



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate D: Security  
Unit D3: Organised Crime and Drugs Policy

Brussels, 12 April 2019

## **18<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EU ASSET RECOVERY OFFICES' PLATFORM**

**Centre Borschette (rue Froissart 36, Brussels)  
13 May 09:00-17:30, Room 3B**

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Welcome and introduction 09:00 – 09:15**

Objectives of the meeting and presentation of the agenda, housekeeping points (Floriana Sipala, Head of Unit Organised Crime and Drugs Policy, DG HOME, European Commission; Frédéric Pierson, Europol)

#### **2. EU legislative initiatives 09:15 – 09:30**

Ute Stiegel, Deputy Head of Unit, and Sebastiano Tiné, Organised Crime and Drugs Policy Unit, DG HOME

- Update on the proposal for a Directive on the use of financial and other information
- Implementation of the confiscation Directive in the EU Member States: State of play, Commission implementation report in 2019 and the collection of judicial statistics
- State of play of the preparation of the report on the interconnection of centralised bank account registries
- Staff Working Document on non-conviction based confiscation measures in the EU

#### **3. The future of Asset recovery Offices 09:30 – 11:00**

Discussion on the future of the Asset Recovery Offices (*based on discussion paper*)

#### **Coffee Break: 11:00 – 11:30**

#### **4. Operational information exchange between Asset Recovery Offices 11:30 – 12:10**

The Europol Focal point on asset recovery and the use of the SIENA System (Frédéric Pierson, Europol)

Harmonisation of bank statements – update on the Action under the EU Policy Cycle

Asset recovery cases (*tbc*)

Exchange of views (All)

**5. Recent developments in the Member States and neighbouring countries 12:10 – 12:50**

Delegates are expected to report on developments on asset recovery in their country, eg new legislation, new structures, court cases, international cooperation, statistics, etc.

**Lunch Break 12:50 – 14:20**

*Coffee served after the lunch*

**6. Peer review visits assessing the effectiveness of EU AROs and expert missions 14:20 – 15:00**

Discussion of the reports of past Peer review missions to Lithuania, Greece, Finland and Slovakia

Calendar of further Peer Reviews – visiting teams

**7. Enhancing the ARO cooperation with the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans countries 15:00 – 15:40**

Update on the state of play on establishing Asset Recovery Offices in the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans countries (Representatives of the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkan countries)

**8. New investigative tools for the identification of beneficial ownership - the EBOCS project 15:40 – 16:00**

Outcomes of the EBOCS BETA testing and next steps of the project (representative of the European Business Registry Association) (*tbc*)

Discussion (All)

**9. Conclusions and closing of the meeting 16:00 – 16:15**

DG HOME, Europol

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**Operational session on asset tracing (16:15 – 17:30)**

This session will be chaired by Europol and restricted to AROs and law enforcement agencies. The discussion will cover ongoing cases and common challenges for investigators (*Europol to complete*).