System Pillar Steering Group

Meeting 29 September 2022

15h00 – 18h00

Minutes of the Meeting

1. **Welcome from the chair and adoption of the Agenda**

On behalf of the Commission, Keir FITCH (DG MOVE) welcomed the participants to the System Pillar Steering Group. He presented the Agenda and briefly discussed the importance of decision items for the work of the System Pillar.

The Agenda was adopted with no objections.

2. **Approval of the minutes**

The minutes of the first System Pillar Steering Group meeting were circulated before the meeting. With no objections, the minutes were approved.

Keir FITCH informed about two new members who joined the meetings, AERRL and CEN/CENELEC. He introduced new members to the System Pillar Steering Group.

Ian CONLON, Head of the System Pillar Unit of the JU, provided an update on the progress in System Pillar governance and working arrangements. He reminded the governance structure and working methods as well as overviewed a decision-making process which had been agreed at the recent System Pillar Steering Group meeting and further endorsed by the Governing Board of the JU (*for details, please refer to the presentation*). Finally, he discussed the next steps ahead of the System Pillar's bodies in terms of processes and decisions to be taken.

Johannes GRAEBER asked about the final version of the Governance and Process Handbook. He stressed that the version available at the JU website indicated work-in-progress. The Executive Director, Carlo BORGHINI confirmed that the Handbook was edited and finalized, and the updated version would be published in the coming week.

Ralf MARXEN asked about the prioritization of tasks in the System Pillar and emphasized the importance of such exercise for the Innovation Pillar.

Ian CONLON confirmed that the prioritization would take place. He referred to the Request for Services (System Pillar Tender) that indicated different times of deliverables set in the contract. He also stressed that the process of refinement would be launched in parallel (refinement expected by the end of

November). Carlo BORGHINI added that there were meetings organized for the JU Flagship Projects to ensure the alignment with the System Pillar. He also reminded that in accordance with the agreement at the SIPB level, the System Pillar Core Group gained access to the future Flagship Projects' proposals.

Carlo BORGHINI informed the Steering Group about the status of System Pillar tender. He informed that the JU received an offer from the consortium that had been selected to run the LOT2 activities. The contract for LOT2 would be finalized soon and dispatched to the contractor with the remarks made by the JU. He stressed that the JU would further discuss with the consortium the issue of geographical representation of sector (i.e. lack of representatives from certain parts of Europe).

The System Pillar Steering Group was also informed about the General Assembly planned for 30 November 2022, scheduled after the Governing Board meeting. In accordance with Article 93 of the Single Basic Act, the Governing Board should be convened in a form of General Assembly once a year to which all participants to the research and innovation activities of the Europe's Rail Joint Undertaking shall be invited. The System Pillar bodies were expected to attend respectively. More detailed information would be provided closer to date.

Enno WIEBE asked for a graphical overview (updated version) about the System Pillar landscape, including the interface with the third parties. Ian CONLON underlined that the agreed document on the System Pillar governance provided such indications.

Keir FITCH commented also on the role of the JU States' Representatives Group (SRG) in terms of providing information to their respective ministries on the activities and decisions at the JU level, as well as obligation to provide the inputs from the MS to the JU through the channel of the SRG.

DECISION ITEMS

Ian CONLON introduced items for decisions. As highlighted, the following documents were the outputs from the System Pillar ramp up phase, aiming at setting the framework for the System Pillar.

3. **Approval of the System Pillar Common Business Objectives**

Ian CONLON delivered a presentation on the System Pillar Common Business Objectives (CBOs). He commented on the structure of document, its references to the JU key documents, and process of consultation behind its development (*for details, please refer to the presentation*). As stressed, the CBOs would be used to guide the decision-making process in the System Pillar as well as inform the development of the operational work in the System Pillar. The System Pillar Steering Group was asked for endorsement of the CBOs. The recent version was subject to amendment and refinement if such need would emerge in the future.

On behalf of the ERA, Ny Tiana TOURNIER supported the CBOs. She stressed the importance of monitoring the progress in line with the JU Master Plan. She pointed to the necessity of setting up specific measures to track such progress.

Bardo SCHETTINI welcomed the assumption that the CBOs would remain a living document, subject to change based on the emerging necessities and evolutions of the System Pillar.

On behalf of CER, Enno WIEBE endorsed the document. He stressed that the feedback received from the CER's members was positive with certain remarks sent to the JU for consideration.

> ➔ **The CBOs was adopted by consensus**
> ➔ **The CBOs remains a living document, subject to change based on the evolution of the SP**

4. **Approval of the CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision**

Ian CONLON introduced the CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision. He briefly reminded the process behind its development, i.e. the consultation with the sector and engagements with the working circles. He stressed that in total terms the inputs were received from over 200 persons. Similar to the CBOs, the CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision would be amendable. The agreement on the CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision would facilitate the launch of the work in Task2 and Task3 of the System Pillar.

Ian CONLON delivered a presentation on the CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision, including its structure, links with the CBOs, and high-level concepts (*for details, please refer to the presentation*).

Keir FITCH asked about prioritization in the CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision. As explained, the vision was developed as a complete one, with no prioritized concepts.

Miroslav HALTUF pointed to the traffic management and commented on the scope of interfaces it required (i.e. communication between the RUs, IMs and other stakeholders).

Carlo BORGHINI explained that the presented vision was a high-level one, and the details of it would be provided once the general frameworks were agreed, including the issue of interfaces in the traffic management. Ian CONLON agreed that the scoping should be further defined which would be also a task for the System Pillar groups.

➔ **The CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision was adopted by consensus**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. **INFORMATION ABOUT THE SEMP (SYSTEM ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT PLAN)**

Steffen SCHMIDT updated the System Pillar Steering Group on the work on the SEMP. He briefly commented on the expected content of the SEMP in terms of processes applied, methods and tool used (*for details, please refer to the presentation*). As stressed, a handbook on the SEMP would facilitate managing complexities of the System Pillar, with a common approach and language implemented. The first draft was expected to be released in November 2022.

Nico SCHWANN added that a series of trainings would be provided for the System Pillar experts to understand the tools and the processes of the work.

Keir FITCH stressed out that to achieve success in the System Pillar, a board community of stakeholder should be informed about the developments in the System Pillar. He underlined the importance of engaging the sector in described processes.

Enno WIEBE asked about the synchronization of tools in the SP and IP.
Steffen SCHMIDT confirmed that there were ongoing discussions with some of the Flagship Projects on the access to the SP platforms. Such synchronization would be assessed based on the necessities emerging from the pillars. Carlo BORGHINI commented also on the PM tool which would be used by the IP. He highlighted that if one tool for the SP and IP would be sufficient, the JU would support such solution.

Ny Tiana TOURNIER pointed out that Handbook should be aligned with the EU terminology to avoid confusion in the future.

On behalf of CENELEC, Paolo UMILIACCHI commented on the standardization process and role of CEN/CENELEC in the process. He asked about expected contribution the two bodies could bring to the System Pillar and Innovation Pillar, especially in terms of knowledge of existing standards.

Keir FITCH explained that the projects selected for financing in the Innovation Pillar would follow the Horizon Europe's provisions related to the potential contribution to the European standardization. He also briefly described the objectives of the System Pillar in terms of standardization and contribution to TSIs. He mentioned the role of the ERA in the whole process. Ian CONLON complemented with a brief description of the processes in the System Pillar to manage a coordinated approach to TSIs specifications. He explained how such process would facilitate and accelerate the TSIs revision.

Miroslav HALTUF asked about the SRG engagement with ERA and RISC committee in terms of competence (i.e. competence of the SRG members vs competence of the MS representatives in the RISC committee). As explained, based on the SBA provisions, the SRG members were expected to contribute to the acceleration of the process as they were appointed as contact points between the JU and respective MS. Therefore, their role was to inform the MS and the JU about the outputs of work. The communication between the SRG members and their respective ministries would contribute to the smooth and effective process.

> → **The System Pillar Steering Group took note of the update on the SEMP**
> → **Formal decision-making is expected in November 2022**

6. <u>INFORMATION ABOUT THE SP RAMP UP DOCUMENTS INCLUDING CCS/TMS/CMS ARCHITECTURE</u>

Paolo CIUCCI discussed the System Pillar ram up documents which would provide a basis for the future work of the SP – CBOs, CCS/TMS/CMS Operational Vision, the TMS/CCS Architecture documents. He provided an overview of the TMS/CCS Architecture document, in terms of its structure, processes of data collection and content of the document (*for details, please refer to the presentation*).

Keir FITCH added that the analysis of the existing architecture would be needed. He also pointed out the issue of migration. Ian CONLON clarified that there would be a whole team dedicated to migration as a key challenge for the System Pillar.

The System Pillar Group suggested to align the wording across the document and use the term of "layers" instead of "levels".

7. <u>AOB</u>

Ian CONLON discussed the planning of work for the next two months. As stressed, at the November meeting, the System Pillar Steering Group would be updated with the progress and would discuss the set up of work for the next year. He invited the Group to send the Agenda items, if any, to the JU and Commission in advance of the meeting.

Keir FITCH commented on the importance of feedback from the industry. He invited the associations to discuss with their members the processes in the System Pillar and report back to the JU and Commission.

Bardo SCHETTINI confirmed that such discussions were ongoing. He agreed that awareness and feedback from sector would be critical for success of the System Pillar. He also mentioned the challenges related to reaching out to all members. He pointed to the necessity of establishing a transparent internal process to raise awareness among the industry.

Wawrzyniec PERSCHKE also commented on the interactions between the System Pillar Steering Group and the associations. He pointed to the working circles as an opportunity for industry to attend and be informed about the developments in the System Pillar. He stressed that the Commission would support the attempts to reach out to the large part of the industry via associations.

The System Pillar Steering Group discussed the TSIs revision process, and the role of the System Pillar. Ian CONLON informed about the ongoing discussions between the JU, Commission, and the Agency in this respect. The Group would be informed once more concrete solutions were available.

Nicolas FURIO commented on the interactions with the Agency and emphasized the importance of avoiding duplication of work. He also asked about Task4 and governance on DAC. He asked when the first draft of the TSIs and standardization plan would be released.

Keir FITCH described the process of interaction between the Agency, Commission, and the System Pillar. As stressed, the Agency would be still responsible for the process, however, the consensus achieved in the System Pillar would facilitate the process in the ERA working groups. To achieve this, the input from the JU should be supported by the whole industry.
Ny Tiana TOURNIER added that the role of the SP would be to set the frameworks and directions for the specifications related to system architecture.

In terms of DAC, Carlo BORGHINI briefly described the division of work between different bodies. A detailed presentation on handover of tasks and governance would be discussed at the next DAC Supervisory Board meeting. He also mentioned the importance of the EDDP as a body composed of a wide spectrum of stakeholders.

In terms of the TSIs standardization plan, the first draft would be expected in 2023.

➔ **The next meeting of the System Pillar Steering Group was scheduled for 28 November 2022 (hybrid).**
➔ **Participants willing to attend in-person are requested to contact the JU in advance of the meeting (ED Assistant: Gintare.Kuzminskaite@rail-research.europa.eu).**