



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

THE EU INTEGRATED POLITICAL CRISIS RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

Operational Conclusions

IPCR Working Level Roundtable COVID-19, 9 November 2020

1. Situation and Outlook

- 1.1. The ECDC provided an update on the epidemiological situation.
- 1.2. The Commission updated participants on the implementation of the two Council Recommendations 2020/912 and 2020/1475, and encouraged Member States to implement the recommendations and continue to provide relevant data.
- 1.3. The Commission presented a template as a suggestion for information sharing between Member States and the Commission regarding the introduction of restrictive measures as provided for in Point 14 of Council Recommendation 2020/1475.
- 1.4. The Presidency informed that efforts were ongoing to streamline information requests.

2. Coordinated approach towards lifting restrictions at external borders (Council Recommendation 2020/912)

- 2.1. Member States discussed the possible review of Annex I of the Council Recommendation, as part of the regular two-week review. There was no support to change the list at this stage.
- 2.2. EEAS provided an update on new entry restrictions being introduced by 5.1.2a
- 2.3. The Presidency invited the Commission to clarify when the proposal on a revision of the Council Recommendation would be ready.

3. Enhancing coordination on internal measures

- 3.1. Some Member States were supportive of introducing more granularity into the maps on single COVID-19 indicators, whilst others were sceptical and questioned the added value. The Presidency invited ECDC to develop a proposal as the basis for further discussions.
- 3.2. The Commission reported on the state of play on vaccines, including a survey of national vaccine strategies and logistics.
- 3.3. There was a mixed picture on support for an electronic verification system to support mutual recognition of tests. Many Member States were open to explore the issue further.
- 3.4. On recognition of Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs), many participants reported that Member States were still examining conditions for their use and were awaiting more information, in particular from the Commission, ECDC and the HSC.
- 3.5. The Commission announced two recommendations on the length of quarantine and the use of RATs, which they hoped to publish at the latest by 18 November. The Presidency and several MS requested the documents be issued as soon as possible to help prepare the Leaders VTCs.

LIMITE