

24 April 2025

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE AD-HOC TIPS CONSULTATIVE GROUP

08 April 2025, 09:30 – 11:30 CET
via MS Teams

OUTCOME

1 Introductory remarks and approval of the agenda

The Chair will welcome the participants to the meeting and invite TIPS-CG members to approve the draft agenda.

TIPS-CG members are invited to approve the agenda.

Outcome:

The Chairperson welcomed the participants to the Ad-hoc TIPS Consultative Group on the Outcome of the Yearly Business Value assignment and evolution topics. Afterwards, the agenda was approved after adding a short oral update on the TIPS cross-currency call for expression of interest (launched in January 2025) under “Any Other Business”.

2 Outcome of the last meeting

TIPS-CG members are invited to approve the outcome of the previous TIPS-CG meeting.

TIPS-CG members are invited to approve the outcome of the February meeting.

Background documentation (for information or approval without discussion):

- A. Outcome of the 20th TIPS-CG meeting held on 11 February 2025

Outcome:

The TIPS-CG Secretary confirmed that the Outcome of the previous meeting had been shared with the TIPS-CG members via written procedure and that a few comments were received. The updated version was shared as part of the closure of the written procedure. As no objection was raised during the meeting, the draft Outcome was endorsed and will be published on the [ECB Website under TIPS Consultative Group documentation section](#).

3 Yearly Business Value Assignment: Outcome and preliminary TIPS releases' scopes

The TIPS-CG members will be presented with the outcome of the yearly business value assignment, with the proposed allocation of the assessed change requests and finally with an overview of the preliminary TIPS releases' scopes for 2026.

The members of the TIPS-CG will be invited to take note of the outcome and of the preliminary scopes.

Discussion documentation:

- B. [ECB] Yearly Business Value Assignment - Prioritisation exercise - Outcome & proposed preliminary TIPS releases scopes [sent on 01.04.2025]

Outcome:

The members were presented with the outcome of the Business Value exercise and a preliminary proposed allocation for the assessed change requests. 35 out of 38 TIPS-CG members provided feedback. Following the presentation on the ranking and way forward on the assessed change requests, it was communicated that:

- For TIPS-0075-XXX “Full compliance with OCT Inst scheme”, as some participants see it as very relevant in view of their participation in cross-currency, the possible allocation of this change request to a TIPS release in 2026 or in Spring 2027 will be re-discussed at Working Group level following discussion with the market and also taking into account the discussion at SWIFT IP+ and CPML groups.
- For [TIPS-0080-SYS “Implementation of an R-only transactions BIC functionality”](#), it was confirmed that a new flag for the “R-only” concerned BICs will be introduced and will be visible in the TIPS Directory. After the period of 13 months, it will be under the responsibility of each PSP to deactivate a BIC (AAU BIC) previously set as “R-only” by updating its validity date. As a result, the BIC would also not be visible anymore in the TIPS Directory. It was clarified that a future “valid to”-date can be set in advance, as already possible today. This can be done at the same time as setting the status of a BIC to R-only so that the entry would then automatically be deleted when the validity end date is reached.

As it cannot be excluded that this functionality could be associated to an ad hoc fee, the CG members will be asked about their potential interest in this functionality in such a case (one-off pricing for the use of the flag “R-only transaction” for the concerned BICs). It was agreed that a written procedure will be launched to assess the new business value of this change request taking this new element into account (**Action Point (AP-098)**).

- For [TIPS-0046-SYS “Resend TIPS Reports”](#), it was shared that despite the sharp increase of the instant payments traffic in TIPS, the number of resend requests received by the Service Desk decreased (from ~10 requests in 2023, to less than 10 for 2024 and the first two months of 2025 (i.e. over 14 months)). It was recalled that instead of a manual process done via email or of a fully-fledge solution, a resend via A2A could be useful. The change request will be updated accordingly (**Action Point (AP-099)**). While it was acknowledged that the current process requires manual effort, if the issue would occur, given the low frequency of occurrences, this change request will be re-assessed as part of the yearly business value exercise for next year.
- For [TIPS-0041-URD “Introduction of non-time critical payments in TIPS”](#), while a Dutch representative highlighted the extensive use and significant benefits of NTC payments for PSPs in the Netherlands, it was indicated that as part of the Focus Session to be organised it would be worth to present figures and use cases for NTC payments (**Action Point (AP-100)**). Members will be duly informed once a date for the Focus Session on non-time critical payments will be identified. Finally, it was confirmed that the flows are already described in the change request (see in the above link) and that further details will be provided as part of the detailed assessment to be shared soon with the members.

4 Evolution

4.1 Change and Release Management

The TIPS-CG will be presented with topics related to change and release management.

TIPS-CG members are invited to take note of the topic related to change and release management.

Discussion documentation:

- A. [4CB] Deployment approach for June and October 2025 releases [sent on 01.04.2025]
- B. [ECB] E2E volume testing: key take aways & proposal in view of the preparation for October 2025 release [sent on 02.04.2025]

- C. [4CB Oral update] Size of camt.053 and higher instant payment volumes: next steps following TIPS-CG written procedure

Outcome:

Deployment approach for June and October 2025 releases:

The members were presented with the deployment approach for the June and October 2025 releases. For the R2025.JUN release, a regular rolling upgrade is chosen, and the members received detailed information on the deployment of each relevant change request.

In this context, it was clarified that the new flag that specifies whether the Authorised Account User BIC is authorised to accept cross-currency payments for the associated TIPS Account will be part of an updated version of the TIPS Directory. This updated version of the Directory will be deployed in UTEST on business day 29 April 2025 and visible to TIPS Users as of business day 30 April 2025. In PROD, the deployment will be on business day 16 June 2025 and the visibility for TIPS users as of business day 17 June 2025¹. The deck of slides as well as the communication on the ECB website on the “Main Milestones” will be updated accordingly (**Action Point (AP-101)**).

As per the implementation of [TIPS-0064-URD - Adaptation of TIPS for the settlement of cross-currency transactions \(based on OCT Inst scheme\)](#), it was confirmed that interoperability with other CSMS can be tested and verified as part of the user testing.

For R2025.OCT release, a regular rolling upgrade will be applied to the TIPS Core and other ancillary components. Once completed, a compressed rolling upgrade will be executed for the Message Routers. As a consequence, the new XSD will be active following the upgrade for the Message Routers.

- Regarding the deployment in UTEST, it was clarified that although the deployment starts earlier, the changes related to the updated version of the SCT Inst scheme would be visible to the users only on 28 July 2025 after 11h.
- Regarding the deployment in PROD, there will be a two-hour coexistence of both software versions (between 1h30 and 3h30 on Sunday 5 October, where a “canary mode” (staged approach) will be used and that as of 3h30 all nodes will be updated), which may lead to potential limited rejections during this short timeframe.

The communication on the ECB website regarding the “Main Milestones” will be updated accordingly. A member raised a point regarding the format of the timestamp, specifically regarding its expression in milliseconds and the issue regarding possible rejection connected with timestamps ending with one or more zeroes. While the testing campaign will enable to test all scenarios, as TIPS is following the rules as defined in the EPC SCT Inst scheme, after an internal check, it is confirmed that if the “0” is not removed by the PSP when sending the instruction with the timestamp, then as per the new rule defined, TIPS will reject the instant payment transaction. On the contrary, if the “0” in the timestamp is removed by the PSP, TIPS will accept the instant payment transaction. A dedicated written procedure will be launched to collect views/doubts on the interpretation of this new rule (**Action Point (AP-102)**); afterwards, it might be that the EPC will be involved in case it emerges that there are different interpretations of the new rulebook.

E2E volume testing: key take aways & proposal in view of the preparation for October 2025 release:

An ECB representative provided an overview of the E2E volume tests which took place in mid-March. The cooperation put in place along with the results and insights gained were shared.

The internal latency, i.e. the performance of TIPS only, proved to be highly performing, especially in view of the new more demanding rules on the time-out included in the new version of the SCT Inst scheme. It was confirmed that this internal latency was calculated regardless of the status of the payment; thus, also for the expired payments. It was underlined that while the Network Service Providers

¹ The Directory will be made available to users at the same time as it usually happens in the respective stages (e.g., UTEST, PROD).

(NSP) were informed about the E2E testing windows, future tests will need to incorporate NSP latency to provide a comprehensive view of the payment processing.

Furthermore, it was mentioned that among the 10 participants, some of them used the instructing party service which enabled to test a longer payment chain. This scenario will need to be repeated in view of the new E2E volume testing to be performed in view of October 2025 release. In fact, it is currently being checked whether a new testing window could take place during the Summer as part of the TIPS user testing. Any new volunteer PSPs could participate into this new test (**Action Point (AP-103)**).

Finally, it was underlined that all PSPs are encouraged to perform bilateral testing even outside this future testing window; testing partner(s) can be found via the National Central Bank of the PSPs. In case PSPs would like to test high volumes to be sent to TIPS, they would just need to inform their National Central Bank as well as the TIPS TRSG Secretariat (TIPS-TRSG_Secretariat@ecb.eurorpa.eu) so that TIPS service provider is informed accordingly on the date and slot for this kind of tests.

Size of camt.053 and higher instant payment volumes: next steps following TIPS-CG written procedure:

A 4CB representative informed that following the dedicated written procedure, the next step will be the drafting of the related change request in order to introduce pagination for the camt.053. As most of the comments were received from the German community, the ECB will liaise with Bundesbank (**Action Point (AP-104)**).

5 Any Other Business

A short update will be given regarding the practicalities for the TIPS-CG June meeting which is planned to take place in Copenhagen.

Outcome:

TIPS cross-currency call for expression of interest (launched in January):

Members were informed that the work ahead is being organised with those PSPs that sent a Letter of Intent. A TIPS-CG taskforce will be set-up to discuss the TIPS cross-currency service; the mandate of the new taskforce will be shared for information and CG members will be asked to formally approve the nomination of the Chair of this taskforce.

Upcoming hybrid meeting:

The next TIPS-CG meeting will be held on 25 June 2025 with a hybrid set up (hosted by the central bank of Denmark, in Copenhagen). The members were reminded of the online form to be filled in to attend the meeting in person and on the deadline for the registration (11 June). It was announced that a dinner will be organised on the evening of 25 June. Further information has already been shared via the dedicated written procedure launched on 26 March.