

European Union Agency for Cybersecurity

DECISION No MB/2021/12
of the Management Board
of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA)
on analyses and assessment of the Annual Activity Report 2020

THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF ENISA,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) 2019/881 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on ENISA (the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity) and on information and communications technology cybersecurity certification and repealing Regulation (EU) No 526/2013 (Cybersecurity Act)¹, in particular Article 15(1)f;

Having regard to the Decision No MB/2019/8 on the Financial Rules applicable to ENISA in conformity with the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2019/715 of 18 December 2018 of the European Parliament and of the Council, in particular Article 48(1)b;

Whereas

- Management Board should carry out analyses and assessment of the Agency's Annual Report and forward it to the Budgetary Authority and the Court of Auditors by 1 July 2021.
- The draft analyses and assessment of the Agency's Annual Report of 2020 was endorsed by the Executive Board by written procedure.

HAS DECIDED:

Article 1

The analyses and the assessment of the Annual Activity Report 2020 is adopted as set out in annex of this decision.

Article 2

The present decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption. It shall be published on the Agency's website.

¹ OJ L 151, 7.6.2019, p. 15–69



Done by written procedure on 30 June 2021

On behalf of the Management Board,

[signed]

**Jean - Baptiste Demaison
Chair of the Management Board of ENISA**

Annex

THE ANALYSES AND ASSESSMENT BY THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF ENISA OF THE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2020 OF THE AUTHORISING OFFICER OF ENISA

The Management Board takes note of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) for the financial year 2020, submitted by the Executive Director of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) in accordance with Article 48 of the Financial Regulation applicable to ENISA.

The Executive Board received a copy of the CAAR 2020 produced by the Executive Director of ENISA in his quality of Authorising Officer for the implementation of the annual budget on 1st June 2021 and the Management Board received a copy of the 2020 AAR on the same date.

The Management Board performed the analysis of the CAAR and completed its assessment. The conclusions of the Management Board are the following:

- The challenging circumstances which emerged as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic led to the adoption of a number of amendments to the work programme 2020 and associated budget. The amendments allowed the Agency to adjust its meetings to the online environment. They also made it possible to postpone some of its deliverables requiring physical presence.
- Despite these challenges, the Agency was able to meet the objectives set in the work programme 2020 as shown by the results presented in this report.
- The CAAR presents key results of the implementation of the ENISA work programme 2020 thus demonstrating how the Agency successfully completed all deliverables as agreed with the Management Board in the amended work programme 2020.
- The new strategy of ENISA was adopted by the Management Board in June 2020. The programming of the Agency's work will be based on the strategic objectives and priorities defined in this new strategy. The activities of the Agency will be planned accordingly using a multi-annual framework covering the years to come.
- Furthermore, the Agency embarked on the reorganization of its internal structures, adopted by the MB in June 2020. The new organisational structure aligns the tasks and functions of the Agency's structural set-up with the Cybersecurity Act.
- ENISA produced 45 reports and engaged in various activities according to the provisions of its mandate in the Cybersecurity Act and pertaining to the current cybersecurity environment. These reports provided assistance to many sectors listed

in the NIS Directive, but also in evolving areas such as Artificial Intelligence. Impact indicators show that the Agency's results exceeded the targets established in the work programme 2020, against the framework of the ENISA Strategy 2016-2020.

- In 2020 the Agency began to fulfill its role in the area of Cybersecurity certification framework, in particular for candidate schemes on common criteria and cloud services. This work will be continued in 2021, by preparing candidate schemes for other areas in response to the requests received from the Commission services.
- Overall, the AAR is in line with the ENISA work programme 2020 and ENISA's work is well aligned with the overall European Union priorities for the Digital Single Market. A coherent link is provided between activities planned in the work programme 2020 and the actual achievements reached in the reporting period.
- The AAR also describes how ENISA managed its resources and presents the budget execution of the EU subsidy. In the course of 2020, the Agency has been operating with a budget of EUR 21.6 million equivalent to a 28 % increase compared to the 2019 budget (EUR 16.9 million). The amending budget has been adopted by the Management Board by written procedure on 28 August 2020. The purpose of this amending budget was to re-direct funding made available through the cancellation of projects and forecasted expenditures due to the COVID-19 pandemic to finance new projects and activities up to an amount of EUR 2.5 million, from which EUR 1.6 million were under operational activities.
- During 2020, ENISA committed a total amount of EUR 20 588 320 representing 97.35 % of the total budget for the year. Payments made during the year amounted to EUR 14 513 329 representing 68.62 % of the total budget. The budgetary execution has been high despite of the restrictive circumstances imposed by COVID-19.
- As compared to 2019, there has been a slight increase in commitment execution – 97.35 % in 2020 as compared to 96.80 % in 2019, and a slight decrease in payment execution – 68.62 % as compared to 70.12 % in 2019. The target of 95 % for commitment rate set by the Commission (DG Budget) was reached.
- In 2020, the Executive Director reviewed the delegation of authorising authority powers and on 12 February 2020 adopted a new decision on a framework of the financial delegation of the authorising officer and of a budgetary management committee to ensure a sound financial executive of the Agency's budget.
- The AAR also provides a follow up of the 2019 Discharge and control results. This section also notes the main categories of deviation that led to exceptions reported. In 2020 the agency recorded 31 exceptions: 28 of these were below the relevant materiality level (less than EUR 15 000) and of a minor administrative nature with no financial impact.
- In 2020, ENISA undertook an ex post evaluation of 2019 activities within the ENISA work programme from Deloitte Consulting and Advisory. This work resulted in a final report and a case study on Procurement Guidelines for Cybersecurity in Hospitals. Recommendations included to revise key performance indicators (KPIs), balancing and tailoring the Agency's activities and outputs, and finally to reinforce the position of the Agency within the cybersecurity ecosystem.

- The turnover of staff was greatly reduced in 2020. The ratio was only of 2 percent which shows improvement in retaining staff members in the Agency. Furthermore, a combined recruitment procedure organised in 2020 allowed the Agency to progress rapidly in fulfilling its establishment plan. It is worth noting that vacant posts for seconded national experts were fulfilled as well.
- ENISA adopted the revised internal control framework at the end of 2019. The AAR 2020 shows the adequate management of risks, a high level of transparency, well managed data protection rules and business continuity activities.
- The Management Board notes that infringement of the use of delegation powers and weaknesses in internal controls framework were identified by the European Court Auditors. The Board concludes that necessary actions were undertaken to improve the overall efficiency of the agency in abiding to its principles and congratulates ENISA for all the efforts engaged to that end.
- The annexes complete the AAR with a declaration of assurance of the Executive Director as well as additional information on human and financial resources, draft annual accounts and financial reports, as well as performance information included in evaluations.

Overall, the Management Board takes note of the successful achievements of ENISA in 2020. The Management Board notes with satisfaction that ENISA could deliver the work programme 2020 despite the unforeseen conditions due to COVID - 19 showing exceptional flexibility and efficiency in challenging circumstances. The Management Board expresses its deep appreciation to the Executive Director and his staff for their commitment and the excellent performance throughout the year.

The Management Board notes the reservations made by the Executive Director which do not affect the validity nor the accuracy of the annual accounts for the financial year 2020 to the discharge authority.

In light of the above assessment, the Management Board requests the Management Board Secretariat to forward the AAR, together with this assessment, to the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council, the Permanent Representations of the Member States and the Court of Auditors.