EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

Mandate of Rulebook Development Group workstream G4: "Implementation Specifications for Interactions between Digital Euro Service Platform (DESP) and Intermediaries"

1. Reminder of the Rulebook Development Group's mandate

The digital euro scheme's Rulebook Development Group (RDG) was established by the High-Level Task Force on Central Bank Digital Currency at its meeting on 19 January 2023 with the aim of drawing up a draft rulebook for the digital euro, building on design decisions taken by the Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB).

Under the RDG's mandate, the Chair of the RDG can set up workstreams for the elaboration of deliverables requiring specific skills and knowledge. The Chair of the RDG reports to the Digital Euro Programme Manager.

2. Mission and objectives of workstream G4: "Implementation Specifications for Interactions between Digital Euro Service Platform (DESP) and Intermediaries"

Workstream G4 ("Implementation Specifications for Interactions between Digital Euro Service Platform (DESP) and intermediaries") has been established by the Chair of the RDG.

Workstream G4 will operate under the present mandate from its inception. It will continue to pursue this mandate until otherwise instructed by the Chair of the RDG.

The main objective of workstream G4 is to develop a proposal for the rulebook as regards implementation specifications for interactions between the Digital Euro Service Platform and intermediaries.

This workstream will reach out to the relevant standard setting bodies to facilitate a collaborative approach.

Although the overall workstream (G) consists of different sub-workstreams (G1, G2, G3 and G4) dealing with specific areas, they will all be coordinated via an overlay structure.

3. Deliverables

Workstream G4 will develop a proposal for the rulebook in relation to implementation specifications. The proposal should include draft paragraphs for the following sections:

- Section 5 ("Technical scheme requirements") and related implementation specification annexes

All intellectual property rights, copyright, and rights of development and disposal relating to the deliverables of workstream G4 will reside exclusively with the ECB.

4.   Key guiding principles

The guiding principles governing the work of the RDG will also apply to workstream G4. As a reminder, these are as follows:

1) The building blocks of the digital euro rulebook should be developed on the basis of design decisions taken by the Governing Council or a delegated body.

2) Digital euro solutions that are enabled by the Eurosystem – and potentially complemented by the market – must be attractive to all actors in Europe's retail payment market, particularly users of the digital euro.

3) The design of the digital euro rulebook must enable the market to develop further services and solutions on top of the scope initially foreseen for the digital euro. At the same time, the digital euro must function as a basic means of payment in the euro area without any such additional market-driven developments.

4) The RDG must leverage and build on existing standards and scheme solutions to the extent possible, without limiting the Eurosystem's freedom of choice in the further development of the digital euro.

5.   Composition of the workstream

Workstream G4 will consist of representatives of the Eurosystem and, as a rule, a maximum of 16 participants from the private sector.[1]

A call for candidates for the private sector places will be launched by the RDG's secretariat and published on the ECB's website.

The composition of workstream G4 will seek to ensure fair and balanced representation of the various relevant stakeholders and types of player, while considering the mission and objectives of the workstream. The Chair of the RDG will decide on the final composition.

Candidates for workstream G4 should be leading experts on payment infrastructure and architecture, technical specifications and scheme management, with a focus on implementation specifications for interactions between intermediaries and payment

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[1] The final number of private sector participants may, in theory, be slightly higher than 16, depending on the outcome of the call for candidates.

schemes (settlement services, fraud risk management services, tokenisation services, alias lookup services, etc.). They should be experienced in leading mirror working groups. Candidates should be inspired by the opportunity to shape the digital euro scheme's rulebook and be committed to the success of the digital euro in general and the delivery of the rulebook in particular. They should be able to devote the necessary time to workstream G4 and be proficient in English (the working language of the workstream). A supporting statement from a member of the RDG will also be required.

Workstream participants will be required to convey the collective positions of their respective stakeholder associations and contribute to discussions in line with the official views of such associations.

RDG members are also allowed to join workstream sessions as observers.

Workstream G4 will be chaired by a representative of the Eurosystem, who will be designated by the Chair of the RDG.

The RDG's secretariat will be responsible for proactively guiding workstream G4, helping to ensure that it meets its deliverables and in ensuring consistency with its objective. The RDG's secretariat will report to the Chair of the RDG in this regard.

6. Organisational arrangements

In general, workstream G4 will hold meetings by telephone/video conference in line with the demands of its work. Workstream participants are expected to work in an agile and responsive manner, with a large number of meetings taking place over a four-month period.[2] They are encouraged to participate in all meetings and contribute actively to deliverables.

Workstream G4 will report to the Chair of the RDG.

7. Confidentiality, transparency and publication of materials

Most material shared with participants will be available to both workstream G4 and the RDG, but some – exceptionally – may be available only to members of the workstream. The material will be labelled accordingly.

The deliverables of workstream G4 (including interim reports) will be submitted to the RDG for review and consideration.

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[2]   There is some scope to extend the duration of the mandate if this would lead to significantly better outcomes.

8.   Data protection

Participants in workstream G4 must refrain from processing any personal data accessed or obtained through their participation, except as required to perform the duties described in this mandate.

9.   Resources and remuneration

Participants in workstream G4 are expected to contribute reasonable human and financial resources to its activities. Participation in the workstream's activities will not be remunerated, and participants will not receive any reimbursement of travel or subsistence expenses in connection with their attendance at workstream meetings.