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OPEN SESSION – REPORTING BACK

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| TITLE | EU IT SYSTEMS AND BIOMETRICS: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS |
| HOST AND CO-HOST ORGANISER(S) | FRA; AE NYSTRÖMS ADVOKATBYRÅ; DG HOME, EUROPEAN COMMISSION |
| DATE AND TIME | 25.9.2018, MORNING SESSION |

WHAT WERE THE 3 KEY MESSAGES OF YOUR OPEN SESSION? WHICH CONCLUSIONS WERE DRAWN?

1. False or no fingerprint matches or inaccurate data stored may have severe consequences for the person concerned, particularly asylum seekers and irregular migrants. He or she may be suspected of deliberately wishing to deceive the authorities and therefore met with distrust.
2. Data quality, including quality of biometric data, must be at the core of the developments of EU IT systems. This is particularly relevant if they are made interoperable.
3. Often low awareness of the fundamental rights implications of storing and using data in EU IT systems among public officials and civil society actors.

WHAT ARE THE 3 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND WHICH NEXT STEPS ARE PROPOSED? (PLEASE INDICATE WHO EACH RECOMMENDATION IS TARGETED AT – EG: THE EU SHOULD...)

1. Increased harmonisation of procedures and training:
 - Member States should use same kind of questions when collecting biographic data to be stored in EU IT systems
 - Obligatory use of interpreter
 - Storing dates, such as date of birth, according to the calendar used in the country of the person, for instance Persian or Afghan calendars
 - Indicating the method used when converting dates to our Gregorian calendar
 - Asking the person concerned to orally counter-confirm data stored
 - Recording any objections concerning the accuracy of data stored, if not changed
 - Recording the time spent by public officials on collecting the biographic data
2. Improving access to legal counselling by the person concerned and to information recorded by other Member States which supports his or her statements concerning biographic data.
3. Developing automated data quality control mechanisms and introducing quality thresholds to identify incorrect or inconsistent data submissions so that the Member State responsible can undertake remedial action.

As part of the follow up/next steps FRA should communicate the results of this open session when engaging with other EU agencies.

WHICH GOOD PRACTICES OR NEW INSIGHTS WERE GIVEN? DID YOU DISCOVER ANY NEW POTENTIAL PARTNERS TO WORK WITH FOR YOUR ISSUE?

- There is a need for creating awareness of the consequences for the person concerned among public officials and civil society actors.
- The interoperability proposals bring new tools that can be used for dealing with low quality or inaccurate data.

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- If the person whose data has been recorded questions the accuracy of personal data stored, the responsible Member State should be obliged to demonstrate that it has followed the rules.
- FRA should continue to work with other EU agencies on these issues, such as eu-LISA and Frontex.