



Meeting of the Financial Services User Group via conference call - Draft Minutes

26 March 2020

Internal meeting

Time: 14.30 – 16.30

Meeting with the contractor

Time: 16.30 – 17.30

Internal meeting

Adoption of the agenda, approval of the minutes of the March 2020 meeting

The agenda for the meeting was adopted and the minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

FSUG members confirmed Anne-Sophie Parent as Chair of the FSUG. Christiane Hölz, Daniela Vandone and Farid Aliyev were (re)appointed as Vice-Chairs.

To allow for three members of the FSUG to become Vice-Chairs, members decided to modify the Group's Rule of Procedure.

Annual Report

As regards the Annual Report, a draft was prepared and it needs to be completed.

Report back from High-Level Forum on capital markets union (HLF on CMU)

The HLF has three subgroups:

1. Ecosystem for capital raising with special focus on SMEs
2. Pan-European market architecture
3. Retail investor participation and diversification of investor base

FSUG members participating to the HLF on CMU presented the FSUG perspective to the second subgroup (very specific and technical group). From the users point of view, there is a strong

disintermediation: shareholders can hardly communicate with the issuers because of too many intermediaries in between. The flaws in the market architecture and communications need to be improved.

The FSUG will provide comments on the HLF on CMU report once it is published.

- FSUG members who would be committed to work on the CMU HLF report should let the Secretariat/other members know.

Impact of COVID-19 crisis on people's finances

Members discussed the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on consumers' finances.

- In several Member States public or private driven initiatives such as deferral of loan repayments were introduced to help borrowers. Some Member States are granting money to SMEs.
 - One of the issues is the definition of moratoria. Consumers might end up paying a lot in case there is a suspension of the repayment of the principle but not of interests.
 - The COVID-19 crisis is affecting heavily the self-employed, either because they cannot work or if they work because they could be exposed to the virus.
 - There is a big impact on financial services user representatives (e.g. need to delay EC consultations).
 - On 25 March EBA has published a [Statement on consumer and payment issues in light of COVID19](#) [post-meeting note: on 2 April EBA published [Guidelines on legislative and non-legislative moratoria on loan repayments applied in the light of the COVID-19 crisis](#)].
- Farid, Olivier and Vinay will co-lead a subgroup collecting current practices at national level to protect financial services users in the light of the Covid-19 crisis. Other members of the group are Morten, Christiane, Daniela, Farid, Simone, Rym.

Study on inducement - Aleksandra

An ongoing FISMA study is already covering disclosure inducement and suitability assessment in 15 Member States, so there is no need for a FSUG dedicated study.

The FSUG 2020 budget can be used for small size studies.

- Ideas for small-scale projects should be sent to the Secretariat ahead of the next meeting.

Updates from the Commission

- The update on PRIIPs will be provided at the next meeting.
- PAD: a new study on switching has been commissioned.
- CCD: the Review of the CCD has been included in the Commission Work Programme 2020. The initiative includes an impact assessment that will be performed in the following months.

FSUG work programme

- Subgroups were reminded of the need to deliver on their objectives.
- Public consultations:

MiFID II: Christiane to coordinate - deadline 20/4

NFRD: Joost to coordinate - deadline 14/5

Info on EFRAG's European Corporate Reporting Lab stakeholder groups call for application

Circulated by email

Next meetings of the FSUG

The June meeting will most probably take place virtually. The meeting in Sofia has been postponed to September.

Meeting with contractor

See minutes of the kick off meeting of the NPL study.