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Status Update of the Steering Committee of the Mobile Proxy Forum (MPF) to the November 2017 meeting of the Euro Retail Payments Board (ERP)

1. Introduction

Since the June 2017 meeting of the ERP, the Steering Committee¹ of the Mobile Proxy Forum (MPF) met on the following dates:

- 10th meeting on 13 June 2017.
- 11th meeting on 13 July 2017.
- 12th meeting on 6 September 2017.

2. Request for Information to provide a Standardised Proxy Lookup service

In July 2017, the MPF launched a Request for Information (RFI) to provide a Standardised Proxy Lookup (SPL) service.

The RFI was issued as a means of technical discovery and information gathering regarding the provision of a SPL service. The MPF considered that the gathering of such information was essential to ensure that it is aware of the range of models by which such a service can be provided both technically and commercially within the scope of rules defined by the MPF.

The RFI was a great success as it generated a total of 12 responses from solution providers that indicated their interest in providing the SPL service.

In view of the positive RFI outcome, the MPF decided to proceed with the approved SPL service (including the polling hierarchy).

3. SPL Application Programming Interface

The Technical Working Group (TWG) is currently drafting the specification for an SPL Application Programming Interface (API). This API will be used to communicate between the SPL and the SPL participants.

The API specification focuses on the technical architecture as well as the underlying security architecture enabling the establishment of secure communication channels in compliance with the applicable EU legal framework.

¹ There are currently a total of 34 members (excluding the observers from the ECB and the European Commission).

4. Next steps

The MPF has tasked one of its subgroups i.e. the Market Implementation Working Group (MIWG) to draft a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the selection of (a) technology provider(s), based on the analysis of the RFI responses.

The MPF will be invited to approve the RFP during the next meeting of the Steering Committee which is scheduled on 4 December 2017. The aim would be to publish the RFP by the end of the year on the EPC website with an anticipated response deadline of end of February 2018.

In relation to the governance set-up for the management of the SPL service, the MPF currently envisages the following two main scenarios:

- 'Scheme' based whereby the SPL service provider has a relationship with the MPF.
- SPL service provider directly contracts with the SPL service participants. In this scenario, there would be a need for a user working group to ensure that the direction of travel is in line with the rulebook of the MPF.

The TWG is expected to present a stable version of the SPL API specification during the 4 December 2017 meeting of the Steering Committee of the MPF.

The timeline of the implementation of the SPL service remains unchanged and is foreseen to take place in Q4 2018.