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GAMES CONSOLES VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT (GCVA)

16th STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

21 January 2025, 17:00-17:30 CET
Online meeting

PARTICIPANTS



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|---|---|
| European Commission (EC) | 1. Ewout Deurwaarder |
| German Environment Agency (UBA) | 2. Andreas Halatsch |
| Independent Inspector (Intertek) | 3. Steve Fernandes
4. Jane Lee |
| Microsoft Corporation | 5. Ted Eckert
6. Adriana Mattei, Zetacast, consultant |
| Nintendo of Europe SE | 7. Benjamin Seignovert
8. Calum Robertson
9. Eiichiro Morisaki
10. Emil Schweiger
11. Hiroki Takuma |
| Ökopol | 12. Till Zimmermann |
| Sony Interactive Entertainment (SIE) | 13. Joshua Aislan |
| Swedish Energy Agency | 14. Carlos Lopes |
| VA Administrator (SEC Newgate EU) | 15. Ferial Saouli
16. Ilaria Graceffa |

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of minutes of previous Steering Committee meeting
3. Review of actions of previous Steering Committee meeting
4. Presentation from Signatories:
 - 4.1 Summary of changes to the draft EU SRI v.5.1
 - 4.2 Recognition of final EU SRI v.5.1
 - 4.3 Next steps
5. Update from the European Commission
6. AOB and date of next Steering Committee meeting
7. End of meeting

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and introductions

Feriel Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) opened the meeting at 17:00 CET, she welcomed participants, presented the agenda, and held a brief round of introductions. No AOBs were added.

2. Approval of minutes of previous Steering Committee meeting (4 June 2024)

Feriel Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) confirmed that the minutes were circulated, approved, and uploaded on the Games Consoles Voluntary Agreement (GCVA) [website](#).

3. Review of actions of previous Steering Committee meeting

Feriel Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) noted that the action agreed at the 15th Steering Committee meeting has been completed.

4. Presentation from Signatories

4.1 Summary of changes in the draft EU SRI v.5.1

Ted Eckert (Microsoft Corporation) clarified that the changes in the draft EU SRI v.5.1, primarily consist in technical amendments to some sections and Annexes.

Joshua Aslan (SIE) presented the changes to the **sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.3 on Energy Efficiency**:

- Alignment of Auto-Power Down (APD) requirements with objectives of Regulation (EU) 2023/826; Clarification of APD function implementation as per suggested by the Independent Inspector; Clarified scope of SRI vis-a-vis Regulation (EU) 2023/826 regarding Energy Efficiency information requirements.

Emil Schweiger (Nintendo) explained the amendments to:

- **Section 5.4 and Annex C, addressing non-compliance:** Alignment of SRI provisions related to non-compliance with the ESPR; clearer timelines as to when a formal notification of non-compliance can be given; overall shorter and clearer

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compliance process; clearer grounds for non-compliance and causes for removal of a Signatory from the SRI, in line with the ESPR; minor modifications to Annex C (Compliance investigations) to reflect changes in section 5.4.

- **Other changes:** Amendments to previous references to Standby Regulation and Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC to Regulation (EU) 2023/826 and Regulation (EU) 2024/1781; and minor editorial polishing.

4.2 Recognition of final EU SRI v.5.1

Ewout Deurwaarder (EC) pointed out that the official process - as foreseen under the new Ecodesign Regulation (ESPR) - is not taking place yet, and it will be done in the next review v.6.0. In fact, under the ESPR, the European Commission will have to adopt an implementing act listing the recognised SRIs. In the meantime, the update to the EU SRI v.5.1 - as presented by the Signatories – is approved.

4.3 Next steps

Signatories presented a timeline for the next years, with a view to launch a review cycle for the EU SRI v.6.0 in 2026.

5. Update from the European Commission

Ewout Deurwaarder (EC) provided an update on the ongoing transition from the old Ecodesign Directive to the new ESPR. In February the Ecodesign Forum will take place, and the Commission will discuss the content of the upcoming Ecodesign Working Plan. In this discussion, SRIs will not be addressed. However, the Commission will present a communication accompanying the Working Plan, most likely mentioning SRIs. He also highlighted that in the next GCVA revision v.6.0, it will be important to formalise the recognition of the SRI through an implementing act, in line with the new ESPR. How this will be done, will be decided in the upcoming months. In the meantime, the main responsibility for Signatories remains to ensure compliance with the requirements under the ESPR and for the Commission to check these.

Questions/comments from stakeholders:

Andreas Halatsch (UBA) asked whether SRIs will exist in the same way under the new ESPR. Ewout Deurwaarder (EC) confirmed that SRIs continue to exist under the ESPR, with some additional requirements and a more detailed procedure to recognise SRIs, through an implementing act. On this point, Ewout suggested Signatories of the GCVA to include the new changes introduced by the ESPR, in the EU SRI v.6.0, as the Commission will take into account that text to proceed with the adoption of the implementing act.

6. AOB and date of next Steering Committee meeting

No AOB was raised. Ferial Saouli (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) indicated the next EU Steering Committee meeting will be held in late spring/early summer 2025. The exact date will be communicated in due time.

The draft minutes of the current meeting will be shared, and participants will have two weeks for comments, as indicated in the SRI. The final version of the minutes will be published on the GCVA website.

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7. End of meeting

Ted Eckert (Microsoft Corporation) thanked participants and closed the meeting at 17:30 CET.

Actions

- VA Administrator to prepare and distribute the minutes of the current meeting.
- VA Administrator and Signatories to agree on the date for the next SC meeting.