

AMI-PAY

20 December 2024

OUTCOME

MEETING OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON MARKET INFRASTRUCTURES FOR PAYMENTS (AMI-Pay)

5 December 2024, 11:00 - 15:30 (CET) including a lunch break

via MS Teams

0. Introductory remarks and approval of the agenda

The Chair welcomed the attendees and in particular the newly nominated members: Mr Sylvain Lassalle (Société Générale), Mr David Lopez Miguel (Banco Santander) and Mr Mateusz Lis (UBS). The members agreed on the agenda.

1. T2 operations

The ECB will provide an update on the T2 operations.

Document:

Presentation - T2 operations

The ECB provided an update on the T2 operations, including traffic and turnover evolution as well as to a review of the most significant incidents since the last AMI-Pay.

AMI-Pay took note of the update.

2. TIPS

2.1 TIPS in operations

The ECB will provide an update on the latest developments in TIPS in operations.

Document:

Presentation – update on TIPS in operations

TIPS in operations

The ECB informed the AMI-Pay of the recent developments of TIPS traffic and turnover and most significant incidents that occurred since the June 2024 AMI-Pay meeting.

AMI-Pay took note of the update.

2.2TIPS interlinking

The ECB will inform AMI-Pay participants about the recent ECB <u>decision</u> to continue work on linking TIPS to other fast payment systems globally.

Document:

Presentation - TIPS interlinking

TIPS interlinking

The ECB provided AMI-Pay members with (i) an overview of the recent Governing Council decisions on the TIPS cross-border strategy and concrete action plan approved, (ii) updates related to the various phases of the cross-currency dossiers and (iii) updates on the market outreach activities.

AMI-Pay's awareness was raised on the recently launched call for expression of interest to further involve market participants in the implementation of the TIPS cross-currency service. AMI-Pay participants will be able to retrieve more background material to evaluate participation to testing campaigns and invite them to raise awareness of this within their communities once these documents are published on the ECB webpages.

AMI-Pay took note of the update.

2.3 TIPS evolution

The ECB will provide a status update on the most recent and upcoming evolutions of TIPS, including the possible provision of a Verification of Payee service. AMI-Pay participants are invited to take note of the update and provide feedback on the possible further TIPS developments.

Document:

Presentation - TIPS evolution

TIPS evolution

The ECB provided an overview of the content of previous and upcoming (2024, 2025 and 2026) TIPS releases as well as an update on the status of the Eurosystem work on offering a verification of payee

service. It was noted that a technical workshop on the verification of payee open to all would be organised in February 2025.

AMI-Pay took note of the update.

One member noted that, considering the competitive nature of the various solutions in the market already present, should the Eurosystem provide a verification of payee service, this should be done at full cost recovery price level using the long-term approach from the start in order to avoid potential market distortion. The ECB confirmed that the full cost recovery would be applied.

3. Instant payments

Following the entry into force of the Instant Payments Regulation, AMI-Pay will be invited to take stock of the progress in implementation, consider matters still requiring action and potential solutions. This item will be based on a tour de table on implementation and presentations on selected topics suggested by AMI-Pay participants in written ahead of the meeting.

Document:

Presentation – EPC monitoring on 2025 payment scheme rulebook implementation

Presentation – Instant payments – 24x7 vs instant

Instant payments

First, the EPC representative provided an overview of the monitoring they conduct of relevant aspects of the implementation of the Instant Payments Regulation (IPR). Then, the ING representative presented some thoughts on "24x7 vs instant" to get members' perspective on a future infrastructure landscape; what setup would be most efficient, cost effective and adding value for customers.

Participants were invited to share thoughts on the presentations as well as their experiences in the implementation of the IPR notably on possible challenges encountered:

- the *challenging roll-out* of the 2025 version of EPC payment schemes on 5 October 2025. The EPC Director General reported an early feedback from the monitoring activity the EPC voluntarily undertook on the basis of the experience matured one year ago with the migration to the 2019 version of ISO 20022.

The EPC reported that during the first call with all CSMs, some CSMs outlined that meeting some of the milestones proposed by the EPC for the 2025 SCT Inst scheme rulebook roll-out is very challenging. The EPC Director General outlined that if deployment timelines proposed by some CSMs cannot be improved, the successful deployment of the 2025 payment scheme rulebooks by 5 October 2025 may be at risk, A follow-up call between the EPC and the representatives of the CSMs will already take place in December 2024, to evaluate the latest deployment timelines provided by the concerned CSMs.

- the liquidity implications of the IPR implementation, notably having in mind the lifting of the scheme limits by the IPR. Members noted this will increase PSPs' funding needs including during weekends with, in addition the need to cater for exchange of euro over the weekend for non-euro EU countries. The current solution consisting of placing large buffers on TIPS DCAs during weekends would not be attractive any longer owing to the current remuneration rules. It was recalled that an automated access to the deposit facility would address many issues, in particular those who would occur once necessary balances in TIPS DCAs would exceed required reserves for some banks. The ECB remarked that TIPS accounts are taken into account for the fulfilment of the minimum reserves allowing banks to use it to count towards their requirements and free up liquidity on their RTGS account and increase overnight deposit (noting this is valid as long as the funding needs for instant payments are below the minimum reserve requirements which appears to be the case currently for a large number of monetary policy counterparties). Some participants noted that the combination between no limit transactions and bulk payments may significantly increase the liquidity needs of TIPS participants, also during T2 opening hours. With regard to the scheme limit, the European Commission representative clarified that the IPR lifted the limit but the limit for the PSU is a different issue and that they are still possible and therefore of relevance in discussions on the impact of IPR on PSPs' liquidity needs round the clock.

- the issue already discussed by AMI-Pay in its last two meetings of *value dating*, with the fact that TIPS operating with only 5 business dates per week creates a mismatch between interests received from central banks and those paid to customers. This could have significant financial implications, in particular for PSPs which are structurally net receiver of instant payments. The ECB noted that this may only be a transitory issue, owing to the fact that PSPs migrate their non-instant instruments to instant payments at a different pace. Once the migration has been completed, it is expected that flows exchanged among PSPs are more balanced, which would in turn reduce the materiality of the issue. The ECB added that this matter will nevertheless be looked at in the context of the consultative report on extending the RTGS operating hours presented in the 5 December 2024 joint AMI-Pay-SeCo meeting.

- the remaining issues with *sanctions screening* despite the simplification brought by the IPR by moving away from transaction-based screening for persons or entities sanctioned by the EU, where screening against domestic and international lists remains unchanged. This measure could have in the end a limited impact on the reduction of false positives on instant payments transactions in particular for cross-border transactions because the international lists tend to be the source of the higher rate of false positives. Both the ECB and European Commission noted that they are aware of the issue which is however a complex matter and cannot be solved quickly. The European Commission representative further remarked that there are no legal obligations under EU legislation for PSPs to check whether payments involve persons or entities included under international lists.

Follow-up:

AMI-Pay will continue the exchange on these topics in its next meeting.

4. Bank consortium Euro stablecoin

AMI-Pay will be informed about the developments in the bank consortium euro stablecoin initiative since the last update in May 2023.

Document:

Presentation – bank consortium euro stablecoin

Bank consortium Euro stablecoin

The ING representative provided an update on the bank consortium euro stablecoin initiative that seeks to unlock the potential use of blockchain technology in the B2B,B2C and retail space. The idea underpinning this initiative is that a Euro stablecoin issued by a European bank consortium may set a standard that offers reach, trust, and scalability according to them. Following a question, it was clarified that it is currently not excluded that such a stablecoin could in principle also become available internationally, outside of Europe, and on permissionless blockchain(s).

AMI-Pay took note of the update.

5. AOB

Eurosystem policy on non-bank PSPs access to central bank operated payment systems and AMI-Pay composition

In July 2024, the Eurosystem published its harmonised <u>policy</u> on access by non-bank PSPs to central bank operated payment systems, including TARGET, and to central bank accounts.

AMI-Pay was informed that this policy will lead to adjusting the AMI-Pay composition to include nonbank PSPs representatives (including associations as observers) going forward.