



SPAA MSG 017-25

Version 1.0

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APPROVED

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

**Venue:** Teleconference (via Microsoft Teams)

**Distribution:** SPAA MSG

**Meeting Date:** 28 October 2025 (10:00-11:30 CET)

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

Co-chairs A. González Mac Dowell and A. Widegren welcomed the members to the fortieth meeting of the SEPA Payment Account Access Multi-Stakeholder Group (SPAA MSG).

The meeting was quorate. The list of attendees and proxies can be found in Annex I.

### 2 Approval of the agenda (SPAA MSG 016-25)

The agenda was approved unchanged.

### 3 Approval of the minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> SPAA MSG meeting (SPAA MSG 014-25)

The minutes of the meeting that took place on 8 September 2025 were approved, subject to a couple of minor editorial updates.

The SPAA MSG was informed that the action point pertaining to the Legal Support Group (LSG) could be removed from the list, as the related topics had been preliminary assessed by the LSG. Once the rescoping exercise has been concluded, these topics might potentially need to be picked up again by the SPAA MSG.

### 4 Status update on latest developments

The following information was shared:

- At its September 2025 meeting, the Board approved the SPAA MSG proposed approach for preparing the future direction of the SPAA scheme.
- The co-chairs and secretariat participated in a follow-up call with DSGV, during which they were provided with an update on i) the ongoing pilot with a dedicated asset broker and ii) DSGV survey regarding API-based payments. M. Kuhnke hoped to be a position to give an update on the survey results during the January 2026 SPAA MSG meeting.
- On 3 October 2025, a Teams meeting was held to provide the Module 3 and SPAA Scheme Interest Group participants with a status update on the activities of the SPAA MSG and offer an opportunity for input and questions.
- The co-chairs have scheduled a follow-up call with DG FISMA in November 2025.



The group was informed that the Dutch Payments Association (DPA) had announced its withdrawal as active member of the SPAA MSG, mainly due to a lack of interest from the Dutch community. A couple of members and one observer expressed their surprise regarding DPA's decision. They commented that by participating in the current discussions on the future of SPAA, DPA would have an opportunity to share its views on what would need to be changed or improved in order to help motivate the Dutch asset holder community to join SPAA. The secretariat was asked to reach out to DPA to share the aforementioned comments and to see whether they would be willing to reconsider their decision.

Additionally, it was noted that several members had missed two consecutive meetings, which according to the SPAA MSG Terms of Reference would lead to the replacement *“by another member (within the same membership category) on a waiting list or alternatively through a call for candidates”*. Given the specific situation the SPAA MSG is currently in and the lack of a waiting list, the group concurred to not enforce this rule. The secretariat was however asked to contact these members to remind them of this rule. In addition, members who have not yet nominated an alternate were again encouraged to do so.

Following a question from a member, it was clarified that to ensure voting parity, the ToR foresees the implementation of *“a parity mechanism using a weighted voted approach”*.

#### **5 Report on preparatory steps to determine the future direction of SPAA (SPAA MSG 015-25)**

The group received, prior to the meeting, a draft document outlining the proposed survey approach and a list of possible topics to be discussed regarding the future direction of SPAA.

Co-chair A. Widegren informed that he had been in discussions with the EC, during which it was emphasized that SPAA is the platform for the future landscape of the PSR and potentially FIDA. A few members suggested that feedback be shared with the EC, highlighting that it is primarily due to these regulations that the SPAA scheme has become less attractive to asset holders.

Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell noted that the initial idea had been to set up calls with individual SPAA MSG members/observers, but he suggested that as a first step, it might be more productive to gauge the views on a way forward for SPAA via a questionnaire. In addition, he proposed extending the survey to EuroCommerce (who used to be a member of the SPAA MSG) as merchants are a key stakeholder, the API Standardization Task Force<sup>1</sup> as well as Module 3 and SPAA Scheme Interest Group participants. Following a comment from J. Vanhautère, it was agreed that the involvement of the API STF would need to be limited to assessing possible convergence with the Berlin Group's openFinance API standard and the giroAPI scheme.

The following comments were noted in relation to the proposed discussion topics in document SPAA MSG 015-25:

- C. Harris supported the listed discussion topics, as well as the idea of broadening the survey to other stakeholders. However, he suggested including some further clarifications on the terminology used (for example, what exactly is an 'overlay' scheme) to ensure consistency in the responses.
- Based on recent experiences, M. Kuhnke suggested opting for an online questionnaire and avoiding too many open-ended questions, as this could lead to issues when encoding the responses. H. Fürstenau added that some of the current questions might be too complex.

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<sup>1</sup> The chair of the API STF also used to be a member of the SPAA MSG.



- J. Kerstin asked whether it would be still feasible to submit written comments on the list of questions. She agreed with the need to further clarify certain concepts and with the idea of creating an online questionnaire. Regarding the SWOT analysis, she suggested combining several items listed as opportunities and adding real 'core' opportunities linked to open banking, such as the possibility of monetising certain assets.
- J. Vanhautère informed that the French community sees a timing issue, as the plan is to complete the questionnaire before the PSR has been finalised. As an example, he referred to the Dynamic Recurring Payment (DRP) feature in the rulebook and the fact that the current PSR text stipulates that for each separate payment an authorisation will be required from the customer. In his view, the outcome of the SWOT analysis might differ once the final PSR text is known, and it should be avoided that the questionnaire becomes merely an academic exercise. He agreed that a closed-ended questionnaire setup would be necessary, with an option to indicate priorities. In response, M. Kuhnke informed that respondents could be asked to prioritize closed-ended questions with numbers (e.g. please prioritize three questions in each of the following question blocks from 1 to 3, with 1 being the highest priority and each priority to be assigned only once). On the other hand, M. Kuhnke strongly suggested not delaying the distribution of the questionnaire, especially given the March 2026 deadline, and added that the questions covered reflect clear market needs.
- H. Fürstenau suggested to also include a question on what would need to be changed or approved in order to convince in particular asset holders to join SPAA.
- O. Scheja highlighted the distinction between API specifications and API standards. He added that the Berlin Group offers standardised services, so in his view, the EPC will need to develop API specifications on top of them. He noted that this aspect is not yet covered in the current questionnaire and therefore agreed to prepare some suggested additional questions.
- J. Vanhautère believed that the questionnaire should cover dependencies from a regulatory, technical and network perspective.
- It was noted that a question could be added regarding whether the respondent would require a follow-up call with the co-chairs.

After further discussions on the time required to review the questionnaire and subsequently complete it, the following approach was approved:

- SPAA MSG members/observers will be given two weeks to review the questionnaire.
- The SPAA MSG co-chairs and secretariat are entrusted with finalising the questionnaire based on the comments received.
- An online questionnaire will be created and made available around mid-November 2025, with a response timeline of four weeks.
- The Module 3 and SPAA Scheme Interest Group participants, along with the API STF (limited scope) and EuroCommerce, will also be invited to participate in the questionnaire.

Co-chair A. González Mac Dowell reminded that the objective is to present a report on the future direction of SPAA to the MSG by the end of January 2026, incorporating feedback from the responses to the aforementioned survey. It was noted that, given this timeline, organising a public consultation - which would also require prior approval from the Board - would not be feasible. Upon endorsement by the SPAA MSG, a proposed way forward for SPAA, including a detailed workplan, will be submitted for approval at the 5 March 2026 Board meeting.

Additionally, R. Ohlhausen informed that he will soon meet with representatives of a new merchant initiative, where he plans to also discuss the topic of SPAA. H. Fürstenau commented



that the pain point predominantly lies with the asset holders, and that their involvement is key to making SPAA a success. However, R. Ohlhausen believed that an increased interest from the merchant side could also help convince the asset holders to join the SPAA scheme.

#### **6 AOB**

No other topics were discussed

#### **7 Closure of meeting**

The co-chairs closed the meeting at around 11:30 CET and thanked the group for the productive meeting.



## Annex I: List of attendees

Name	Institution	Category	Country	Attendance
<b>Co-Chairs</b>				
Arturo González Mac Dowell	Inespay (nominated by the three ENCAs)	Asset Broker	EU	Yes
Andreas Widegren	Nordea (nominated by the three ECAs)	Asset Holder	EU	Yes
<b>Members</b>				
Angel Salamanca	Adyen	Asset Holder	NL	Apologies
Hermann Fürstenau	Association of German Public Banks (VÖB) (nominated by GBIC)	Asset Holder	DE	Yes
Anna Maj	Bridge	Asset Broker	FR	Apologies
Géraldine Debost	Crédit Agricole S.A. (nominated by the French banking community)	Asset Holder	FR	Apologies <sup>2</sup>
Michael Kuhnke	DSGV (nominated by ESBG)	Asset Holder	EU	Yes
Ruth Mitchell	Electronic Money Association (EMA)	Asset Broker	EU	Yes
Agori Michopoulou <sup>3</sup>	EPIF	Asset Broker	EU	Yes
Ralf Ohlhausen	ETPPA	Asset Broker	EU	Yes
Fanny Rodriguez	Fintecture	Asset Broker	FR	Apologies
Chris Harris	Mastercard	Asset Broker	UK	Yes
Miguel Torres Vila	Redsys Servicios de Procesamiento	Asset Holder	ES	Apologies
João Sarilho	SIBS (nominated by Association of Portuguese Banks)	Asset Holder	PT	Yes
Jacques Vanhautère	STET (nominated by the French banking community)	Asset Holder	FR	Yes
Caroline Jenke	Tink	Asset Broker	UK	Yes
Robert Sullivan	Token	Asset Broker	UK	Yes
Anna Kelly	TrueLayer	Asset Broker	IE	Yes
Oscar Berglund	Trustly	Asset Broker	SE	Apologies
Luca Vanni	Unicredit (nominated by ABI)	Asset Holder	IT	Yes
<b>Observers</b>				

<sup>2</sup> Proxy to J. Vanhautère

<sup>3</sup> Replacing N. Reinhardt



Kannan Rasappan	Banfico	UK	Yes
Alessio Castelli	CBI S.c.p.a.	IT	Yes
Kerstin Junius	European Central Bank	EU	Yes
Michal Kwiatkowsky	European Commission	EU	Yes
Wijnand Machielse	The Berlin Group	EU	Yes
Ortwin Scheja	The Berlin Group	EU	Yes
Jayakumar Gopalakrishnan	Volante Technologies Limited	UK	Apologies
<b>EPC secretariat</b>			
Christophe Godefroi			Yes
Giorgio Andreoli			Yes (partly)
Silvia Di Lillo			Apologies



## Annex II: Action points

Ref.	Action	Owner	Status/Target
35.5	Provide further clarity on the expected EDS cost for SPAA scheme participants	EPC secretariat	In due course
36.7	Contact the ECSAs to create awareness around the SPAA pilot project (with involvement of the SPAA Communication WB)	Co-chair A. Widegren & SPAA COM WB	In due course
40.1	Publish the latest approved SPAA MSG minutes and agenda on the EPC website	SPAA MSG secretariat	30 October 2025
40.2	Contact DPA to share the noted comments and explore whether they would be willing to reconsider their decision.	SPAA MSG secretariat	30 October 2025
40.3	Review the list of questions in relation to the future direction of SPAA and provide comments and suggestions in writing	SPAA MSG members	12 November 2025
40.4	Propose a couple of dates for the January 2026 SPAA MSG meeting	SPAA MSG co-chairs & secretariat	14 November 2025
40.5	Remind certain members about the policy (ToR) regarding the consequences of missing two consecutive meetings.	SPAA MSG secretariat	14 November 2025