48th Closed Session of the Global Privacy Assembly

November 2026

Resolution on the Establishment of the GPA Practice Hub

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The 48th Global Privacy Assembly 2026:

Recalling that the Global Privacy Assembly ("GPA") brings together data protection and privacy authorities from different regions and legal traditions and has, for more than four decades, served as a global forum for leadership, cooperation and exchange in the field of privacy and data protection;

Recognising that GPA members are increasingly required to address complex, cross-border and technology-driven challenges, including those raised by emerging technologies, artificial intelligence (AI), international flows of data in an increasingly fragmented world, complex data breaches or AI-generated complaints;

Highlighting that practical knowledge, institutional experience and operational tools developed by GPA members constitute a valuable collective resource for the global privacy and data protection community that may greatly contribute to address such challenges;

Highlighting that the enlargement of the GPA in recent years means that new ways are needed to share information on regulatory trends and good practices. Greater understanding across the diverse membership can support good regulatory practice, identify opportunities for alignment and cooperation, and foster further economic growth while maintaining effective protection for the public.

Recalling that the GPA Strategic Plan 2023–2025 identified capacity building for data protection and privacy authorities as one of its strategic objectives and encouraged the exchange of experiences, good practices and mechanisms capable of facilitating the effective enforcement of personal data protection and privacy policies[1];

Underlining that that the Global Privacy Assembly Strategic Plan 2027-2030 identifies as a priority action to promote and deliver member value through meaningful value exchange, practical capacity-building, and access to shared knowledge for authorities of all sizes and regions;

Noting that specific capacity-building activities already take place within the GPA such as the sessions run by the International Enforcement Working Group, and ***Highlighting*** that this existing provision could be further developed and systematised, to the benefit of newer, smaller or less-resourced authorities but also to the benefit of all members and observers of GPA authorities as it is a common need and objective to exchange among peers on the best practices to deal with common challenges;

Recognising and ***Welcoming*** that numerous cooperation activities already take place, often at a bilateral or regional level; including through linguistic or cultural networks;

Acknowledging that such activities can become resource-intensive and that, without duplicating efforts done in other fora, a structured GPA-level mechanism may help to mutualise such efforts for the benefit of all members;

Noting that online training sessions, webinars and peer-learning exchanges can provide accessible and cost-effective means for GPA members to share practical experience while limiting administrative and financial burdens;

[1] See https://globalprivacyassembly.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/GPA-Strategic-Plan-final-version-update-oct10-1.pdf

Highlighting that any such initiative should complement, and not replace, existing GPA Working Groups, linguistic, cultural or regional networks, bilateral cooperation mechanisms or other international initiatives

Aspiring to strengthen the GPA as a practical cooperation forum; to support the operational capacity of data protection and privacy authorities worldwide; and to promote stronger bonds of cooperation, mutual assistance and peer learning among GPA members;

The 48th Global Privacy Assembly therefore resolves to:

1. Establish a GPA Practice Hub as a pilot initiative for a period of 2 years designed to provide a structured, inclusive and sustainable mechanism through which GPA members may exchange expertise, good practices and practical tools on the core functions of data protection and privacy authorities;

2. Adopt the Terms of Reference for the GPA Practice Hub, annexed to this Resolution as Annex I, as the initial basis for the design, implementation and evaluation of the pilot initiative;

3. Request that a member-led GPA Practice Hub Task Force be established for the duration of the pilot phase to coordinate the practical organisation of GPA Practice Hub activities for the duration of the pilot phase, composed of volunteers from interested GPA members and chaired or co-chaired by GPA members, with logistical and administrative support from the GPA Secretariat;

4. Request that the GPA Practice Hub Task Force referred to in paragraph 3 take steps to:

    a. prepare and conduct a survey among GPA members to identify GPA members' priority training needs, preferred formats, possible contributors and available areas of expertise;
    b. prepare a focused and actionable programme for the first editions of the GPA Practice Hub activities, including an annual training calendar;
    c. identify GPA members willing to contribute expertise or practical materials for specific sessions;
    d. organise a first series of programme activities during the first semester of 2027, subject to available resources and the outcome of the survey mentioned in point (a);
    e. if possible and relevant, organise in-person training side events, for instance in margin of the GPA Annual Conference;
    f. ensure that the pilot initiative remains practical, accessible, voluntary and proportionate, avoiding unnecessary administrative or financial burdens for GPA members; and
    g. collect feedback from participants and contributors in order to assess the relevance, usefulness, accessibility and possible continuation of the initiative, including whether and how participating authorities applied the shared practices, tools or materials in their own operations.

5. Invite all GPA members, GPA Working Groups and, where appropriate, observers or the GPA Reference Panel to support the GPA Practice Hub by identifying relevant topics, contributing expertise, sharing materials, suggesting possible speakers or trainers, or participating in peer-learning activities.

6. Request that the GPA Practice Hub operate in accordance with the following principles:

    a. participation in the initiative shall be voluntary and based on the interest, expertise and availability of GPA members;
    b. activities shall, as a general principle, be organised online and be free of charge for GPA members, unless otherwise agreed in relation to a specific activity;
    c. the working language shall be English, while allowing, where appropriate and practically feasible, activities, exchanges or materials to be organised or made available in other languages, in particular where trainers and participants share a common language, or where this would support broader and more effective participation by GPA members. Linguistic or cultural networks may be invited to support such multilingual arrangements on a voluntary basis. It is understood that interpretation or translation shall not be presumed unless specific resources or arrangements are made available;
    d. contributing authorities shall remain responsible for deciding the level and form of their contribution, taking into account their internal resources, confidentiality requirements and applicable legal constraints;
    e. the initiative shall seek geographical diversity and balanced participation among trainers and participants, including through engagement with linguistic or cultural networks with specific attention also to the needs of newer, smaller or less-resourced authorities; and

7. Request that the GPA Practice Hub Task Force report periodically, in accordance with GPA working methods, to the GPA Chair, the GPA Executive Committee, the Strategic Direction Sub-Committee and/or the Closed Session, as appropriate, including at least one interim report by the end of the first year of the pilot phase, and prepare an evaluation report following the pilot initiative;

8. Request the GPA Secretariat to provide support to the GPA Practice Hub Task Force and to the organisation of the capacity-building activities that will be delivered during the Pilot phase, including management of the repository of shared materials; and

9. Ensure that, following the evaluation of the pilot phase, the GPA Practice Hub Task Force should report back to the 50th Assembly of the GPA so that GPA members consider whether to continue, adapt, expand or integrate the GPA Practice Hub more formally into the GPA's future work and strategic priorities.

Annexes

Annex I - Terms of Reference

Background and strategic context

The Global Privacy Assembly (GPA) brings together data protection and privacy authorities from different regions and legal traditions. In recent years, the GPA has increasingly become a forum not only for dialogue and exchange of views, but also for cooperation, exchange of experience and the promotion of common approaches to emerging data protection and privacy challenges.

The GPA Strategic Plan 2023–2025 identifies capacity building for data protection and privacy authorities as one of its strategic objectives[2]. In particular, the Strategy seeks to promote actions for the exchange of experiences and good practices among data protection and privacy authorities, giving rise to instruments and mechanisms that facilitate the enforcement of personal data protection and privacy policies.

The Global Privacy Assembly Strategic Plan 2027-2030 identifies as a priority action to promote and deliver member value through meaningful value exchange, practical capacity-building, and access to shared knowledge for authorities of all sizes and regions. This may include:

- Opportunities throughout the year for members to participate, learn from peers, lead initiatives, and contribute expertise in ways that advance the GPA's strategic priorities.
- Practical resources, peer learning, and capacity-building activities, including structured mechanisms for training and the sharing of operational tools and materials, by and for authorities of different sizes, stages of organizational maturity, regions and institutional contexts, that respond to member needs according to GPA policy priorities, resolutions, and continuous member feedback and evaluation.
- Member communications and access platforms that create awareness and make GPA and member-driven information, opportunities, and outputs easy to access, find, understand, use, and implement.

While the GPA provides an important platform for dialogue and exchange, concrete capacity-building activities within the GPA could be further developed and systematised. All GPA members, including newer or smaller authorities, may benefit from more structured, practical and regular opportunities to learn from the experience of other authorities.

This preliminary draft Terms of Reference sets out elements and considerations for the GPA Practice Hub.

[2] See https://globalprivacyassembly.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/GPA-Strategic-Plan-final-version-update-oct10-1.pdf

Vision and objectives

The initiative aims to support the development of practical knowledge, operational capacity and peer-to-peer cooperation among GPA members.

Its overall vision is to create a structured, inclusive and sustainable mechanism within the GPA for the exchange of expertise, good practices and practical tools on core aspects of the work of data protection authorities.

The specific objectives of the initiative are to:

1. Support capacity building among all GPA members, including newer, smaller or less-resourced data protection and privacy authorities.

2. Promote the exchange of practical experience and good practices on the core tasks and missions of data protection and privacy authorities, including for instance in relation to legislative advice, complaints handling, enforcement, investigations, technology monitoring, data breach handling, international transfers, etc.

3. Mutualise training efforts by allowing authorities with relevant expertise to contribute to common GPA-level training activities, rather than relying predominantly on bilateral or regional cooperation.

4. Facilitate peer learning and operational cooperation between authorities facing similar regulatory, technical or institutional challenges.

5. Strengthen the role of the GPA as a practical cooperation forum, complementing its policy, strategic and standard-setting activities.

Scope and Deliverables

The GPA Practice Hub is intended to support practical capacity-building, peer learning and operational knowledge exchange among GPA members. It would not replace existing GPA Working Groups, bilateral cooperation mechanisms, regional, linguistic or cultural networks or other international initiatives. Rather, it would provide a structured and complementary framework for training, exchange of experience and peer learning. It should not develop policy positions, substantive guidance, technical standards or thematic outputs, unless this is done in coordination with, or at the request of, the relevant GPA Working Group.

Possible areas of activity may include, subject to further consultation with GPA members:

- complaints handling and case management;

- handling of repetitive, automated or AI-generated complaints;
- enforcement strategies and methodologies;
- AI oversight, auditing methodologies and algorithmic accountability;
- risk assessment tools and methodologies;
- legislative consultation practices;
- website auditing tools;
- data breach notification and incident handling;
- international transfers;
- cross-border cooperation on enforcement;
- practical approaches to children's data protection;

The initiative should be flexible enough to respond to new priorities, while remaining sufficiently focused to ensure concrete added value.

The deliverables of the initiative will include:

- a report on capacity-building needs identified among GPA members on the basis of a survey to be conducted to all members to be presented to the 49th Assembly;
- an annual training calendar;
- a list or mapping of available trainers/contributors and areas of expertise;
- sharing of existing operational tools, templates and materials of contributing authorities (e.g. checklists, case-management manuals, DPIA/TIA templates), subject to the terms set out under "Role of participating authorities" below;
- a first series of online training sessions;

Governance and leadership

It is proposed that the GPA Practice Hub be coordinated by a member-led GPA Practice Hub Task Force established for the duration of the pilot phase, composed of volunteers from interested GPA members and chaired or co-chaired by GPA members.

Its role should be to coordinate the preparatory phase and the organisation of GPA Practice Hub activities in accordance with these Terms of Reference and GPA working methods. It should be responsible for identifying priority topics, shaping the training calendar, supporting the selection of speakers, trainers and moderators, and ensuring that the activities remain practical, accessible, voluntary and proportionate.

The frequency of meetings and working arrangements should be proportionate to the needs of the pilot phase, and the organisation of Practice Hub activities should rely, where possible, on written exchanges and ad hoc coordination.

Participation in GPA Practice Hub activities would not be reserved to the members of the Task Force but would be open to all GPA members and observers.

The GPA Secretariat should provide logistical and administrative support to the Task Force and to its Chair or Co-Chairs, including by supporting the convening of meetings, communications to members, technical hosting of online meetings, circulation and storage of documents, and management of the repository of shared materials.

Before finalising the training calendar, the Task Force should consult the chairs of relevant existing GPA Working Groups, in particular the International Enforcement Cooperation Working Group and other subject-matter Working Groups, in order to identify relevant ongoing or planned work, existing outputs, practical materials, expertise and possible contributors that could inform or support GPA Practice Hub activities. Where a proposed activity relates to the mandate or work of an existing GPA Working Group, the Task Force should liaise with the relevant chair to avoid duplication, ensure coherence with that Working Group's activities and determine, where appropriate, how the Working Group may be involved, including by suggesting topics, identifying speakers or trainers, sharing existing materials or contributing to the organisation of the relevant activity.

A call for volunteers should be launched following the adoption of this Resolution. GPA members should endeavour to ensure broad geographical diversity in the composition of the Task Force, as well as representation from linguistic or cultural networks and the involvement of authorities with different levels of resources and institutional experience.

As detailed in the Resolution, the Task Force should take steps to:

a. prepare and conduct a survey among GPA members to identify priority training needs, preferred formats, possible contributors and available areas of expertise;

b. prepare a focused and actionable programme for the first editions of the GPA Practice Hub, including an annual training calendar;
c. identify GPA members willing to contribute trainers, speakers, moderators or practical materials for specific sessions;
d. organise a first series of online training sessions, webinars or peer-learning exchanges during the first semester of 2027, subject to available resources and the outcome of the needs-assessment exercise;
e. if possible and relevant, organise in-person training side events in the margins of the Annual Conference;
f. ensure that the pilot initiative remains practical, accessible, voluntary and proportionate, avoiding unnecessary administrative or financial burdens for GPA members; and
g. collect feedback from participants and contributors in order to assess the relevance, usefulness, accessibility and possible continuation of the initiative.

Role of participating authorities

Participation in the initiative should be voluntary and based on the interest, expertise and availability of GPA members.

Authorities contributing trainers or materials remain responsible for deciding the level and form of their contribution, taking into account their internal resources, confidentiality requirements and applicable legal constraints.

Materials shared through the GPA Practice Hub remain the property of the contributing authority. Unless the contributing authority agrees otherwise and subject to the conditions specified by the contributing authority recipient authorities may use and adapt such materials for their own internal purposes, with attribution to the contributing authority and no onward commercial use or further dissemination or communication.

Working methods

The initiative should operate in a pragmatic, flexible and inclusive manner, with a view to ensuring that participation remains accessible and does not create unnecessary administrative or financial burden for GPA members.

As a general principle, the activities of the GPA Practice Hub will be organised online. If possible and relevant, the Task Force may also organise in-person training side events in margins of the Annual Conference.

Participation should be free of charge for GPA members, unless otherwise agreed in relation to a specific activity, and activities under the GPA Practice Hub shall be subject to the availability of internal resources of participating authorities. GPA members remain free to decide to participate only on an ad hoc basis or only to specific activities that are of specific interest for them.

The working language of the GPA Practice Hub will be English. However, specific activities, exchanges or materials may also take place or be made available in other languages where appropriate and practically feasible, in particular where trainers and participants share a common language or where this would facilitate the participation of authorities with specific capacity-building needs. Interpretation or translation should not be presumed unless specific resources or arrangements are made available.

The first activities should remain focused and manageable. They could consist of a limited number of online sessions during the first semester of 2027, covering priority topics identified by GPA members. The sessions should be practical in nature and may include presentations, case studies, moderated exchanges, lessons learned and, where appropriate, practical tools or templates.

Duration and timeline

The GPA Practice Hub is launched initially as a pilot initiative for a period of two years. The first activities organised should take place during the first semester of 2027.

1) Preparatory phase

During the preparatory phase, the GPA Practice Hub Task Force, with the support of the GPA Secretariat where appropriate, consults interested GPA members on the scope, format and priority topics of the first activities.

This phase includes the preparation of a needs-assessment exercise, the identification of possible trainers or contributors, and the development of a first training calendar.

2) Needs assessment and programme design

On the basis of the feedback received from GPA members, the Task Force should identify priority topics for the first edition of the GPA Practice Hub. The programme should remain limited and realistic, taking into account the online format, the voluntary nature of contributions and the objective of keeping participation free of charge.

The first training calendar should indicate the proposed topics, format, timing, speakers or contributing authorities, target audience and any preparatory materials, where relevant.

3) First edition of the GPA Practice Hub

The first activities of the GPA Practice Hub will take place online during the first semester of 2027. They will consist of a limited number of training sessions, webinars or peer-learning exchanges on selected topics.

The sessions should be designed to provide practical added value to GPA members. The first edition should also serve to test the feasibility of the format, the level of participation and the usefulness of the topics selected.

4) Feedback and evaluation

At the end of the first edition, feedback should be collected from participating authorities and contributors. This evaluation should assess, in particular, the relevance of the topics, the usefulness of the format, the accessibility of the sessions, the level of participation and the possible added value of continuing the initiative, as well as whether and how participating authorities applied the shared practices, tools or materials in their own operations.

The evaluation may also identify possible improvements for future editions, including the need for additional topics, different formats, further language arrangements or closer links with other GPA activities.

Following the evaluation of the pilot phase, GPA members should decide whether to organise further editions of the GPA Practice Hub, adapt its format, broaden its scope or integrate it more formally into the GPA's work.

Reporting to the GPA

The GPA Practice Hub Task Force should report periodically, in accordance with GPA working methods, to the GPA Chair, the GPA Executive Committee, the Strategic Direction Sub-Committee and/or the Closed Session, as appropriate, including at least one interim report by the end of the first year of the pilot phase.

The Chair or Co-Chairs of the Task Force and the Secretariat will prepare an annual report of the GPA Practice Hub's activities to be communicated to the GPA's Closed Session.