PROTOCOL ON INTERCONNECTION OF SCHEMES FOR ELECTRONIC IDENTIFICATION OF THE CITIZENS OF THE WESTERN BALKANS

We the Western Balkan participants referred to collectively as "the Contracting Parties" and individually as "the Contracting Party"

In keeping with Article 8 of the Agreement on Interconnection of Schemes for Electronic Identification of the Citizens of the Western Balkans, signed on 21 December 2021 in Tirana (hereinafter: the Agreement)

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

This Protocol regulates more detailed conditions for the implementation of the Agreement on Interconnection of Schemes for Electronic Identification of the Citizens of the Western Balkans, especially the technical description of the Open Balkans Identification Number and processes of connecting national software solutions that enable federation of electronic identities according to the principle of interconnection of schemes with eGovernment services of other Contracting Parties.

Article 2

The conditions referred to in Article 1 of this Protocol are described in detail in the document Open Balkan Identification Number: The Technical Reference Architecture for the Implementation of the Agreement "Interconnection of Schemes for Electronic Identification of the Citizens of the Western Balkans", which is attached to this Protocol and forms an integral part thereof.

Article 3

The Contracting parties shall establish Joint Working Group to discuss and resolve all legal and technical issues arising from the implementation of the Agreement and this Protocol.

The Contracting parties shall each appoint one person with a duty to lead and co-chair Joint Working Group meetings and to represent main contact point for coordination of the implementation of this Protocol.

The Contracting parties may designate as many people as necessary as members of the Joint Working Group in order to fulfil the obligations of the cooperation areas stipulated in the Agreement and this Protocol.

The Contracting Parties shall notify each other through appropriate channels of the appointed persons referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article and shall exchange information on contact points, no later than 7 days from the date of the signing of this Protocol.

Article 4

For each Contracting Party, this Protocol shall enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last written notification by which the Parties notify each other, through the Depositary, of the completion of the procedures as required by their domestic legislation for the entry into force of this Protocol.

The Parties may amend this Protocol in writing.

This Protocol is concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall remain in force as long as the Agreement remains in force.

The original of this Protocol in a single copy in the English language shall be deposited with the Government of the Republic of Albania, as the Depositary of the Agreement, which shall transmit a certified copy to each Contracting Party.

Done in Skopje, on 22nd of January, two thousand twenty-four

On behalf of the Government of North Macedonia

Azir Aliu

On behalf of the Government of Albania

Adela Xhemaili

On behalf of the Government of Serbia

Gojko Stanivukovic