



SPAA MSG 016-21

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Approved

## Minutes of the fifth meeting of the SEPA Payment Account Access Multi-Stakeholder Group (SPAA MSG)

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams meeting

**Distribution:** SPAA MSG

**Meeting Date:** 3 December 2021 (10.00-16:00 CET)

### 1 Welcome by the SPAA MSG co-chairs

The co-chairs A. González Mac Dowell and C. Schäfer welcomed the members to the fifth meeting of the SEPA Payment Account Access Multi-Stakeholder Group (SPAA MSG).

Please see Annex I for the list of attendees.

### 2 Approval of the agenda (SPAA MSG 011-21)

The agenda was approved unchanged.

### 3 Approval of the minutes and review of the action points of the third meeting of the SPAA MSG (SPAA MSG 010-21)

The minutes of the third meeting that took place on 8 November 2021 were approved by the SPAA MSG, subject to some minor editorial updates. The approved minutes will be published in due course on the EPC website.

### 4 Status update on latest developments

Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell provided the following report on the 24 November 2021 meeting of the Board:

- The Board accepted the invitation of the ERPB to take up the role of SPAA scheme manager.
- Updates were provided on the establishment of the SPAA scheme's Interest Group (i.e. non-EPC Members not represented in the SPAA MSG but interested in participating in the work on the development of a SPAA scheme (against a financial contribution)) and Module 3 participants (in essence EPC Members not directly represented in the SPAA MSG but interested in participating in the work on the development of a SPAA scheme (against a financial contribution)). Taking into account the feedback received from EPC Members and non-EPC Members, the EPC is planning - in addition to providing at regular intervals the unpublished draft deliverables of the SPAA MSG for input (with such contributions to be fed into the work of the SPAA MSG) - to also schedule a few virtual meetings before key



milestones in the development of the SPAA scheme. As a first step an introduction session will be scheduled.

E. Goosse informed that A. González Mac Dowell and himself had provided a SPAA scheme status update at the 25 November 2021 meeting of the ERPB. The ERPB had warmly welcomed the decision of the EPC to assume the role of SPAA scheme manager. The statement of the 25 November 2021 meeting which was published on the ECB's website will be shared with the SPAA MSG members for information.

Co-chair C. Schäfer informed that a follow-up call between DG FISMA and the SPAA MSG co-chairs had taken place in the context of their previous mandate as co-chairs of the ERPB Working Group on a SEPA API Access Scheme (ERPB WG API) and in particular concerning the second recommendation included in the June 2021 report in relation to the need to explore the implementation for financial asset classes beyond payments. It was noted that the EC's Expert Group on the European financial data space is preparing to establish a subgroup which - via a bottom-up approach - will focus on this second recommendation and on framing the ecosystem for asset classes beyond finance. The first meeting of the subgroup is expected to take place on 15 December 2021. Also, the co-chairs had informally been given an opportunity to review the draft terms of reference of the anticipated subgroup and they had provided the below suggestions which were welcomed by DG FISMA:

- Focus not to be limited to access to data but also to include initiation of transactions.
- The scope to be further specified (i.e. also actors and commercial principles to be discussed).

The SPAA MSG co-chairs informed that they would act as a 'linking pin' between the two workstreams (i.e. SPAA MSG and the aforementioned subgroup).

Following a question on whether this subgroup would focus on the creation of a type of 'umbrella scheme', co-chair C. Schäfer clarified that as a start the work would be explorative (similar to what was done by the ERPB WG API) and as a result it would be premature to already have this discussion now. Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell moreover added that coexistence of the two schemes should be strived for.

## **5 Further development of SPAA scheme related requirements (SPAA MSG 002-21)**

At the previous meeting it had been decided to park the discussion in relation to customer journey #2 "Payments to multiple counterparties" as further information was needed to better understand this customer journey. Co-chair C. Schäfer explained that initially the following two use cases had been explored:

- A PSU books a flight, hotel and rental car via a product aggregation site, whereby one single payment (with one SCA) is made to this booking site. It was decided previously by the SPAA MSG that this use case has no relevance for the scheme, and hence could be removed.
- A PSU books a flight, hotel and rental car via a travel booking site, whereby three separate payments are done (with one SCA) after which the payments are sent to multiple receivers. This use case was seen as in scope of the scheme.

Following a question on currency, it was explained that the current SEPA payment related schemes such as SPL and SRTP are open to the official currencies of the SEPA geographic area (whereas the SEPA payment schemes are limited to Euro). A similar decision could be made for the SPAA scheme. Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell commented that some business requirements will however not be currency related.



## 6 Review of 'high-level' draft table of contents of the SPAA scheme rulebook (SPAA MSG 013-21)

A draft table of contents had been distributed prior to the meeting to the SPAA MSG members and comments had been received via email from H. Fürstenau. It was explained that the table of contents took inspiration from the payment related rulebooks such as SPL and SRTP (in particular with regard to the governance related sections). A number of comments were noted in relation to the following sections:

- Section 1.2 “Actors”: The different roles of the actors should also be described here.
- Section 1.10 “Scheme participation fees”: This section will merely explain the general principle related to scheme participation fees. The scheme fees as such are to be published on the EPC website to ensure transparency and also to avoid that the rulebook would need to be changed in case there would be a change in the fees. It was moreover clarified that the scheme participation fees need to be distinguished from the fees that will be described in the business conditions section (see below annex 7).
- Section 2.1.1 “Future dated payments”:
  - Payment with unknown final amount (for one payment only) should also fall under this section.
  - H. Fürstenau commented that if the amount is exceeded, a separate API call will be necessary (as this would be a separate service).
- Section 2.2.1 “Real-time payment guarantee”:
  - H. Fürstenau commented that “reservation” refers to a reservation of funds (30 days).
- Section 2.2.7 “Payer Identification”:
  - H. Fürstenau commented that this topic is similar to ID services and hence an overlap should be avoided.
- Section 2.2.13 “Instant payment release notification and confirmation”:
  - It was clarified that this would be related to instant payments only.
- Chapter 3 “Infrastructure related requirements for scheme participants”:
  - The list of requirements was copied from the June 2021 report of the ERPB WG API.
  - A dedicated work block will be established for this topic in 2022.
- Section 4.3 “Eligibility criteria”:
  - P. Spittler asked whether the obligation to provide a minimum service would be covered under reachability. At this point in time this is not yet known.
- Chapter 5 “Scheme Management”:
  - This section describes the standardised approach that is followed by the EPC in relation to the scheme change management process. For the time being the SPAA MSG is listed as the group that will be in charge of this task.
- Annex 7 “Business conditions”:
  - This annex will cover in detail the applicable fees (excluding the scheme participant fees).
  - The suggestion is to cover business conditions in a separate annex so that it can be updated independently of the rulebook.

As a general remark, H. Robache indicated that a customer journey can be interpreted as an API interaction between the asset holder and asset broker and as a result he would prefer to use the term “use case” (as an API interaction does not include consumers). G. Debost agreed that the term “customer journey” sounds too much commercial space related and added that the term “customer” might also be removed in the next version of the SEPA payment schemes. Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell commented that customer journeys are provided to illustrate the purpose of the business requirements (i.e. to show use cases for the business requirements). H. Robache



moreover added that for example a payment reservation is a service that is implemented by the asset holder for which no API interaction is needed. However a customer journey such as future dated payments can be seen as an API interaction which could also ask for a reservation of funds. It was noted that this topic should be further clarified for example in the API specification related section of the rulebook.

H. Robache furthermore remarked that for the different customer journeys a dataset would need to be defined. This could however be challenging in view of the short rulebook delivery deadline. In this context E. Goosse remarked that it would indeed be important for the SPAA MSG to prioritise the topics to be covered in version one of the SPAA scheme rulebook. It was concluded that a customer journey/business requirement will be selected by the co-chairs as a sort of ‘pilot’ in order to better understand how much time would be required to finalise one topic and that a discussion on prioritisation is foreseen for the February 2022 meeting. Following a comment from T. Zerkti, co-chair C. Schäfer explained that a modular approach is to be envisaged and that it is still to be clarified what exactly will be covered in the first version of the SPAA scheme rulebook. T. Sabri commented that if certain business requirements would be made optional then it would be fundamental that this is clarified from the start. Co-chair C. Schäfer agreed and added that whatever will be covered in the rulebook needs to make sense to both asset holders and asset brokers. In any case, the “what” will need to be clear before the public consultation in May 2022. T. Sabri reacted by saying that hopefully a minimum “toolset” (including a set of API requirements) could be agreed at the next meeting.

The SPAA MSG endorsed the high-level table of contents (subject to the comments received) as well as the approach to develop a ‘pilot’ which following approval at the next meeting could be used as a template for the other customer journeys/business requirements.

### **7 Next steps, including the review of the 2022 meeting calendar (SPAA MSG 012-21; SPAA MSG 004-21)**

The SPAA MSG approved the 2022 meeting calendar.

Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell however questioned whether the number of planned meetings would be sufficient taking into account the extended table of contents (see above) and the related complexities. E. Goosse responded that if needed additional meetings could be accommodated but added that sufficient time is required in between meetings in order for the Secretariat to be able to produce the deliverables. Co-chair C. Schäfer added that the time needed for constituencies to review and generate feedback is also to be taken into account

The next (virtual) SPAA MSG meeting is scheduled to take place on 27 January 2022.

### **8 Introduction to “giroAPI”**

H. Fürstenau provided a presentation on the topic of “giroAPI”, which is an initiative of the German Banking Industry Committee (GBIC) in relation to premium API services for its API Access Scheme.

The following comments, questions and clarifications were noted:

- GBIC’s experience in relation to prioritisation could be used as inspiration for the development of the SPAA scheme.
- Future integration of GBIC’s sub-scheme payment into the SPAA scheme is envisaged.
- It is not a multi-stakeholder project as such but as a first step TPPs will be able to provide their input and other entities (such as merchants) will also be involved at a later stage.
- Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell asked how premium services will be integrated in a basic API and whether there will be an assessment of the basic services (i.e. it should be ensured that



the basic services are functioning well prior to offering premium services). H. Fürstenau explained that premium services are offered with different end-points. Services will be provided that are basic and also premium and hence directory services will be needed to inform the asset brokers that have joined the (sub-)scheme.

- Initially no optional premium features have been foreseen for asset holders. However, if new participants want to join there will be a possibility to have optional services for a limited period of time (this to accommodate the time needed to implement these services).
- T. Sabri commented that TPPs are creating value (innovators) and as such they should be involved in the governance structure. H. Fürstenau explained that time is of the essence and that the initial focus is on delivering without delay a minimum viable product. In this context, co-chair C. Schäfer asked the TPP's represented in the SPAA MSG whether the topics that will be covered in the SPAA scheme are indeed seen as relevant and whether there is a potential timing issue. No concerns were raised in this regard.
- The co-chairs were of the view that potentially the term "services" (as used by GBIC) could also be used in the SPAA scheme rulebook as an alternative for "customer journeys". This will need to be further assessed.
- P. Spittler and R. Ohlhausen raised a concern in relation to the fact that the pricing is percentage based. Coming to an agreement might be difficult and a proper justification will need to be provided.

The "giroAPI" presentation will be shared with the SPAA MSG and classified as requested as a confidential document (i.e. for SPAA MSG members only). Some members asked H. Fürstenau whether it would be possible to receive a non-confidential shorter version of this presentation in order to be able to share it within their constituency. They were invited to liaise offline with H. Fürstenau in that respect.

## 9 AOB

No other topics were discussed.

## 10 Closure of meeting

The co-chairs closed the meeting at around 13.00 CET, thanked the members for the productive meeting and added that they looked forward to the next phase.



## Annex I: List of attendees

Country	Name	Institution	Attendance
<b>Co-Chairs</b>			
EU	Arturo González Mac Dowell	Tink	Yes
DE	Christian Schaefer	Deutsche Bank (supported by the three ECSAs)	Yes
<b>Members</b>			
AT	Hendrik Muus	PSA	Yes
DE	Caroline Jenke	FinTecSystems GmbH	Yes
DE	Christian Wenz	PPI AG	Yes
DE	Hartwig Gerhartinger	Paysafe Group	Yes
DE	Hermann Fürstenau	Association of German Public Banks (VÖB) (nominated by GBIC)	Yes
EU	Alessia Benevelli	ESBG	Yes
EU	Gijs Boudewijn	EBF	Yes
EU	Jasper De Meyer	BEUC	Yes
EU	Nickolas Reinhardt <sup>1</sup>	EPIF	
EU	Farid Aliyev <sup>2</sup>	EACB	Yes
EU	Massimo Battistella	EACT	Yes
EU	Michel Van Mello <sup>3</sup>	EuroCommerce	Yes
EU	Ralf Ohlhausen	ETPPA	Yes
EU	Tarik Zerkti	PRETA S.A.S.	Yes
EU	Thaer Sabri	EMA	Yes
FI	Suvi Rautakorpi	Finance Finland	Yes
FR	Fanny Rodriguez	Bankin' and Bridge	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Alternate for K. Korus

<sup>2</sup> Alternate for M. Van Berkel

<sup>3</sup> P. Spittler temporarily joined as alternate



FR	Gildas Le Louarn	Linxo	Yes
FR	Géraldine Debost	Crédit Agricole S.A. (nominated by the French banking community)	Yes
FR	Hervé Robache	STET (nominated by the French banking community)	Yes
IE	Jack Wilson	TrueLayer	Yes
IT	Alessio Castelli	CBI S.c.p.a.	Yes
IT	Andrea Coggerino	Intesa Sanpaolo (nominated by ABI)	Yes
NL	Daniel Morgan	Plaid	Yes
NL	Rob van Bergen	ING (nominated by the Dutch Payments Association)	Yes
PT	João Sarilho	SIBS (nominated by Association of Portuguese Banks)	Yes
SE	Jens Olsson	Trustly	Yes
	<b>Observers</b>		
EU	Julia Weits	European Commission	Yes
EU	Kerstin Junius	European Central Bank	Yes
	<b>EPC Secretariat</b>		
	Christophe Godefroi		Yes
	Etienne Goosse		Yes
	Silvia Di Lillo		Yes



## Annex II: Action points

Ref.	Action	Owner	Status/Target
05-01	Share the following with the SPAA MSG members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Link to the statement of the 25 November 2021 meeting of the ERPB</li> <li>- GBIC's "giroAPI" presentation (confidential)</li> </ul>	SPAA MSG secretariat	3 December 2021
05-02	Provide the approved version of the 2022 meeting calendar and send out the related Outlook invitations	SPAA MSG secretariat	6 December 2021
05-03	Prepare a skeleton draft version of the SPAA scheme rulebook (including a completed customer journey/business requirement)	SPAA MSG secretariat	20 January 2021
05-04	Liaise directly with H. Fürstenau in relation to potentially obtain a shorter and non-confidential version of the "giroAPI" presentation	SPAA MSG Members	N/A