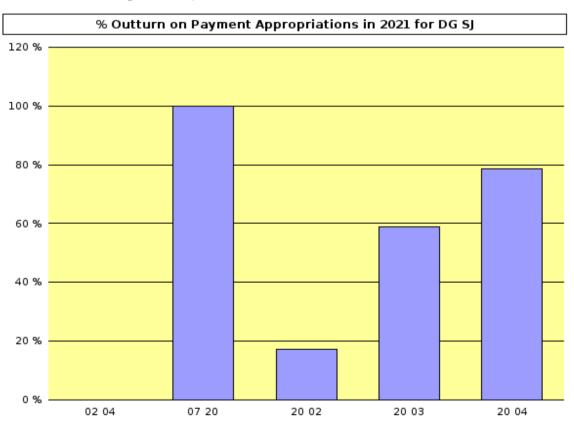
Annex 3 Financial Reports - DG SJ - Financial Year 2021 Table 1: Commitments Table 2: Payments Table 3: Commitments to be settled Table 4: Balance Sheet Table 5: Statement of Financial Performance Table 5 Bis: Off Balance Sheet **Table 6: Average Payment Times** Table 7: Income Table 8: Recovery of undue Payments **Table 9: Ageing Balance of Recovery Orders Table 10: Waivers of Recovery Orders Table 11: Negotiated Procedures Table 12: Summary of Procedures Table 13: Building Contracts Table 14: Contracts declared Secret** Table 15: FPA duration exceeds 4 years

| nments |
|--------|
|        |

None

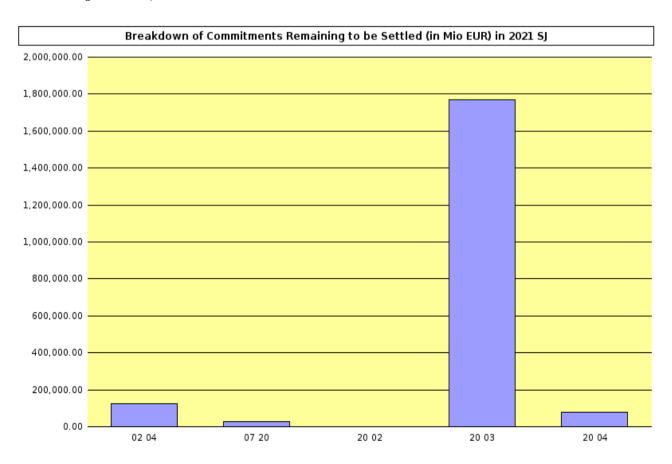
|      | TABLE             | 1: OUTTURN ON COMMITMENT APPROPRI                                   | ATIONS IN 202                        | 1 (in Mio €) for | DG SJ    |  |
|------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------|--|
|      |                   |   | Commitment appropriations authorised | Commitments made | %        |  |
|      |                   |   | 1                                    | 2                | 3=2/1    |  |
|      |                   | Title 02 European Strategi  | c Investments                        |                  |          |  |
| 02   | 02 04             | Digital Europe programme  | 0,10                                 | 0,10             | 100,00 % |  |
| Tota | al Title 02       |   | 0,10                                 | 0,10             | 100,00 % |  |
|      |                   | Title 07 Investing in People, Social                                | Cohesion and                         | Values           |          |  |
| 07   | 07 20             | Pilot projects, preparatory actions, prerogatives and other actions | 0,10                                 | 0,10             | 100,00 % |  |
| Tota | al Title 07       |   | 0,10 0,10 100,0                      |                  |          |  |
|      |                   | Title 20 Administrative expenditure of t                            | he European C                        | Commission       |          |  |
| 20   | 20 02             | Other staff and expenditure relating to persons                     | 0,00                                 | 0,00             | 98,95 %  |  |
|      | 20 03             | Administrative Operating expenditure                                | 2,54                                 | 2,31             | 90,94 %  |  |
|      | 20 04             | Information and communication technology related expenditure        | 0,26                                 | 0,26             | 99,99 %  |  |
| Tota | al Title 20       |   | 2,81                                 | 2,58             | 91,79 %  |  |
| Tot  | tal Excluding NGE | :U  | 3,00                                 | 2,77             | 92,33 %  |  |
|      |                   | Total DG SJ   | 3,00                                 | 2,77             | 92,33 %  |  |

<sup>\*</sup> Commitment appropriations authorised include, in addition to the budget voted by the legislative authority, appropriations carried over from the previous exercise, budget amendments as well as miscellaneous commitment appropriations for the period (e.g. internal and external assigned revenue).

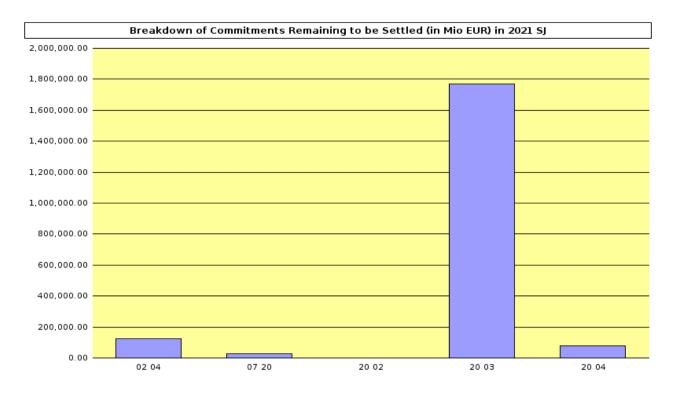


|      |                          | TABLE 2: OUTTURN ON PAYMENT APPROPR                                 | IATIONS in 2021 (i                        | n Mio €) for DG S | J        |  |  |
|------|--------------------------|---|---|-------------------|----------|--|--|
|      |                          |   | Payment<br>appropriations<br>authorised * | Payments made     | %        |  |  |
|      |                          |   | 1   | 2                 | 3=2/1    |  |  |
|      |                          |   |   |                   |          |  |  |
|      |                          | Title 02 European Strate  | gic Investments                           |                   |          |  |  |
| 02   | 02 04                    | Digital Europe programme  | 0,00                                      | 0,06              | 0,00 %   |  |  |
| Tota | Total Title 02 0,00 0,06 |   |   |                   |          |  |  |
|      |                          | Title 07 Investing in People, Soci                                  | ial Cohesion and Valu                     | ues               |          |  |  |
| 07   | 07 20                    | Pilot projects, preparatory actions, prerogatives and other actions | 0,09                                      | 0,09              | 100,00 % |  |  |
| Tota | al Title 0               | 7   | 0,09                                      | 0,09 0,09 100,00  |          |  |  |
|      |                          | Title 20 Administrative expenditure of                              | of the European Com                       | mission           |          |  |  |
| 20   | 20 02                    | Other staff and expenditure relating to persons                     | 0,01                                      | 0,00              | 17,22 %  |  |  |
|      | 20 03                    | Administrative Operating expenditure                                | 5,54                                      | 3,27              | 59,06 %  |  |  |
|      | 20 04                    | Information and communication technology related expenditure        | 0,37                                      | 0,29              | 78,62 %  |  |  |
| Tota | al Title 20              | 0   | 5,92                                      | 3,56              | 60,22%   |  |  |
| Tot  | al Exclu                 | ding NGEU   | 6,01                                      | 3,71              | 61,76%   |  |  |
|      |                          | Total DG SJ   | 6,01                                      | 3,71              | 61,76 %  |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup> Payment appropriations authorised include, in addition to the budget voted by the legislative authority, appropriations carried over from the previous exercise, budget amendments as well as miscellaneous payment appropriations for the period (e.g. internal and external assigned revenue).



|    |                 |   |              |                           | NITO TO   | ) DE OFFE ED     | A.T. 0.4/4.0/0004 (!                           | W 6) 4 DO 6                                       |                                     |  |
|----|-----------------|---|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
|    |                 | TABLE 3: B  |              | mitments to               |           |                  | Commitments to be settled from financial       | n Mio €) for DG S  Total of commitments           | Total of commitments to be settled  |  |
|    |                 | Chapter   | Commitments  | Payments                  | RAL       | % to be settled  | years<br>previous to<br>2020                   | to be settled at<br>end of financial<br>year 2021 | at end of<br>financial year<br>2020 |  |
|    |                 |   | 1            | 2                         | 3=1-<br>2 | 4=1-2/1          | 5  | 6=3+5   | 7                                   |  |
| 02 | 02 04           | Digital Europe programme  | 0,10         | 0,00                      | 0,10      | 100,00%          | 0,02   | 0,12  | 0,08                                |  |
| To | otal Title      | e 02  | 0,10         | 0,00                      | 0,10      | 100,00%          | 0,02   | 0,12  | 0,08                                |  |
|    |                 | TABLE 3: B  | REAKDOWN O   | F COMMITME                | NTS TO    | BE SETTLED       | AT 31/12/2021 (i                               | n Mio €) for DG S                                 | J                                   |  |
|    |                 |   | Com          | mitments to               | be se     | ettled           | Commitments<br>to be settled<br>from financial | Total of commitments to be settled at             | Total of commitments to be settled  |  |
|    |                 | Chapter   | Commitments  | Payments                  | RAL       | % to be settled  | years<br>previous to<br>2020                   | end of financial<br>year 2021                     | at end of financial year 2020       |  |
|    |                 |   | 1            | 2                         | 3=1-<br>2 | 4=1-2/1          | 5  | 6=3+5   | 7                                   |  |
| 07 | 07 20           | Pilot projects,<br>preparatory<br>actions,<br>prerogatives and<br>other actions         | 0,10         | 0,07                      | 0,03      | 29,20%           | 0,00   | 0,03  | 0,03                                |  |
| To | otal Title      | e 07  | 0,10         | 0,07                      | 0,03      | 29,20%           | 0,00   | 0,03  | 0,03                                |  |
|    |                 | TABLE 3: B  | REAKDOWN O   | F СОММІТМЕ                | NTS TO    | BE SETTLED       | AT 31/12/2021 (i                               | n Mio €) for DG S                                 | J                                   |  |
|    |                 |   | Com          | Commitments to be settled |           |                  | Commitments<br>to be settled<br>from financial | Total of commitments to be settled at             | Total of commitments to be settled  |  |
|    |                 | Chapter   | Commitments  | Payments                  | RAL       | % to be settled  | years<br>previous to<br>2020                   | end of financial<br>year 2021                     | at end of<br>financial year<br>2020 |  |
|    |                 |   | 1            | 2                         | 3=1-<br>2 | 4=1-2/1          | 5  | 6=3+5   | 7                                   |  |
| 20 | 20 02           | Other staff and<br>expenditure<br>relating to<br>persons<br>Administrative<br>Operating | 0,00<br>2,31 | 0,00<br>0,54              | 0,00      | 58,60%<br>76,49% | 0,00   | 0,00  | 0,01                                |  |
|    | 20 04           | expenditure Information and communication technology related expenditure                | 0,26         | 0,18                      | 0,08      | 30,39%           | 0,00   | 0,08  | 0,11                                |  |
| To | otal Title      | e 20  | 2,58         | 0,73                      | 1,85      | 71,81%           | 0,00   | 1,85  | 3,11                                |  |
| То | tal Excl        | uding NGEU  | 2,77         | 0,80                      | 1,98      | 71,31%           | 0,02   | 2,00  | 3,22                                |  |
|    | Total for DG SJ |   | 2,77247277   | 0,80                      | 1,98      | 71,31 %          | 0,02   | 2,00  | 3,22                                |  |



| TABLE 4: BALANCE SHEET for DG SJ              |                |               |  |  |  |  |
|---|----------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| BALANCE SHEET                                 | 2021           | 2020          |  |  |  |  |
| A.II. CURRENT ASSETS                          | 525665,86      | 614468,75     |  |  |  |  |
| A.II.3. Curr Exch Receiv &Non-Ex Recoverables | 525.665,86     | 614.468,75    |  |  |  |  |
| ASSETS  | 525665,86      | 614468,75     |  |  |  |  |
| P.II. CURRENT LIABILITIES                     | -3697749,21    | -3839552,21   |  |  |  |  |
| P.II.2. Current Provisions                    | -3.691.098,00  | -3.832.901,00 |  |  |  |  |
| P.II.4. Current Payables                      | -6.651,21      | -6.651,21     |  |  |  |  |
| P.II.5. Current Accrued Charges &Defrd Income | 0,00           | 0,00          |  |  |  |  |
| LIABILITIES                                   | -3697749,21    | -3839552,21   |  |  |  |  |
| NET ASSETS (ASSETS less LIABILITIES)          | -3172083,35    | -3.225.083,46 |  |  |  |  |
| P.III.2. Accumulated Surplus/Deficit          | 26.016.438,21  | 23103156,75   |  |  |  |  |
|   |                |               |  |  |  |  |
| Non-allocated central (surplus)/deficit*      | -22.844.354,86 | -19878073,29  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL DG SJ                                   | 0,00           | 0,00          |  |  |  |  |

It should be noted that the balance sheet and statement of financial performance presented in Annex 3 to this Annual Activity Report, represent only the assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues that are under the control of this Directorate General. Significant amounts such as own resource revenues and cash held in Commission bank accounts are not included in this Directorate General's accounts since they are managed centrally by DG Budget, on whose balance sheet and statement of financial performance they appear. Furthermore, since the accumulated result of the Commission is not split amongst the various Directorates General, it can be seen that the balance sheet presented here is not in equilibrium. Additionally, the figures included in tables 4 and 5 are provisional since they are, at this date, still subject to audit by the Court of Auditors. It is thus possible that amounts included in these tables may have to be adjusted following this audit.

| TABLE 5: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE for DG SJ |              |              |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE                    | 2021         | 2020         |  |  |  |  |
| II.1 REVENUES   | -640797,67   | -1053592,24  |  |  |  |  |
| II.1.1. NON-EXCHANGE REVENUES                         | -483573,96   | -692891,94   |  |  |  |  |
| II.1.1.8. OTHER NON-EXCHANGE REVENUES                 | -483.573,96  | -692.891,94  |  |  |  |  |
| II.1.2. EXCHANGE REVENUES                             | -157223,71   | -360700,3    |  |  |  |  |
| II.1.2.2. OTHER EXCHANGE REVENUE                      | -157.223,71  | -360.700,30  |  |  |  |  |
| II.2. EXPENSES  | 4069169,9    | 3966873,7    |  |  |  |  |
| II.2. EXPENSES  | 4069169,9    | 3966873,7    |  |  |  |  |
| II.2.10.OTHER EXPENSES                                | 3.944.142,62 | 3.870.975,35 |  |  |  |  |
| II.2.2. EXP IMPLEM BY COMMISS&EX.AGENC. (DM)          | 124.936,63   | 95.898,35    |  |  |  |  |
| II.2.8. FINANCE COSTS                                 | 90,65        |              |  |  |  |  |
| STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE                    | 3.428.372,23 | 2.913.281,46 |  |  |  |  |

| TABLE 5bis: OFF BALANCE SHEET for DG SJ |               |               |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| OFF BALANCE                             | 2021          | 2020          |  |  |  |
| OB.2. Contingent Liabilities            | -5536647      | -5749352      |  |  |  |
| OB.2.7. CL Legal cases OTHER            | -5.536.647,00 | -5.749.352,00 |  |  |  |
| OB.4. Balancing Accounts                | 5536647       | 5749352       |  |  |  |
| OB.4. Balancing Accounts                | 5.536.647,00  | 5.749.352,00  |  |  |  |
| OFF BALANCE                             | 0,00          | 0,00          |  |  |  |

It should be noted that the balance sheet and statement of financial performance presented in Annex 3 to this Annual Activity Report, represent only the assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues that are under the control of this Directorate General. Significant amounts such as own resource revenues and cash held in Commission bank accounts are not included in this Directorate General's accounts since they are managed centrally by DG Budget, on whose balance sheet and statement of financial performance they appear. Furthermore, since the accumulated result of the Commission is not split amongst the various Directorates General, it can be seen that the balance sheet presented here is not in equilibrium.

Additionally, the figures included in tables 4 and 5 are provisional since they are, at this date, still subject to audit by the Court of Auditors. It is thus possible that amounts included in these tables may have to be adjusted following this audit.

|                   | TABLE 6: AVERAGE PAYMENT TIMES in 2021 for SJ |                |                                       |                                |            |                                       |                            |             |     |
|-------------------|---|----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----|
|                   | Legal Times                                   |                |                                       |                                |            |                                       |                            |             |     |
| 2. of I ts within |   | Percenta<br>ge | Average<br>Payment<br>Times<br>(Days) | Nbr of<br>Late<br>Paymen<br>ts | Percentage | Average<br>Payment<br>Times<br>(Days) | Late<br>Payments<br>Amount | Percent age |     |
| 30                | 464   | 453            | 97,63%                                | 10,39955<br>85                 | 11         | 2,37%                                 | 40                         | 45936,54    | 1,% |
| 60                | 4   | 4              | 100,00%                               | 6,25                           |            |                                       |                            | 0           | 0%  |

| Total<br>Number of<br>Payments      | 468  | 457 | 97,65% |      | 11 | 2,35% |      | 45936,54 | 1% |
|-------------------------------------|------|-----|--------|------|----|-------|------|----------|----|
| Average<br>Net<br>Payment<br>Time   | 11,1 |     |        | 10,4 |    |       | 40,4 |          |    |
| Average<br>Gross<br>Payment<br>Time | 12,5 |     |        | 11,8 |    |       | 40,4 |          |    |

|  | Suspensions                               |   |                         |                                |                                    |                         |                      |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Average<br>Report<br>Approval<br>Suspensio<br>n Days | Average<br>Payment<br>Suspensio<br>n Days | Number<br>of<br>Suspend<br>ed<br>Payments | % of<br>Total<br>Number | Total<br>Number of<br>Payments | Amount of<br>Suspended<br>Payments | % of<br>Total<br>Amount | Total Paid<br>Amount |  |  |  |  |
| 0  | 38  | 18  | 3,85 %                  | 468                            | 332.425,15                         | 8,93%                   | 3.722.694,72         |  |  |  |  |

| Late Interest paid in 2021 |               |   |              |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------|---------------|---|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| DG                         | GL<br>Account | Description                                 | Amount (Eur) |  |  |  |  |  |
| SJ                         | 65010000      | Interest expense on late payment of charges | 90,65        |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            |               |   | 90,65        |  |  |  |  |  |

|                               | TABLE 7: SITUATION ON REVENUE AND INCOME in 2021 for DG SJ |                                 |             |            |                                 |            |            |            |  |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--|
| Revenue and income recognized |  |                                 | Revenue and | hed from   | Outstanding                     |            |            |            |  |
| Chanter                       |  | Current Carried year RO over RO |             | Total      | Current Year RO Carried over RO |            | Total      | balance    |  |
|                               |  | 1                               | 2           | 3=1+2      | 4                               | 5          | 6=4+5      | 7=3-6      |  |
| 33                            | Other administrative revenue                               | 141.479,49                      | 614.468,75  | 755.948,24 | 123.939,95                      | 106.342,43 | 230.282,38 | 525.665,86 |  |
| Т                             | otal DG SJ   | 141479,49                       | 614468,75   | 755948,24  | 123939,95                       | 106342,43  | 230282,38  | 525665,86  |  |

### TABLE 8 : RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS in 2021 for DG SJ (Number of Recovery Contexts and corresponding Transaction Amount)

|                             | Total undue payments recovered |              | Total transactions in recovery context (incl. non-qualified) |           |     | ified/Total<br>RC |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|--|-----------|-----|-------------------|
| Year of Origin (commitment) | Nbr                            | RO<br>Amount | Nbr  | RO Amount | Nbr | RO<br>Amount      |
| No Link                     |                                |              | 42   | 157331,26 |     |                   |
| Sub-Total                   |                                |              | 42   | 157331,26 |     |                   |

| EXPENSES BUDGET             | Irr | Irregularity OLAF Notified |     | OLAF Notified |     | OLAF Notified |     | Total undue payments recovered |        | payments recovery context |  | payments |  | transactions in recovery context (incl. non- |  | % Qualified/Total<br>RC |  |
|-----------------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|--|----------|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|
|                             | Nbr | Amount                     | Nbr | Amount        | Nbr | Amount        | Nbr | Amount                         | Nbr    | Amount                    |  |          |  |  |  |                         |  |
| INCOME LINES IN INVOICES    |     |                            |     |               |     |               |     |                                |        |                           |  |          |  |  |  |                         |  |
| NON ELIGIBLE IN COST CLAIMS |     |                            |     |               |     |               |     |                                |        |                           |  |          |  |  |  |                         |  |
| CREDIT NOTES                | 7   | 83538,79                   |     |               | 7   | 83538,79      | 11  | 115.836,23                     | 63,64% | 72,12%                    |  |          |  |  |  |                         |  |
| Sub-Total                   | 7   | 83538,79                   |     |               | 7   | 83538,79      | 11  | 115836,23                      | 63,64% | 72,12%                    |  |          |  |  |  |                         |  |
| GRAND TOTAL                 | 7   | 83538,79                   |     |               | 7   | 83538,79      | 53  | 273167,49                      | 13,21% | 30,58%                    |  |          |  |  |  |                         |  |

|      | TABLE 9: AG          | SEING BALAN          | ICE OF REC   | OVERY ORDERS A                        | T 01/01/2021 for DG                   | SJ        |
|------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
|      | Number at 31/12/2021 | Number at 01/01/2021 | Evolution    | Open Amount<br>(Eur) at<br>31/12/2021 | Open Amount<br>(Eur) at<br>01/01/2021 | Evolution |
| 2001 | 2                    | 2                    | 0,00 %       | 14.873,61                             | 14.873,61                             | 0,00 %    |
| 2013 | 5                    | 7                    | 40,00 %      | 53.685,50                             | 72.770,85                             | 35,55 %   |
| 2014 | 6                    | 6                    | 0,00 %       | 44.177,50                             | 44.177,50                             | 0,00 %    |
| 2015 | 3                    | 5                    | 66,67 %      | 65.010,68                             | 76.023,68                             | 16,94 %   |
| 2016 | 13                   | 13                   | 0,00 %       | 117.887,31                            | 117.887,31                            | 0,00 %    |
| 2017 | 19                   | 19                   | 0,00 %       | 51.900,00                             | 51.900,00                             | 0,00 %    |
| 2018 | 9                    | 10                   | 11,11 %      | 100.481,10                            | 115.735,40                            | 15,18 %   |
| 2019 | 2                    | 2                    | 0,00 %       | 24.739,00                             | 24.739,00                             | 0,00 %    |
| 2020 | 2                    | 8                    | 300,00 %     | 35.371,62                             | 96.361,40                             | 172,43 %  |
| 2021 | 7                    |                      | -100,00<br>% | 17.539,54                             |                                       | -100,00 % |
|      | 68                   | 72                   | 5,88 %       | 525.665,86                            | 614.468,75                            | 16,89 %   |

| TABLE 10 :Recovery Order Waivers >= 60 000 € in 2021 for DG SJ |                          |                                       |                         |                        |          |  |  |  |  |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------|--|--|--|--|
| Waiver Central Key   | Linked RO Central<br>Key | RO<br>Accepte<br>d<br>Amount<br>(Eur) | LE<br>Accoun<br>t Group | Commission<br>Decision | Comments |  |  |  |  |

| Total DG SJ |  |
|-------------|--|
|-------------|--|

| Number of RO waivers |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
|----------------------|--|--|

There are 3 waivers below 60 000 € for a total amount of -16,512.22

### TABLE 11 : Negotiated Procedures in 2021 for DG SJ

| Negotiated Procedure Legal base | Number of Procedures | Amount (€) |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Not applicable                  |                      |            |
| Total                           |                      |            |

#### TABLE 12: Summary of Procedures in 2021 for DG SJ

### Internal Procedures > € 60,000

| Procedure Legal base  | Number of Procedures | Amount (€)   |
|---|----------------------|--------------|
| Negotiated procedure without prior publication (Annex 1 - 11.1) | 6                    | 2.572.803,50 |
| Total   | 6                    | 2.572.803,50 |
| Additional Comments:  | •                    |              |

#### **Additional Comments:**

No additional comments

| TABLE 13 : BUILDING CONTRACTS in 2021 for DG SJ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Legal Base                                      | al Base Procedure Contract Number Contractor Name Contract Subject |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not applicable                                  | Not applicable   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

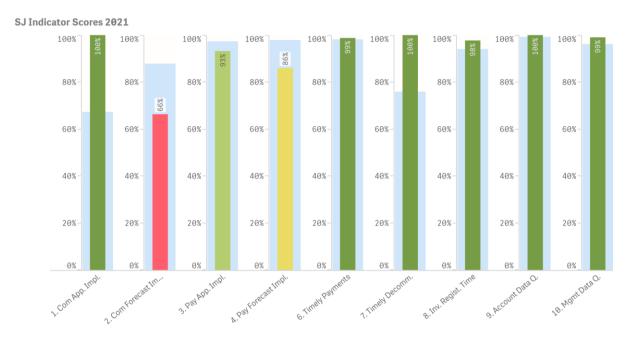
| TABLE 14 : CONTRACTS DECLARED SECRET in 2021 for DG SJ |         |                 |                  |                       |  |  |  |
|--|---------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Legal Base   | LC Date | Contract Number | Contract Subject | Contracted Amount (€) |  |  |  |
| Not applicable   |         |                 |                  |                       |  |  |  |

|                | TABLE 15 : FPA duration exceeds 4 years - DG SJ |
|----------------|---|
| Not applicable |   |

| TABLE 16 : Commitments co-delegation type 3 in 2021 for DG SJ |
|---|
| Not applicable  |

### **ANNEX 4: Financial Scorecard**

Comments to the Indicator Scores for 2021 can be found on next page.



For each indicator the light blue bar denotes the EC Score.

| Indicator  | Objective  | Comment  | SJ Score | EC<br>Score |  |
|--|--|--|----------|-------------|--|
| Commitment     Appropriations     Implementation | Ensure efficient use of commitment appropriations expiring at the end of Financial Year  | Objective reached  | 100%     | 67%         |  |
| 2. Commitment<br>Forecast<br>Implementation      | Ensure the cumulative alignment of the commitment implementation with the commitment forecast in a financial year              | On November 17, 2021, the Legal Service decommited an amount of 1.5 million €., which was utilised by DG Budg on December 17, 2021. The indicator should be 100% for 2021. | 66%      | 88%         |  |
| 3. Payment<br>Appropriations<br>Implementation   | Ensure efficient use of payment appropriations expiring at the end of Financial Year   | Due to the specificities of the work of the Legal Service, it is not possible to plan the payments.  | 93%      | 97%         |  |
| 4. Payment<br>Forecast<br>Implementation         | Ensure the cumulative alignment of the payment implementation with the payment forecast in a financial year                    | With reference to the comment made for indicator n°2. Commitment Forcast Implementation). The Payment Forecast Implementation should read 93%.                             | 86%      | 98%         |  |
| 5. Global<br>Commitment<br>Absorption            | Ensure efficient use of already earmarked commitment appropriations (at L1 level)  | The indicator is not applicable for SJ in YEAR due to the lack of underlying transactions recorded by SJ in 2021.  | _        | 98%         |  |
| 6. Timely Payments                               | Ensure efficient processing of payments within the legal deadlines   | Objective reached  | 99%      | 98%         |  |
| 7. Timely Decommitments                          | Ensure efficient decommitment of outstanding RAL at the end of commitment life cycle   | Objective reached  | 100%     | 76%         |  |
| 8. Invoice<br>Registration<br>Time               | Monitor the accounting risk stemming from late registration of invoices in the central accounting system ABAC                  | Objective reached  | 98%      | 94%         |  |
| 9. Accounting<br>Data Quality                    | Ensure the good data quality of ABAC transactions with the focus on fields having a primary impact on the accounts             | Objective reached  | 100%     | 99%         |  |
| 10.<br>Management<br>Data Quality                | Ensure the good data quality of ABAC transactions with the focus on fields having a primary impact on the management decisions | Objective reached  | 99%      | 96%         |  |

### **ANNEX 5: Materiality criteria**

This annex provides a detailed explanation on how the AOD defined the materiality threshold as a basis for determining whether significant weaknesses should be subject to a formal reservation to his/her declaration.

Since 2019 (5), a 'de minimis' threshold for financial reservations has been introduced. Quantified AAR reservations related to residual error rates above the 2% materiality threshold, are deemed not substantial for segments representing less than 5% of a DG's total payments and with a financial impact below EUR 5 million. In such cases, quantified reservations are no longer needed.

In this sense, the Legal Service has selected as its materiality threshold 2% of annual payment consumption. For 2021, it is set at EUR 74.000 and complemented with a second threshold in its daily management, namely that transactions exceeding EUR 30.000 must be brought to the attention of the Director-General or his deputy for approval for approval.

Controls implemented by the Legal Service in its financial procedures are designed to detect and correct any errors which may occur.

Each year, the Legal Service estimates the financial exposure linked to lost court cases and other situations in which the Legal Service must pay the legal fees of the opposing party. The procedure for identifying and determining the amount to be provided for has been applied over many years.

The general approach is to be conservative in the assessment of the provision for lost court cases. The total exposure is split into a provision of the amount most likely to be paid (40%) with the remaining part being recorded as a contingent liability (60%).

The actual figures are compared with the estimates in order to improve the accuracy of the provision.

No errors, which occurred in 2021 were, by their nature or frequency, considered to be of significant or of material importance. Therefore, the Legal Service considers that it has an appropriate level of management and control systems in place.

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<sup>(5)</sup> Agreement of the Corporate Management Board of 30/4/2019.

### ANNEX 6: Relevant Control Systems for budget implementation (RCSs)

The Legal Service has no program or policy spending, mainly only administrative expenditure. Close to 90% of total payments were for the administrative budget line for **Legal Advice**, **Litigation** and which is divided into two sub-categories:

- Procurement of legal expertise (68%)
- Costs paid to opposing parties for their legal costs (22%)

#### 1. Procurement of legal expertise

Stage 1: Ex ante controls in the procurement of legal expertise

External legal expertise is mainly needed for representation in national court cases for which recognised national lawyers are required and occasionally for cases in the Union Courts where specialised legal expertise is needed. The work performed by the external lawyers covers a limited part of the Legal Service's work. Once determined that external legal expertise is required, potential external lawyers or legal experts are identified and a negotiated procedure is initiated. The Legal Service uses negotiated procedures without publication of a contract notice in the Official Journal according to Article 134 RAP.

**Main internal control objectives:** Effectiveness, efficiency and economy, Compliance (legality and regularity), Fraud prevention and detection

| Main risks<br>It may happen<br>(again) that  | Mitigating controls  | Coverage, frequency<br>and depth of controls  | Cost-Effectiveness indicators (three E's)   |
|--|--|---|---|
| Risk of not obtaining value for money due to  – sometimes - limited time available for the negotiation procedure.  Risk of non-compliance with legality and regularity and criticism of choice of contract partner due to limited time available for the negotiation procedure | The purpose of the established authorisation chain is to ensure that proposed contracts with external providers will ensure value for money.  Assessment of legal expertise of the external provider  The Financial Cellule provides management with quarterly information about the contracts with external providers allowing for hierarchical control of awarded contracts. | 100% of the specifications are verified at Director level (Head of Unit in the MAREC team).  100% of the contracts above the financial threshold (for contracts with external lawyers: 20.000 € for Head of Unit and 30.000 € for Director) are reviewed at DDG/DG level based on risk and sensitivity. | Effectiveness:  N° of contracts discontinued due to poor quality of service  Efficiency  Average cost per contract.  Economy  Estimation of cost of staff involved and the related contract values (if external expertise is used). |
| Due to time constraints,<br>there may not be<br>enough time to identify<br>the most competent  | Review of all contracts<br>by the Financial Cellule,<br>by the legal coordinator<br>and approval by the<br>Director and by the   | 100 % of contracts are<br>controlled by the<br>Financial Cellule before<br>signature by the   | Effectiveness  N° of received complaints  Efficiency  |

| _   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| external provider  The most economically advantageous offer is not selected due to the limitations in the negotiated procedure  Damage to the Legal Service's reputation if conflict of interest is discovered.   | Director General for contracts above EUR 30.000.  Declaration on honour regarding exclusion criteria requested for all tenders >15.000 €.  Frequent staff awareness on conflict of interest. | Director-General.  Contracts below 20.000 € are signed by Head of Unit and below 30.000 € are signed by the Directors.  Contracts above 30.000 € are signed by the Director-General  | Average cost of a contracting procedure.  Economy  Estimation of costs involved  |
| Poor or non-execution by the external provider due to lack of competence in the legal area  The services provided for are not, totally or partially, provided in accordance with the requirements in the contract and/or the amounts paid exceed those due in accordance with the applicable contract | Close monitoring of the work executed by the staff in the teams  The Financial Cellule keeps records on total consumption of each contract.  | 100% of contracts and invoices for the work executed by the external provider is monitored and controlled by the teams.  100% of received invoices are controlled by the Financial Cellule. The Conforme aux faits is given by the agents in charge. | Effectiveness % error rate relating to contract management and payments. Efficiency Time-to-pay Late interest payments Economy Estimation of cost of staff involved. |

Stage 2: Ex post controls in the procurement of legal expertise

**Main internal control objectives:** Ensuring that any weakness in the procedures (tender and financial transactions) is detected and corrected.

| Main risks<br>It may happen<br>(again) that   | Mitigating controls   | Coverage, frequency and depth of controls   | Cost-Effectiveness indicators (three E's)  |
|---|---|---|--|
| Poor or non-execution by the external provider due to lack of competence in the legal area  The services provided for are not, totally or partially, provided in accordance with the requirements in the contract and/or the amounts paid exceed those due in accordance with the applicable contract | Close monitoring of the work executed by the staff in the teams  The Financial Cellule keeps records on total consumption of each contract. | 100% of contracts and invoices from external legal expertese are monitored and controlled by the teams  Agents give Conforme aux faits. Director (HoU in MAREC) or DG if above ceiling amounts give the Bon pour payer.  100% of invoices are controlled by the Financial Cellule.  The depth depends on the risk criteria. | Effectiveness % error rate relating to contract management and payments. Efficiency Time-to-pay Late interest payments Economy Estimation of cost of staff involved. |
| An error or non-compliance with regulatory and contractual provisions,  | Supervisory desk review of procurement and financial transactions   | Sample test at least once<br>a year to determine any<br>errors or systemic<br>problems or weaknesses  | Amounts associated with errors detected (related to  |

| including technical specifications, or fraud is not prevented, detected or corrected by ex-ante control, prior to payment. | Ex-post publication of contracts awarded (and subsequent publication in the EU Financial Transparency System) Review of ex-post results Review of derogations | in the procedures  100% of all contracts approved by a superior function and for contracts >EUR 30.000 approval by Director- General or the Deputy Director-General  | fraud, irregularities and error Efficiency:  Costs of the ex post controls and supervisory measures with respect to the 'benefits' Average cost of an ex-post control |
|--|---|--|---|
|  | Review of derogations and non-compliance events reported  Quarterly review of the summary data of awarded contracts   | Quarterly report on contracts with external lawyers are reviewed by management  100% of all invoices reviewed by the Financial Cellule  Review and assessment of potential derogations and non-compliance events during the year (100% covered). | Economy: Estimation of cost of staff involved   |

### 2. Compensation to opposing parties for their legal costs

Stage 1: Ex ante controls in compensations to opposing parties for their legal costs

The court may decide that the legal costs incurred by the opposing party should be compensated, fully or partly, by the Legal Service. By its nature, there is no procurement procedure preceding these payments. The obligation arises as a result of the court decision. Upon receipt of the cost claim from the opposing party, the Legal Service assesses the amount claimed. The claim is then either accepted, re-negotiated or the court is asked to determine the amount to be paid.

At year end, the Legal Service makes provisions for claimed cost compensations which have not yet been agreed on. This provision is based on historical experience. The difference between the claimed compensation amount and the provisioned amount is recorded as a contingent liability

**Main internal control objectives:** Effectiveness, efficiency and economy, Compliance (legality and regularity), Fraud prevention and detection

| Main risks<br>It may happen (again)<br>that   | Mitigating controls  | Coverage, frequency and depth of controls  | Cost-Effectiveness indicators (three E's)   |
|---|--|--|---|
| For individual claims and payments: Risk that the budget request will be sufficient to cover future payments to opposing parties for their legal fees Risk that the year-end closing provision will not be sufficiently conservative to cover future expenditure for compensation claims by opposing parties. | The database for litigation requires all closed court cases to be assessed to have a financial consequence. Based on this information, a yearly provision of expenditure to opposing parties is calculated (for the year end closure).  Actual payments are compared with the estimates. The ratio is used for future budget requests. | 100% of closed cases identified with a financial consequence are covered.  Yearly assessment based on best estimate is compared with actual outcome.  This procedure has, over the years, proved to provide estimates of good precision. | Effectiveness Assessment of precision by comparison of estimated with actual figures. Efficiency Estimated average cost per payment. Economy Estimation of cost of staff involved |
| For individual claims and payments: Acceptance of too high cost claims from opposing parties resulting in unnecessarily high expenditure for the Legal Service.   | Analysis, assessment and discussion with the hierarchy in order to determine a reasonable amount for the opposing party's legal costs  The DDG is informed of all claims >EUR 30.000 and a proposal to accept the amount or to negotiate it.by the agent/Director  | 100% of claims are approved by the hierarchy, only thereafter is the invoice recorded and the payment procedure initiated.  100% of invoices are controlled by the Financial Cellule   | Effectiveness N° of control failures Efficiency Average cost per payment. Late interest payments Economy Estimation of cost of staff involved                                     |
| Year-end closure: Risk that claims for payments to the opposing party are not identified for the year-end closure.  | The data base for litigation requires the lawyer in charge to provide information about financial consequences and regular analysis is made to ensure that the information is up to date and disclosed according to the instructions   | Yearly assessment at year-end closure.   | Effectiveness  Comparison of claimed amounts with paid amounts.  Efficiency  Average cost per payment  Late interest payments  Economy  Estimation of cost of staff involved      |

Stage 2: Ex post controls in the procurement of legal expertise

**Main internal control objectives:** Ensuring that any weakness in the procedures (financial transactions) is detected and corrected.

| Main risks<br>It may happen<br>(again) that                | Mitigating controls   | Coverage, frequency and depth of controls  | Cost-Effectiveness<br>indicators (three E's)  |
|--|---|--|---|
| A claim is not identified and discussed with the hierarchy | Yearly review of all payments to opposing parties distributed to all Directors for review and approval. | 100% of all payments for opposing parties' legal costs are reviewed by the hierarchy 100% of all payments for opposing parties' legal costs of more than EUR 30.000 are approved by the Deputy Director-General 100% of all payments are reviewed by the Financial Cellule | Effectiveness  Amounts associated with errors detected (related to fraud, irregularities and error) and in % over total checked.  Efficiency  Costs of the ex post controls and supervisory measures with respect to the 'benefits'.  Economy  Estimation of cost of staff involved |

### ANNEX 7: Specific annexes related to "Financial Management"

The financial circuit in the Legal Service complies with baseline requirements. In 2021.

- the expenditure for legal services, mission expenditure and issued recovery orders underwent ex-post controls to ensure completeness and correctness,
- the Legal Service signed 206 contracts or made amendments to existing contracts for legal services,
- made 442 payments for contracted legal services at an average amount of 5.700€
- made 37 payments to compensate opposing parties for their legal costs at an average amount of 20.300 €,
- through ex-ante controls in 'Legal advice and Litigation', a total amount of 81.600
   € was detected and corrected.
- through ex-ante controls in 'Cost compensation to opposing 'parties' either by negotiations or by court decisions, the originally claimed amounts were reduced by 1.3 million €.

#### Estimated "cost of controls" at Commission level

Table 7 - Overview of the Legal Service' estimated cost of controls <u>at</u> <u>Commission (EC) level</u>:

| SJ   |                | Ex ante controls***      |                        | Ex post controls |   | Total                |   |                        |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---|----------------------|---|------------------------|
|  | (a)            | (b)                      | (c)                    | (d)              | (e)                                       | (f)                  | (g)   | (h)                    |
| Relevant Control System (RCS) / Other<br>as defined in Annex 6 of the AAR* | EC total costs | related payments<br>Made | Ratio (%)**<br>(a)/(b) | EC total costs   | total value<br>verified<br>and/or audited | Ratio (%)<br>(d)/(e) | EC total estimated cost of controls (a)+(d) | Ratio (%)**<br>(g)/(b) |
| Legal Advice and Litigation  | 147.538,00 €   | 2.518.240,52 €           | 5,86%                  | 62.440,00 €      | 2.518.240,52 €                            | 2,48%                | 209.978,00 €                                | 8,34%                  |
| Cost compensation to opposing parties                                      | 45.600,00 €    | 751.502,52 €             | 6,07%                  | 22.800,00 €      | 751.502,52 €                              | 3,03%                | 68.400,00 €                                 | 9,10%                  |
| Provision and contingent liabilities                                       |                |                          | 0,00%                  | 11.400,00€       | 9.227.745,00 €                            | 0,00%                | 11.400,00 €                                 | 0,00%                  |
| OVERALL total estimated cost of control at EC level for expenditure        | 193.138.00 €   | 3.269.743,04€            | 5,91%                  | 96.640,00€       | 12.497.488,04€                            | 0,77%                | 289.778,00€                                 | 8,86%                  |

### ANNEX 8: Specific annexes related to "Assessment of the effectiveness of the internal control systems"

### Sound financial management

Financial management and internal control

**Objective 2:** The authorising officer by delegation has reasonable assurance that resources have been used in accordance with the principles of sound financial management, and that cost-effective controls are in place which give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of underlying transactions.

**Indicator 2.1:** Estimated risk at closure

**Source of data:** Legal Service Annual Activity Report

Overall estimated cost

of control

| Baseline                         | Target | Baseline |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| (2019)                           | (2022) | (2021)   |
| Estimated risk at closure < 0.5% | <0.5%  | <0.5%    |

#### Main outputs in 2021: Description Indicator Target Latest known results <2% of relevant <2% Effective controls, Legal Risk at payment and regular transactions expenditure Efficient controls >95% 98% Payment in time Replacing average (>14 days) payment time

<9% of funds managed

Economical controls

### Fraud risk management

**Objective 3:** The risk of fraud is minimised through the application of effective anti-fraud measures and the implementation of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy aimed at the prevention, detection and correction of fraud.

**Indicator 2.1:** Implementation of the actions included in the Legal Service' anti-

fraud strategy over the whole strategic plan lifecycle (2020-2024)

**Source of data:** Legal Service Annual Activity Report, Legal Service anti-fraud

strategy, reports from OLAF

| Baseline                             | Target | Baseline |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| (2019)                               | (2022) | (2021)   |
| 100 % of actions implemented in time | 100%   | 100%     |

#### Main outputs in 2021: Description Indicator Target Latest known results Assessment of reported N° of meetings held by 2 times per year The deputy DG post in breaches, updates of the Legal Service has the working group for Ethics and Handling of guidelines and been vacant since instructions, and issuance Information August, 1 2021, of new guidelines and therefore only 1 instructions meeting was held in 2021 >90% 90% at 31.12.2021 Ensuring that the ethics Yearly confirmation of rules are known by all ethics awareness staff in the Legal Service Improvement of fraud Yearly publication of the >1 publication Republication of the awareness in the Legal Legal Service Anti-Fraud Legal Service anti-Service Strategy fraud structure and all legal teams instructed to discuss it in a weekly meeting Action 57 of the CAFS Contribution to Action 57 Legal advice provided yes on the implementation of implementation plan the CAFS was finalised during 2021.

### ANNEX 9: Specific annexes related to "Control results" and "Assurance Reservations"

### Estimated risk at payment and at closure

There were no erroneous payments made in 2021. The past 7 year there have been 2 erroneous payments at a total amount of 5.500 €. Both of these amounts have been recovered. The courts can decide that the Legal Service is entitled to recover its legal expenditure from the opposing party. Such recoveries are; by definition, not corrections.

Table 8: Estimated risk at payment and at closure

| DG SJ                    | 'payments made'<br>(2021;MEUR) | minus new prefinancing<br>[plus retentions made]<br>(in 2021;MEUR) | plus cleared prefinancing<br>[minus retentions released<br>and deductions of expenditure<br>made by MS] (in 2021;MEUR) |      | Detected error rate<br>or<br>equivalent estimates | (20   | l risk at paymen<br>D21;MEUR) |       | ed Average Re<br>and Correctio<br>adjusted ARC | ns    | cor<br>(and c | ited future<br>rections<br>eductions]<br>021;MEUR) | estimate<br>(2 | ed risk at<br>021;MEU |       |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|------|---|-------|-------------------------------|-------|--|-------|---------------|--|----------------|-----------------------|-------|
| -1                       | -2                             |  | -4   |      | -6  |       |                               |       | -8   |       |               |  |                | -10                   |       |
| Legal Advice, Litigation | 3,27                           | 0,00   | 0,00   | 3,27 | 0,50% - 0,50%                                     | 0,02  | - 0,02                        | 0,00% | -  | 0,00% | 0,00          | - 0,00   | 0,02           | -                     | 0,02  |
| Informatics expenditure  | 0,29                           | 0,00   | 0,00   | 0,29 | 0,50% - 0,50%                                     | 0,00  | - 0,00                        | 0,00% | -  | 0,00% | 0,00          | - 0,00   | 0,00           | -                     | 0,00  |
| Other expenditure        | 0,15                           | 0,00   | 0,00   | 0,15 | 0,50% - 0,50%                                     | 0,00  | - 0,00                        | 0,00% | -  | 0,00% | 0,00          | - 0,00   | 0,00           | -                     | 0,00  |
| DG total                 | 3,71                           | 0,00   | 0,00   | 3,71 |   | 0,02  | - 0,02                        | 0,00% |  | 0,00% | 0,00          | - 0,00   | 0,02           |                       | 0,02  |
|                          |                                |  |  |      | Overall risk at                                   | 0,50% | - 0,50%                       |       |  |       | Ov            | rall risk at                                       | 0,50%          | -                     | 0,50% |
|                          |                                |  |  |      | payment in %                                      |       | (7) / (5)                     |       |  |       | c             | osure in %   |                | (10) / (5)            |       |

#### Notes to the table 8

- (1) Relevant Control Systems differentiated per relevant portfolio segments and at a level which is lower than the DG total
- (2) Payments made or equivalent, e.g. expenditure registered in the Commission's accounting system, accepted expenditure. In any case, this means after the preventive (ex-ante) control measures have already been implemented earlier in the cycle.

In all cases of Co-Delegations (Internal Rules Article 3), "payments made" are reported by the Delegated DGs. For Cross-SubDelegations (Internal Rules Article 12), the reporting remains with the Delegating DGs.

- (5) For low-risk types of expenditure, where there are indications that the equivalent error rate might be close to 'zero' (e.g. administrative expenditure, operating contributions to agencies), the rate which should be used is 0.5% as a conservative estimate, unless the DG has a more precise estimate based on evidence.
- (8) The adjusted average recovery and corrections percentage is based on the 7 years historic Average of Recoveries and financial Corrections (ARC), which is the best available indication of the corrective capacity of the ex-post control systems implemented by the Legal Service over the past years.

sj aar 2021 annexes final Page 34 of 41

## ANNEX 10: Reporting — Human resources, digital transformation and information management and sound environmental management

#### **Human Resources**

**Objective 1:** The Legal Service employs a competent and engaged workforce and contributes to gender equality at all levels of management to effectively deliver on the Commission's priorities and core business.

**Indicator 1.1:** Number and percentage of first female appointments to middle

management positions

**Source of data:** SEC(2020)146

| Baseline         | Target          | Latest known results          |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| (2019)           | (2022) + (2024) | (2021)                        |
| 60% (3 out of 5) | +2 first female | Zero – no new appointments of |
|                  | appointments    | middle management in 2021.    |

### Main outputs in 2021:

| Description                            | Indicator   | Target      | Latest known results   |
|--|---|-------------|--|
| Management training for female lawyers | Number of cycles of management training for female lawyers          | >1 per year | No training offered due to constraints arising from the Covid pandemic |
| Appointments of deputies to Directors  | Percentage of Directorates with an appointed deputy to the Director | 100%        | 100%   |
| Appointment of deputy<br>Heads of Unit | Procedure for the appointments prepared by end of 2021              | yes         | 100% of deputy Heads of Unit appointed                                 |

**Objective 1:** The Legal Service employs a competent and engaged workforce and contributes to gender equality at all levels of management to effectively deliver on the Commission's priorities and core business.

**Indicator 1.2:** Legal Service staff engagement index

**Source of data:** DG HR

| Baseline | Target   | Latest known results |
|----------|----------|----------------------|
| (2018)   | (2024)   | (2021)               |
| 73%      | increase | 76%                  |

| Main outputs in 2021:   |                                  |         |   |  |  |  |
|---|----------------------------------|---------|---|--|--|--|
| Description   | Indicator                        | Target  | Latest known results  |  |  |  |
| Sharing knowledge by organising lunch time conferences                                  | Number of lunch time conferences | >16     | 19 lunch time conferences published on MY SJ  |  |  |  |
| Local HR strategy for the<br>Legal Service based on<br>the new corporate HR<br>Strategy | Draft HR strategy<br>prepared    | Q4 2021 | Finalisation of the Internal reform work in the Legal Service will allow for the completion of the local HR strategy in 2022. |  |  |  |

### Digital transformation and information management

Front-end modules are

put into production for

use by the legal teams

| Digital transformation and information management  |             |                                       |              |                     |   |  |
|--|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---|--|
| policy<br>forge  | -shaping, i |                                       | nagement and | administ            | solutions for better<br>trative processes to<br>I and data-driven |  |
| Indicator 4.1:<br>Source of data:  | _           | f implementation<br>hared with ITIT ( | _            | solutions           | modernisation plan  |  |
| Baseline<br>(2018)   |             | <b>Target</b> (2024)                  |              | Latest kr<br>(2021) | nown results  |  |
| 10%  |             | 80%                                   |              | 60%                 |   |  |
| Indicator 4.1: Percentage of Legal Service 'key data assets' for which corporate principles for data governance have been implemented  Source of data: 4 key data assets (Follow-up litigation (ULM, RECO, Solon KM, |             |                                       |              |                     |   |  |
|  | JURREV)     |                                       |              |                     |   |  |
| Baseline<br>(2018)   |             | Target (2024)                         |              | Latest kr<br>(2021) | nown results  |  |
| 20%  |             | 80%                                   |              | 30%                 |   |  |
| Indicator 4.1: Percentage of staff attending awareness raising activities on data protection compliance  Source of data: DG HR   |             |                                       |              |                     |   |  |
| Baseline<br>(2018)   |             | Target<br>(2024)                      |              | Latest kr<br>(2021) | nown results  |  |
| 25%  |             | 100% of staff                         |              | 30%                 |   |  |
| Main outputs in 2021:  |             |                                       |              |                     |   |  |
| Description  | Indicate    | or                                    | Target       |                     | Latest known<br>results   |  |

100% of teams are using

these new modules (front-

end component)

Rewriting of the 3

Contentieux, Board,

Templates of Unified Litigation Management

modules Base

Migration achieved

| Description  | Indicator  | Target   | Latest known results  |
|--|--|--|---|
| DSMP (Digital Strategy<br>Management Plan)<br>recommendations for<br>Ref2Lind for a wider<br>availability of Ref2Link<br>within the Commission                         | Implementation of recommendations                                | 85% of recommendations are implemented   | Integration with EU<br>Login in 2021  |
| A collaborative platform<br>for the co-edition of<br>Sensitive, Non-classified<br>documents  | The platform is available  | The real-world suitability of the solution is being evaluated, especially in the context of the generalisation of M365 | The pilot platform is currently in use in competition team. Transition to Teams/SP online under scrutiny. |
| All lawyers to take online<br>EU training or to<br>participate in an advanced<br>seminar to ensure<br>increased awareness and<br>knowledge on data<br>protection rules | % of lawyers undertaking<br>training/participation in<br>seminar | 50% of all Legal Service<br>lawyers by end of 2021   | 30% of Legal Service<br>lawyers have<br>undertaken training in<br>data protection.                        |

### Sound environmental management

**Objective 5:** The Legal Service takes full account of its environemental impact in all its actions and actively promotes measures to reduce the related day-to-day impact of the administration and its work.

**Indicator 5.1:** Promoting active contribution to waste reduction by participating in

various waste reduction campaigns and proposals for new ways of

working which would decrease waste.

**Source of data:** DG HR and internal reports from the EMAS correspondent

#### Main outputs in 2021:

| Description   | Indicator  | Target | Latest known results  |
|---|--|--------|---|
| Launch a call for interest<br>to form a LS group on<br>EMAS actions in the Legal<br>Service | Number of meetings<br>held to prepare an action<br>plan for 2021                               | 3      | 3   |
| Reduce Waste presentations to Commission DGs, Services and Agencies                         | Number of presentations given  | 1      | 1   |
| Bottle top collection   | Number of bottle top<br>collections in BERL (joint<br>action with Sec Gen and<br>the Cabinets) | 1      | None - due to limited number<br>of staff in the office during<br>the Covid pandemic |

# ANNEX 11: Implementation through national or international public-sector bodies and bodies governed by private law with a public sector mission (if applicable)

### ANNEX 12: EAMR of the Union Delegations (if applicable)

### ANNEX 13: Decentralised agencies and/or EU Trust Funds (if applicable)

### ANNEX 14: Reporting on the Recovery and Resilience Facility