

# Carriers Working Group of 9 January 2023

## Summary

**Subject: Monthly Carriers Working Group meeting**

**Sea and Land Carriers at 10:00– 13:00 CET**

**Participants:** Carriers for the sea, land and air industry, carrier associations, European Commission (DG HOME), Member State (MS) experts, Frontex and eu-LISA

<p><b>1. Introduction</b></p> <p><b>a. Agenda</b></p> <p><b>b. Carriers meeting calendar</b></p>	<p>The agenda of the 19<sup>th</sup> Carriers Working Group was presented to the participants.</p> <p>The WG took note of the Carriers meeting calendar with highlights of the dates of upcoming meetings until May. The next Carriers Working Group meeting will take place on 2 February; and there will be one meeting per month until May, respectively on 1 March, 3 April and 15 May 2023. <i>Ad hoc</i> meetings can be organised upon request.</p>
<p><b>2. How to cope with fake ETIAS website and press articles (European Commission)</b></p>	<p>DG HOME presented the official common website for EES and ETIAS along with the EES and ETIAS subsites. DG HOME also informed the carriers about the availability of numerous fake EES-ETIAS websites that are actively outreaching travel agencies, carriers and 3<sup>rd</sup> countries, claiming to be official channels of information while containing incorrect information about these systems. DG HOME explained how to recognise the official EU website by showing the common landing page, indicating the correct URL and noting that the official websites use the EU logo. A dedicated service within the Commission is in charge to take legal action to prevent the use of the EU logo on unofficial websites.</p> <p>The EES and ETIAS websites are currently available in English and will be made available in all the EU languages. The ETIAS website will include also 5 non-EU languages.</p> <p>The steps to apply for ETIAS authorisation were explained. It was highlighted that applicants can check the status of their application in the</p>

	<p>verification tool, which is currently under development. In addition, the carriers were informed about the travel document scanning feature - MRZ scanner - on the mobile app that has been implemented to avoid typos or mistakes in the information concerning the passenger. It was noted that this scanning feature is only available on the mobile app, not on the website.</p>
<p><b>3. Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p>During the Q&amp;A session, the Commission, eu-LISA and Frontex answered several questions posed by the carriers.</p> <p>With regard to the EES EiO date, DG HOME and eu-LISA explained that the project is facing some contractual issues and the PMB's opinion on the state of play of the project will be discussed at the eu-LISA Management Board meeting on 12 January 2023. eu-LISA also explained that the simulator environment provided to the carriers is currently unavailable to the carriers (including the ones who had connected earlier). eu-LISA is working on re-establishing the access/service within the shortest possible time.</p> <p>DG HOME noted that they are organising regular information sessions for 3<sup>rd</sup> countries, including the press of the 3<sup>rd</sup> countries, to raise awareness and fight fake news. The communication campaign for EES will be launched three months before the EiO of EES.</p> <p>IATA raised a question about the proposed Ad-Hoc meeting to be held as regards the various itinerary scenarios that the carriers may face and which might need clarification. eu-LISA explained that, since no scenarios were proposed for discussion from the carriers yet, the meeting scheduling is pending. The carriers were again reminded to send their specific scenarios for clarification and discussion in relation to the table provided in the last Carriers WG.</p> <p>Next, a question on handling the collective or group passports for school groups in EES and ETIAS was raised. eu-LISA explained that an answer had been provided to the same question already earlier - only individual passports are accepted. However, DG HOME will double-check the question and provide an answer at a later stage.</p> <p>As regards the possibility to see the ETIAS application form (the applicant's view in order to better understand the passenger experience) before ETIAS EiO, eu-LISA explained that this website will become available when ETIAS enters into operation and going through the initial set of mock-ups could be beyond the scope of the Working Group.</p>