

Notes of a meeting with DG FISMA on 6 July 2016

AAE

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Esko Kivisaari
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Karel Goossens
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DG FISMA

Nathalie Berger
Santosh Pandit
Two staff members

PS opened the meeting by thanking Nathalie Berger for her time, and asked if there were issues that she wished to discuss with us. NB confirmed the receipt of the discussion paper on the “Roles of Actuaries”. DG FISMA had taken notice of the paper but did not need to discuss it further at this meeting. We then proceeded to cover topical issues:

1. Solvency II

- a. Review**
- b. Low interest environment**
- c. Infrastructure**
- d. Global ICS**

EK gave an overview of the issues the AAE is currently occupied with.

NB replied that DG FISMA are monitoring carefully all these developments. As preparation for the upcoming Solvency II review and to prepare for potential long term measures.

SP enquired whether there had been recent changes to infrastructural developments and - in addition - he was particularly interested in the Finnish banking sector.

EK gave an overview of our ideas around Global ICS.

NB replied that DG FISMA attends IAIS meetings as a member. The current IAIS proposals are not sufficient. Depending on the outcome of the upcoming consultation the Commission might consider additional legislation.

2. IBER

NB informed us that this has no relation with Solvency II liabilities. As a consequence it is not an issue of concern for them.

EK expressed our positive feeling with respect to the EIOPA advice on Infrastructure Corporates (EIOPA-16-790).

NB was happy to hear this, while referring to our criticism with respect to the lack of sufficient reliable data.

3. Pensions issues

- a. IORP 2**
- b. Ageing of Europe**

FV and PS gave an overview of the issues the AAE is currently occupied with. It was noted that IORP II had now been agreed following conclusion of the trilogues.

NB stated that EIOPA's work on HBS et al had never been requested. DG FISMA would prefer that EIOPA would only work on confirmed assignments. It was also unhelpful that this work was published in the middle of the IORP discussions.

Despite FV's response that Commissioner Barnier had stated that "further work was necessary", NB insisted that it had never been requested. NB stated that EIOPA is allowed to do this, but any results will never be discussed in the Commission or the Parliament.

NB referred to the call for tender for a "Study on the feasibility of a European personal pensions framework". (AK: *This study aims at mapping the tax regimes applicable to personal pensions products within the 28 EU Member States. In addition, the study should analyse the feasibility of implementing a policy framework to foster simple, efficient and competitive personal pensions within the EU*). Deadline for proposals was 5 July. NB announced that within the next coming weeks a public consultation will be published, to which a contribution of the AAE would be appreciated.

EK remarked that the personal pension topic would be more a matter for insurance companies. He added that this so far has led to discussions on savings but not necessarily how the pay-out phase should be constructed.

NB remarked that it is about "savings with a view to retirement phase" and that included also the decumulation phase.

In relation to the report on the Pensions Adequacy report, FV advised that we would be holding a seminar on this in the autumn and that we would invite NB and colleagues to attend.

4. Next meeting

PS closed the meeting by suggesting that we should endeavour to meet again in about 6 months' time but no date was fixed.