# Privacy Statement for Legal Entity and Bank Account Validation

Legal Entity Validation Team: (<u>budg-legal-entity@ec.europa.eu</u>)
Bank Account Validation Team: (<u>budg-bank-account@ec.europa.eu</u>)

In accordance with Article 64 of the rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation the Commission department in charge of legal entity and bank account validation in DG BUDGET, the Controller of which is Mr Willy Hoebeeck, will collect and register your personal data in the Commission's accounting system only to the extent necessary to process and account for financial and contractual relations you have or will have, directly or indirectly, with the Commission.

The system of accounts is linked to the early warning system (EWS) operated by the Commission on the basis of <u>Article 95 of the Financial Regulation</u> and <u>Commission decision C(2004)193.</u>
See also here: <u>Protecting EU financial interests – Early Warning System</u>, and <u>Privacy Statement of OLAF (European Anti-Fraud Office)</u> - available in EN only.

The EWS provides information on identified risks related to successful contract tenderers and grant beneficiaries via a system of "flags" identifying the level of risk concerned. Categories W1 to W4 are intended to stimulate managers to reinforce monitoring of the contract or grant in question while category W5 indicates that the entity concerned has been excluded under Article 93(1) or 94 of the Financial Regulation.

## Who has access to your information and to whom is it disclosed?

All authorised Commission and executive agency staff dealing with financial and accounting matters have access to your data, without prejudice to possible transmission to the Internal Audit Service, the Court of Auditors, the Financial Irregularities Panel, the Anti-fraud Office and any other institution or entity with responsibility for audits or investigations. As the Commission uses the SWIFT network to make its payments, your bank particulars will also be sent to this company whenever a payment is made in your favour.

Under <u>Article 95 of the Financial Regulation</u> the information on situations of exclusion may be sent to the authorities and entities managing Community funds.

## How do we protect and safeguard your information?

The data collected in the Commission's accounts can be accessed by designated Commission and executive agency officials and staff, using a UserID and a Password. A Service Level Agreement with the organisational entities charged with operational execution guarantees the appropriate confidentiality and the technical and organisational security, as required by the applicable data protection provisions.

## How can you verify, modify or delete your information?

You have no direct access to your personal data stored by the Commission. If you wish to verify or modify any of your personal data, exerting your rights as laid down in Section 5 of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 on the protection of personal data and the processing thereof, please send a message specifying your request to one of the following contact mailboxes:

<u>budg-legal-entity@ec.europa.eu</u> or <u>budg-bank-account@ec.europa.eu</u>, attaching a copy of your ID card or passport.

But please note that modifications to registered data are made only if based on compelling grounds and supported by valid justifying documents.

#### How long do we keep your data?

For audit trail reasons and to permit at all times queries on the past execution of payments, no registered data are deleted from the accounts. The forms and documents you submit are scanned and archived electronically. The original forms and documents are transferred to the Commission's central archives, where they will be kept for no longer than 10 years.

The data recorded under the early warning system are rendered invisible to users of the system of accounts as soon as the corresponding warnings are deactivated. The personal data of natural persons are rendered illegible after a period of 7 years following deactivation.

#### Contacts

Should you have any question or request concerning your data, please send an e-mail, accompanied by a copy of your ID-card or passport, to one of the following mailboxes: budg-legal-entity@ec.europa.eu or budg-bank-account@ec.europa.eu.

#### Recourse

In case of conflict with the Controller or data protection officer concerning the processing of your personal data, you have the right to submit a complaint at any time to the <u>European Data Protection</u> Supervisor.