

EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE

Anti-Fraud Information System (AFIS)



User Manual

1828 Module

Subject	IMS User Manual - 1828 Module
Version /Status	3.0 /Final
Release Date	03/07/2012
Document Reference	AFIS-IMS-UserManual-1828Module_FinalEN.doc
Document Owner	OLAF – D4



Document Identification

	Name, Function	Date	Signature
Written by	Oana Bazavan (Business Analyst)	26/03/2012	
Checked by	Irena Stoimenova (Strategic Analyst Assistant)	13/06/2012	
Updated by	Oana Bazavan (Business Analyst)	02/07/2012	
Approved by	Irena Stoimenova (Strategic Analyst Assistant)	03/07/2012	

Summary:	Keywords:
IMS is the application that allows the preparation and submission of irregularity reports to the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF). It contains the following modules: 1681, 1828, 1831, 1848, PAA, IPA, 498. This manual is meant to describe the details regarding module 1828 and the way in which reporting is to be done under this module.	Irregularity Management System (IMS); 1828 Module

Number of pages	Number of lines	Host system	Software
45	1815	PC-Windows XP	Word 2003 SP2

Document History

Ed.	Rev.	Date	Description	Action (*)	Sections
0.1	0	30/06/2011	Document creation.	С	All
0.2	1	05/09/2011	Update of the document, to include the addition of new fields.	I, R	All
0.3	2	07/09/2011	Update of the document, to include the feedback from the business owner.	D, I, R	All
1.0	3	09/09/2011	Final version.	С	All
1.1	4	26/03/2012	Update of the document, to include the changes implemented in version 3.2 of the IMS application.	R	All
2.0	5	06/06/2012	Final version, checked by Irena Stoimenova (Strategic Analyst Assistant).	I, R	All
2.1	6	02/07/2012	Update of the document, to include the feedback from the business owner.	D, I, R	All
3.0	7	03/07/2012	Final version	С	All

(*) Action: C = Create D = Delete I = Insert R = Replace



Reference Documents

Ref.	Title	Reference	Version	Date
RD1	How to connect to AFIS Portal	How to connect to AFIS Portal 1.4	1.4	28/06/2007
RD2	AFIS Portal User Manual	AFIS-APM-UM_EN	1.1	21/04/2008
RD3	IMS User Manual – General Information	AFIS-IMS-UserManual- GeneralInformation	3.0	03/07/2012

Table of Contents

I.	Introd	uction	. 10
	1.	Background	. 11
	2.	About IMS	. 12
		2.1 IMS on AFIS Portal	12
		2.2 IMS Users	12
		2.3 IMS Functionalities	12
	3.	About 1828 Module	. 13
		3.1 Reporting Obligations	13
	4.	Create New Communications	. 14
		4.1 Create a New "Zero Notification"	14
	5.	Search Communications	. 16
II.	Create	Article 3 (Initial) Communication	. 17
	6.	Identification	. 18
	7.	Operation	. 21
	8.	Detection	. 23
	9.	Irregularity	. 26
	10	. Other States – Irregularity Period	. 28
	11	. Authorities – Date	. 30
	12	. Natural Person	. 31
	13	. Legal Entity	. 32
	14	. Amounts	. 33
	15	. Region	. 35
	16	. Sanctions	. 36
	17	. Comments	. 39
		17.1 Attachments	40
		17.2 Communications Belonging to a Closed Case	41
III.	Create	Article 5 (Update) Communication	. 42
	18	. Create a New "Article 5" (Update) Communication	. 43
	19	. Cancel a Case	. 44

IMS

User Manual

List of Figures

Figure 1: Create Zero Notification	14
Figure 2: Search Communications	16
Figure 3: Identification	
Figure 4: Operation	
Figure 5: Detection	
Figure 6: Irregularity	
Figure 7: Other States – Irregularity Period	
Figure 8: Authorities-Date	
Figure 9: Natural Person	
Figure 10: Legal Entity	
Figure 11: Amounts	
Figure 12: Region	
Figure 13: Sanctions	
Figure 14: Comments	39
Figure 15: Sample View on a Case Closed (by OLAF)	
Figure 16: Create Article 5 (Update) Communication	43
Figure 17: Irregularity – Cancel a Case	

List of Tables

Table 1: Create Zero Notification (Options)	15
Table 2: Identification (Options)	
Table 3: Tab Operation (Options)	
Table 4: Detection (Options)	
Table 5: Irregularity (Options)	27
Table 6: Other States - Irregularity Period (Options)	29
Table 7: Authorities-Date (Options)	
Table 8: Natural Person (Options)	
Table 9: Legal Entity (Options)	
Table 10: Amounts - Display of EU and MS Shares	34
Table 11: Amounts (Options)	34
Table 12: Region (Options)	35
Table 13: Sanctions (Options)	38
Table 14: Comments (Options)	



Terms Definition

Term	Definition
AFIS Directory Service	Common service responsible for the provision of user information, application information and reference data.
Application	The software component identified by the AFIS Framework as a deployable, security unit. Realises specific needs within OLAF overall business scope.
AFIS Framework	A set of services and applications to support the development, operation and use of AFIS business applications. It takes care of security, user application data, users' organisation structure, application configuration and reference data. It also offers a common look and feel to all applications (APF) and a portal home page presenting all applications a user can access (APM)
Customs Communications Network (CCN)	A set of physical gateways located either in National Administrations or at the Commission premises. These gateways are interconnected through their own communication services (TCP/IP network services), and communicate with the Application Platforms.
	CCN requires user authentication.
Irregularity	An irregularity represents any infringement of a provision of Community law resulting from an act or omission by an economic operator which has, or would have, the effect of prejudicing the general budget of the European Union (EU), by charging an unjustified item of expenditure to the general budget.
Organisation	A unit in the hierarchy of an administrative structure.
User	Person who can access IMS and use it to perform different activities.



Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviation/Acronym	Description
AFIS	Anti-Fraud Information Services
AFISNG	Anti-Fraud Information Services new generation
APF	AFIS Presentation Framework (AFIS Framework)
APM	AFIS Presentation Manager (AFIS Framework)
CCN	Customs Communication Network
CCI	Code Commun d'Identification
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EAGF	European Agricultural Guarantee Fund
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
ID	Identification
MS	Member State
OLAF	European Anti-Fraud Office (Office Européen de Lutte Anti-Fraude)
IMS	Irregularity Management System
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession
PAA	Pre-Accession Assistance
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units of Statistics



About this Manual

This manual is meant to serve as an orientation tool for all the users of IMS, having access to module 1828.

It gathers information users should be familiar with in order to be able to exploit the application and create, manage, follow-up irregularities reports under module 1828.

In its larger part, the document contains minute presentations of how to complete, manage, follow-up a communication form, as well as of the functionalities, commands, fields identified in such a form.

For facility and usability purposes, the user of this manual will be addressed throughout the corresponding sections as *you*.

In order to make the best use of this manual, please note the following conventions:



Indicates warnings, preconditions or instructions that have to be strictly followed. If you see this icon, make sure to read the information written next to it.



Sections or areas on pages are identified by a number in a circle.



Fields on screen, options and buttons are shown in frames or braces.





Specific details of the application interface are highlighted with an arrow and sometimes explained in a rectangle.

IMS AFIS IMS

User Manual

Using this Manual

The manual is divided into 3 sections, as follows:

- I. Introduction contains the following chapters
- Background
- About IMS
- About 1828 Module
- Create New Communications
- Search Communications
- II. Create Article 3 (Initial) Communication contains the following chapters
- Identification
- Operation
- Detection
- Irregularity
- Other States Irregularity Period
- Authorities Date
- Natural Person
- Legal Entity
- Amounts
- Region
- Sanctions
- Comments
- III. Create Article 5 (Update) Communication contains the following chapters
- Create a New "Article 5" (Update) Communication
- Cancel a Case

I. Introduction

1. Background

The European Union (EU) has established a set of funds to finance its Common Agricultural and Regional policies across the Member States (MS). The European Commission (EC) and the MS are in charge with the administration of these funds, namely:

- Structural Funds;
 - European Regional Development Fund (FD)
 - o European Social Fund (FS)
 - o European Agricultural Guarantee and Guidance Fund (EAGGF old programming periods)
 - FIFG (Financial Instrument for Fishery Guidance)
- Cohesion Fund;
- European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF);
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD);
- European Fishery Fund (EFF)
- Pre-Accession funds:
 - CARDS Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation (CA)
 - ISPA Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-Accession (IS)
 - o Turkish Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (PA)
 - o PHARE (PH)
 - SAPARD Special Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (S)
 - o Transition Facility (TF)

Respecting fund associated regulations, the MS are obliged to report any irregularities that arise.

As far as the Structural and Cohesion funds are concerned, the MS also have to report the recovery of sums wrongly paid in connection with the financing of the fund application field and with the way in which the information systems are organised in this field.

The regulations and their associated funds are:

Regulation	Amended by	Fund(s)
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1681/1994 of 11 July 1994	Commission Regulation (EC) N° 2035/2005 of 12 December 2005	Structural Funds until programming period 2000-2006 included
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1831/1994 of 26 July 1994	Commission Regulation (EC) N° 2168/2005 of 23 December 2005	Cohesion Fund until programming period 2000-2006 included
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006	Commission Regulation (EC) N° 846/2009 of 1 September 2009	ERDF, ESF and Cohesion Fund for the Programming Period 2007-2013
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1848/2006 of 14 December 2006	N/A	EAGF and EAFRD Funds
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 498/2007 of 26 March 2007	Commission Regulation (EU) N° 1249/2010 of 22 December 2010	EFF fund
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 1681/1994 of 11 July 1994	Commission Regulation (EC) N° 2035/2005 of 12 December 2005	Pre-Accession Funds
Commission Regulation (EC) N° 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 and Commission Regulation N° 1828/2006 of 8 December 2006	Commission Regulation (EC) N° 80/2010 of 28 January 2010 and Commission Regulation (EC) N° 846/2009 of 1 September 2009	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

The Irregularity Management System (IMS) realises the provisional software application that manages the reporting of irregularities under the conditions specified in these regulations.

2. About IMS

IMS is a Web-based application accessible through the AFIS Portal. You will learn all the needed details about accessing the AFIS Portal from the following document:

"How to connect to AFIS Portal" (RD1) - chapter 7. Logging on to the Portal

In accordance with the regulations presented above, IMS contains the following modules:

- 498 module
- 1828 module
- 1831 module
- 1848 module
- 1681 module
- PAA module (Pre-Accession Assistance)
- IPA module (Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance)

2.1 IMS on AFIS Portal

Depending on the role you have in working with IMS, you will receive a specific screen when you log in to the AFIS Portal. However, all AFIS home screens have a number of common features.

→ The "AFIS Portal User Manual" (RD2) describes all the constant elements that compose the AFIS Portal Homepage.

2.2 IMS Users

IMS users are organised in groups of irregularity competences.

Accesses are granted by modules, and further by roles.

The "IMS User Manual - General Information" (RD3) contains specific chapters describing the way in which users are organised, their roles in using IMS and the actions available by each role, as well as the life cycle of communications handled by the different types of users:

- chapter 3 IMS Users
 - o subchapter 3.1 Member State Users and Organisations
- chapter 4 Communication Life Cycle
- chapter 5 Actions Available by Roles

2.3 IMS Functionalities

The features of IMS, together with the options that each type of user has in working with the application, are thoroughly described in the second part of the "IMS User Manual – General Information" (RD3):

chapters 6 - 8

The information found in the "general" user manual is a prerequisite for understanding further the current document.

3. About 1828 Module

Under Regulation No 1828/2006 the Member States are required to submit quarterly lists of irregularities concerning the Structural Funds (ERDF, ESF and the Cohesion Fund) for the Programming Period 2007-2013.

Having in view to facilitate this work and to ensure uniform registration of cases, the Commission has developed a module based on Regulation No 1828/2006 for notifying irregularities.

This module is called module 1828.

3.1 Reporting Obligations

The basic rule is that all irregularities have to be reported.

Details of the requirements for reporting, as well as the reporting obligations themselves, are set out in Articles 28 and 30.1 of Reg. 1828/2006 and amended in Reg. 846/2009.

- Article 28 concerns the initial report of an irregularity.
- Article 30 relates to the updates to the initial report (follow-up process).

4. Create New Communications

In the "IMS User Manual – General Information" (RD3), you will find all the necessary information about the content and structure of Article 3 (corresponding to Article 28) and Article 5 (corresponding to Article 30) communication forms (interface, communication body, and command bar), as follows:

• chapter 7 – Communication Form

4.1 Create a New "Zero Notification"

On the IMS Homepage, click Create Zero Notification (1).

• The details you need to provide are as seen in the image below (2) and described in the table afterwards.

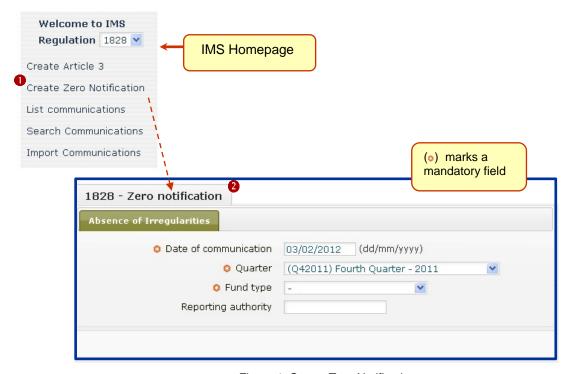


Figure 1: Create Zero Notification

Field	Description
Date of communication	 Indicate the date when the communication is ready to be sent. Do this by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year. Remember that you should amend this date every time you renew information in the (draft) communication. You should also remember that this date cannot be in the future.
Quarter	 Select from the drop-down list the quarter to which the communication refers. The list presents for you two options: the current quarter and the previous quarter (current quarter minus 1). According to the regulation, "within two months following the end of each quarter, the Member States shall report to the Commission any irregularities which have been the subject of a primary administrative or judicial finding."

IMS User Manual

Field	Description
Fund type	 Select the fund type from the drop-down list, where the options are the following: FC - Cohesion Fund (CF) – available only for the following Member States: BG, CZ, EE, ES, GR, HU, LT, LV, MT, PL, RO, SI, SK, CY, PT FD - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) FS - European Social Fund (ESF)
Reporting authority	 Enter in this field the code of the reporting authority (maximum 10 characters). This field allows you to indicate which is the region that reports the communication it is (especially valid for Member States with a decentralised, regional organisation)

Table 1: Create Zero Notification (Options)

5. Search Communications

- On the IMS Homepage, click the **Search Communications** link (1).
- The search screen appears, where you need to select the 1828 regulation (2) in order to see the search criteria available for this module.



Figure 2: Search Communications

→ You have the possibility to export in an excel or .xml file all the communications you search for. Use the corresponding buttons to perform the needed action.

II. Create Article 3 (Initial) Communication

6. Identification

- On the IMS Homepage, click the Create Article 3 option (1).
- The **Identification** page of the communication appears (2).
- On this page, you must provide certain details regarding the communication, as seen in the image below and explained in the table afterwards

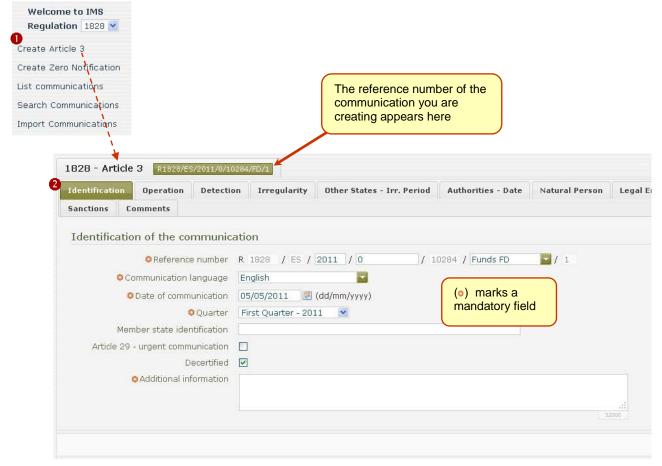


Figure 3: Identification

Field	Description	
Identification of the	Identification of the communication	
Reference number	The reference number of each communication you are creating has the following format – R1828/CC/YYYY/1111111111/00001/AA/1, where:	
	 → R1828 – is the reference of the Regulation → CC – represents the abbreviation/code of the Member State • Appears automatically, according to the country to which you belong 	
	 → YYYY – represents the year of communication • The current year appears by default 	

Field	Description
	 → 111111111 - represents the code of the reporting authority (maximum 10 characters) This field allows you to indicate which is the region that reports the communication it is (especially valid for Member States with a decentralised, regional organisation)
	 → 00001 – represents the sequence number, identifying the irregularity case It is automatically generated to correspond only to one case The unique sequence number is generated taking into account the reference of the Regulation, the Member State, the reporting year and the fund type. The first sequence number generated each year is 10001.
	→ AA – represents the type of fund related to the irregularity you intend to communicate
	Select the fund type from the drop-down list, where the options are the following:
	 FC - Cohesion Fund (CF) – available only for the following Member States: BG, CZ, EE, ES, GR, HU, LT, LV, MT, PL, RO, SI, SK, CY, PT FD - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) FS - European Social Fund (ESF)
	 → 1 – represents the version number of the communication. The initial communication (Article 3) always has version number 1. Update communications (Article 5) start with version number 2. The system automatically generates/updates the version for each new communication form
Communication	The language in which you want to create the communication.
language	Make your selection by using the corresponding drop-down list
Date of communication	 Indicate the date when the communication is ready to be sent. Do this by selecting the month, the year and the date from the calendar, or by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year. Note that you should amend this date every time you renew information in the (draft) communication
	Select from the drop-down list the quarter to which the communication refers.
Overter	 The list presents for you two options: the current quarter and the previous quarter (current quarter minus 1).
Quarter	According to the regulation, "within two months following the end of each quarter, the Member States shall report to the Commission any irregularities which have been the subject of a primary administrative or judicial finding."
Member state identification	 Put down the original national identification number of the irregularity report. The authorities establishing the irregularities are very often different from the ones that notify the communication to OLAF. Therefore, it can happen that these bodies send their messages identified with a number that will be different from the one used to report the case/communication to OLAF. This is especially true to all the Member States having a much decentralised organisation, but could also happen in small and centralised countries.
Article 29 -	Tick this checkbox to indicate whether the communication you are submitting fulfils one of the conditions set out in article 29 of Regulation 1828/2006:
urgent communication	 It is feared that the irregularity may very quickly have repercussions outside the territory of the reporting MS. The irregularity shows that a new malpractice has been employed.

IMS User Manual

Field	Description
	Ticking this checkbox enables the MS to satisfy, at the same time, the urgent communication (article 29 requirements) and the standard reporting obligation (article 28).
	Tick this checkbox to indicate whether the irregular project is excluded from the demand of payment to the European Commission (EC).
Decertified	The decision about the exclusion from the expenditure certified to the EC can also happen once the Member State takes the entire risk of recovery of these resources on the national budget.
Additional	This field becomes available and mandatory only if you agree that the case is decertified.
information	→ Notice the character counting while you put down the text (right down corner of the text area).

Table 2: Identification (Options)

7. Operation

This tab-page of the communication will contain the information necessary to identify the operation that was affected by the irregularity.

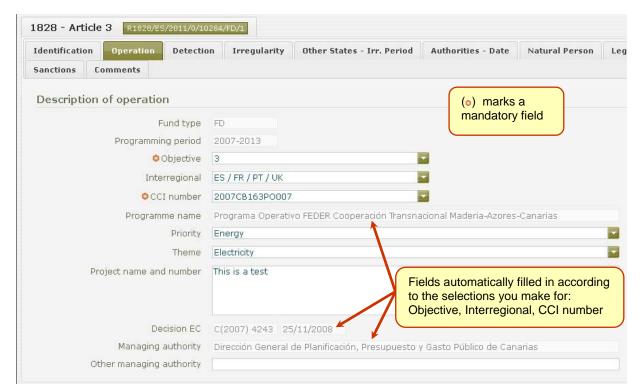


Figure 4: Operation

The options you have on this page are the following:

Field	Description
Description of operation	tion
Fund type	The type of fund you selected on the previous tab-page appears here. You can change the fund type only by going back to the "Identification" page
Programming period	and selecting a new fund from the available list (see Figure 3: Identification) The only programming period available is 2007-2013 and cannot be changed.
Objective	Select from the drop-down list the corresponding objective to which the project affected by the irregularity was related. According to the fund type you select, different objectives become available.
Interregional	Select from the drop-down list the corresponding Interregional programme reference to which the project affected by the irregularity was related. According to the fund type and objective you select, different Interregional references become available.



Field	Description	
CCI number	Select from the drop-down list the corresponding CCI number (Common Identification Code – from French: Code Commun d'Identification). Specific CCI numbers become available according to the fund type, objective and Interregional reference you select.	
Programme name	A specific Programme name becomes available according to the fund type, objective, Interregional reference and CCI number you select. → You cannot change the Programme name , once it is generated by the system.	
Priority	Select from the drop-down list the Priority corresponding to the irregularity you are reporting.	
Theme	Select from the drop-down list the Theme corresponding to the irregularity you are reporting.	
	Specific Theme values become available according to the Priority you select.	
Project name and number	Put down the name and number of the project, in a maximum of 2000 characters, including spaces. → Notice the character counting while you put down the text (right down corner of the text area).	
Decision EC		
	Number of the Decision of the European Commission, according to which the programme was accepted and approved.	
Decision number	A specific Decision number becomes available according to the fund type, objective, Interregional reference and CCI number you select.	
	→ You cannot change the Decision number, once it is generated by the system.	
Decision date	The day when the Decision of the European Commission was issued. The specific date becomes available according to the Decision number presented in the previous field.	
	→ You cannot change the Decision date, once it is generated by the system.	
Managing authority	A specific authority becomes available according to the fund type, objective, Interregional reference and CCI number you select.	
	→ You cannot change the Managing authority , once it is generated by the system.	
Other managing authority If necessary, you can enter another managing authority (intermediate from the one generated by the system.		

Table 3: Tab Operation (Options)

8. Detection

On this page, you will indicate the information concerning infringed provisions, the date and source of first information, as well as the method of detection of the irregularity and the legal basis for the control performed.

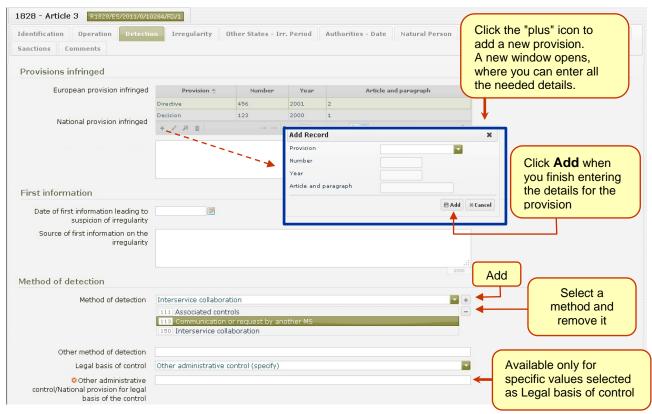


Figure 5: Detection

Field/Section	Description		
Provisions infringed	Provisions infringed		
European provision in	European provision infringed		
Options you have for the list of European provisions: - helps you add a new provision - use this button when a provision is already added, but you need to edit its details - use this button when you only want to view the details of the provision(s) - helps you remove a provision from the list Click Add when you finish entering the provision(s) and the corresponding details.			
Provision	Select the corresponding type(s) of legislation from the drop-down list. There are three categories of legislative acts: Decision (DEC) Directive (DIR) Regulation (REG)		

Field/Section		Description
	Number	Put down the number of the legislative act that was infringed. Note that, according to the European legislation, Regulations show the number first and the year after, while for the Directives and Decisions it is the opposite.
		 e.g.: Decision - 2004/316/EC, art.1 Directive - 2004/2/EC, article 1 and 2
	Year	Regulation - 1260/99, article 32, 33, 34 Put down the year of the legislative act that was infringed.
	Article and paragraph	Put down the article and, if relevant, the paragraph of the legislative act that was infringed (suggested format: 12(1) for article 12, paragraph 1).
	lational provision fringed	Write the number, year and articles of the national legislative acts infringed. e.g.:
		 An Italian act: D. Lgs. n. 74/2000, articoli 2 e 8 (Decreto Legislativo, n. 74) In English: Legislative Decree, no. 74/2000, articles 2 and 8
F	irst information	
Date of first information leading to suspicion of irregularity		Indicate the corresponding date, by selecting the month, the year and the date from the calendar, or by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year.
ir	Source of first of the	Put down a general description of the source, in a maximum of 2000 characters. • e.g.: The information was first published in the media
ir	regularity	→ Notice the character counting while you put down the text (right down corner of the text area).
N	lethod of detection	
		Select the corresponding method(s) in which the irregularity was detected.
M	lethod of detection	Do this in the following way: 1. Select the method of detection from the drop-down list. 2. Click the "add" button (+). • A new list is created, with all the methods of detection that you select.
		 → If you want to remove a method of detection from the list, do the following: 1. Click the method of detection you want to remove, in the list which contains the values that you selected. The method you click is highlighted (green colour) 2. Click the "remove" button (=)
	Other method of etection	Enter a description of any other method of detection that you cannot find in the list above.
		The text can have a maximum of 255 characters, with spaces.
	egal basis of ontrol	Select from the list the legal basis for the control performed to detect the irregularity. The values available for you are: (1) Article 13§2(a) - Administrative verifications (2) Article 13§2(b) - On-the-spot verifications (3) Article 16 - Audit of operations (4) Other administrative control (specify) (5) Antifraud control (specify the national provision for legal basis of the control)



Field/Section	Description
	(6) Criminal investigation (specify the national provision for legal basis of the control)
Other administrative control/National provision for legal basis of the control	Only in case you select "Other administrative control", "Antifraud control" and "Criminal investigation", you have to specify which is the administrative control or the national provision you refer to as the legal basis of the control performed. • The text can have a maximum of 255 characters, with spaces.

Table 4: Detection (Options)

9. Irregularity

On this page, you will provide general and descriptive information concerning the typology of the irregularity committed, as well as a report of the methods used to commit the irregularity.

The information you should provide is as seen in the image below and described in the table afterwards.

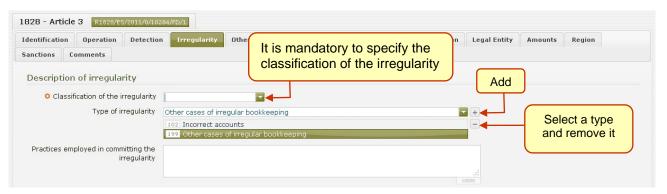


Figure 6: Irregularity

Field/Section	Description
Description of irregu	ularity
Classification of the irregularity	It is mandatory to indicate the condition of the irregularity, with the help of the drop-down list.
	 An irregularity can be classified as being: → IRQ2 = irregularity in sense of Reg. 2988/95 use this code if the reported irregularity does not present elements suggesting that it may be of a fraudulent nature e.g.: expenditure not eligible
	 → IRQ3 = suspicion of fraud use this code if the reported irregularity presents elements suggesting that it may be of a fraudulent nature e.g.: falsification of documents
	 IRQ5 = established fraud Use this code if an entitled authority has provided a definitive sentence concerning the fraudulent nature of the behaviour linked to the reported irregularity. Generally, this code should be used at the end of a penal procedure and, therefore, it should be selected when an "updating communication" is created. However, if the procedure is particularly fast, you can also use this code for the "initial communication" (Article 3).
	When you create an Article 5 communication, the following additional classification is available for you:
	 → IRQ0 = no irregularity Sending an Article 5 communication with IRQ0 selected means that you want to cancel the case (see chapter 19. Cancel a Case).

IMS

User Manual

Field/Section	Description
Type of irregularity	Select the corresponding type(s) of irregularity in the following way: 1. Select the type of irregularity from the drop-down list. 2. Click the "add" button (*). • A new list is created, with all the types of irregularity that you select. If you want to remove a type of irregularity from the list, do the following: 1. Click the type of irregularity you want to remove, in the list which contains the values that you selected. • The type you click is highlighted (green colour) 2. Click the "remove" button (*)
Practices employed in committing the irregularity	 Write a description of the methods used to commit the irregularity. Further and more in depth explanations improve the quality of the process of analysing the irregularity. The description must be clear and to the point. The text can have a maximum of 10000 characters, with spaces. Notice the character counting while you put down the text (right down corner).

Table 5: Irregularity (Options)

10. Other States – Irregularity Period

On this page of the communication, you should provide the following details regarding the communication, as seen in the image below and explained in the table afterwards:

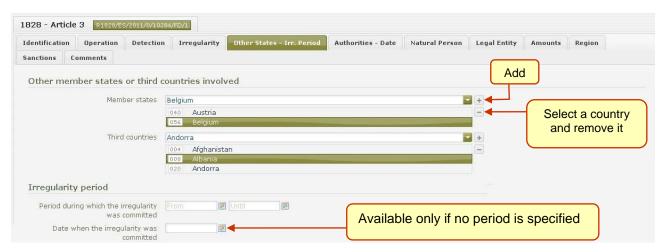


Figure 7: Other States - Irregularity Period

Field	Description	
Other member states or third countries involved		
Member states	Select the corresponding Member state(s) or the third country(ies) concerned by the irregularity.	
Third countries	 Do this in the following way: 1. Select the Member state(s) or the third country(ies) from the drop-down list. 2. Click the "add" button (+). A new list is created, with all the Member state(s) or the third country (ies) that you select. → If you want to remove a Member state or the third country from the list, do the following: 1. Click the Member state or the third country you want to remove, in the list which contains the values that you selected. The Member state or the third country you click is highlighted (green colour) 2. Click the "remove" button (-) 	
Irregularity period		
Period during which th	ne irregularity was committed	
From	 Enter the day when the irregularity started. Do this by selecting the month, the year and the date from the calendar, or by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year. → If you do not know exactly the start date of the irregularity, you can indicate the first day of the month or of the year when it started. 	
Until	Enter the day when the irregularity ended.	

IMS User Manual

F	ield	Description
		→ If you do not know exactly the end date of the irregularity, you can indicate the last day of the month or of the year when it ended.
ir	ate when the regularity was ommitted	 If the irregularity took place on a specific day, put it down in this field. Do this by selecting the month, the year and the date from the calendar, or by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year.

Table 6: Other States - Irregularity Period (Options)

11. Authorities - Date

This tab-page will contain information about the authorities or bodies which have established the irregularity and those which are in charge of the follow up. You will also provide the timing for the establishment of the irregularity.

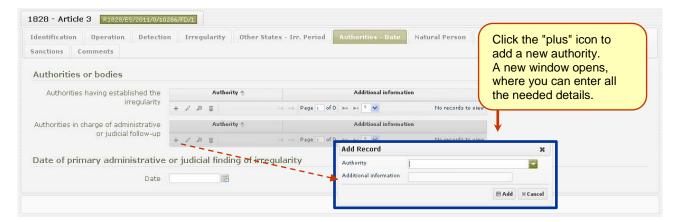


Figure 8: Authorities-Date

Field/Section	Description
Authorities or bodies	
Options you have for the	lists of authorities:
– use this button when	n an authority is already added, but you need to edit its details in you only want to view the details of the authority(ies)
lead - helps you remove a Values in the "Authority" f	in authority from the list field can only be chosen from the drop-down list.
If the authority you need to select is not included in the drop-down list, indicate its name in the "Additi information" field.	
→ Click Add when you fi	nish selecting the authority or entering any needed additional information.
Authorities having established the irregularity	Indicate on this page the authority (ies) that established the irregularity, as well as those responsible with the administrative or judicial follow-up.
Authorities in charge of administrative or judicial follow-up	In a future version of the IMS application, each Member State will be able to select only their own national authorities.
Date of primary administrative or judicial finding of irregularity	Specify the date by selecting the month, the year and the day from the calendar, or by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year.

Table 7: Authorities-Date (Options)

12. Natural Person

In this section of the communication, you will include evidence about the identity of the natural persons involved in committing the irregularity.

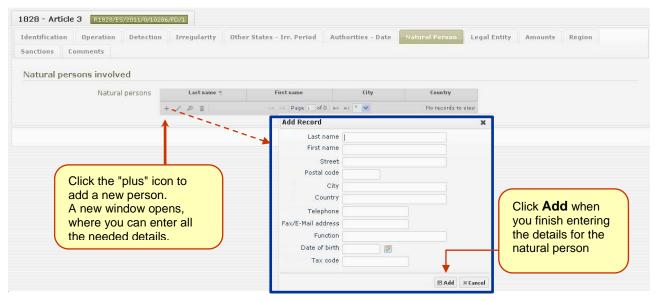


Figure 9: Natural Person

Field/Section	Description	
Natural persons involved		
Options you hav	Options you have for the lists of natural persons:	
- use this bu	add a new person Itton when a person is already added, but you need to edit the details Itton when you only want to view the details regarding the person(s) remove a person from the list	
→ Click Add wh	nen you finish entering the person and the corresponding details.	
Last name First name	Identity information of the natural person involved (family and first name)	
Street		
Postal code		
City	The complete physical address of the mentioned person	
Country		
Telephone	The contact details of the mentioned person	
Fax/E-mail address (telephone number, fax number or e-mail address)		
Function	Enter the function in a maximum of 100 characters, with spaces.	
Date of birth	Specify the date by selecting the month, the year and the day from the calendar, or by entering eight characters, in the format: dd/mm/yyyy, where the first two represent the day, the next two the month and the last four the year.	
Tax code	Enter the tax code or the person's national ID number, in maximum 50 characters.	

Table 8: Natural Person (Options)

13. Legal Entity

In this section of the communication, you will include evidence about the identity of the legal entities (companies) involved in committing the irregularity.

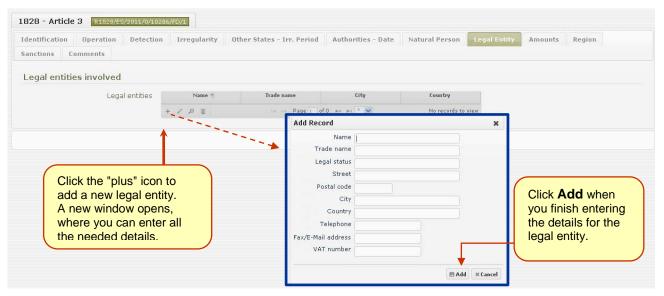


Figure 10: Legal Entity

Field/Section	Description	
Legal entities involve	Legal entities involved	
	ptions you have for the lists of legal entities:	
	dd a new company ton when a company is already added, but you need to edit the details	
	tton when you only want to view the details regarding the company(ies)	
= − helps you re	emove a company from the list en you finish entering the company and the corresponding details.	
Name	Indicate the official and complete legal name of the company involved.	
Trade name	The name under which a business trades for commercial purposes • Also known as a trading name or a business name	
Legal status	Defines the legal status under which the entity operates. It has to be indicated in capital letters and in the abbreviated form. e.g. Italy: SRL for società a responsabilità limitata (limited liability company) United Kingdom: LLC for limited liability company	
Street		
Postal code	The complete physical address of the mentioned legal entity	
City	- The complete physical address of the mentioned logal chitty	
Country		
Telephone Fax/E-mail	The contact details of the mentioned legal entity (telephone number, fax number or e-mail address)	
address		
VAT number	Enter the VAT number in a maximum of 50 characters, with spaces.	

Table 9: Legal Entity (Options)

14. Amounts

This section will contain all the relevant financial information, with a clear distinction between Member State funding and European Union funding.

- → The currency you have to use to indicate the amounts is always EUR (Euro).
- → The amounts/numbers should have thousand and decimal separators. Dot (.) should be the thousand separator and comma (,) the decimal one. The system automatically shows the separators while you are entering the amounts in the corresponding fields.
- → You can enter a maximum of 16 characters (thousand and decimal separators included) in the amounts fields and negative values are never allowed.

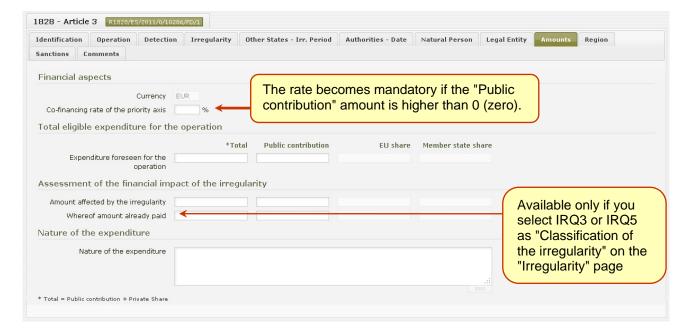


Figure 11: Amounts

→ The amounts fields on this tab-page are split into several columns/sections, as following:

Column	Description
Co-financing rate of the priority axis	This field becomes mandatory if the PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION is higher than 0.
Total	The amount in this field must be equal to or bigger than the amount in the field PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION. It represents the sum of the public contribution and any private share that is foreseen.
Total	TOTAL = PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION + PRIVATE SHARE.
	If there is no private contribution, you can leave the Total field empty.
Public contribution	Enter in this field the amounts regarding the public contribution.



Column	Description
	The EU SHARE is automatically calculated by the system, as percentage of the PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION.
EU share	This percentage is defined in the field "Co-financing rate of the priority axis".
	The remaining amount becomes the MEMBER STATE SHARE.
Member state	The MEMBER STATE SHARE is automatically calculated by the system, as percentage of the PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION.
share	This percentage is defined in the field "Co-financing rate of the priority axis".
	The remaining amount is displayed as EU SHARE.

Table 10: Amounts - Display of EU and MS Shares

An example of how the calculations are done by the system for the

EU SHARE and the MEMBER STATE SHARE:

If "Co-financing rate of the priority axis" = 25%

and PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION = 100

=> Then: **EU SHARE** = 25% of 100 = **25**

and MEMBER STATE SHARE = 100 - 25 = 75

The information you should provide on this tab-page is as seen in Figure 11: Amounts.

Field	Description
	Only numbers from 0 to 100 are allowed in this field.
Co-financing rate of the priority axis	If necessary, you can also use decimals to represent the co-financing rate.
,	e.g. 25,50 %
Total eligible expenditure for	the operation
	Indicate here the overall amount (funding) that could be charged to the EU budget and the national budget.
Expenditure foreseen for the operation	→ The amounts in the fields "Expenditure foreseen for the operation" should be equal to or bigger than the ones in the fields "Amount affected by the irregularity".
Assessment of the financial	impact of the irregularity
Amount affected by the irregularity	Indicate here the amount that was affected by the irregularity you are reporting. → The amounts in the fields "Amount affected by the irregularity" should be equal to or bigger than the ones in the fields "Whereof amount already paid".
Whereof amount already paid	This field is available only if you select IRQ3 or IRQ5 as "Classification of the irregularity" on the "Irregularity" page. This represents (part of) the irregularity amount that has already been paid.
Nature of the expenditure	Describe the nature of the expenditure detected as irregular The description must be clear, comprehensive and to the point. The text can have a maximum of 2000 characters, with spaces.

Table 11: Amounts (Options)

15. Region

In this section of the communication, you will select the region or area where the operation has been located or carried out, based on the NUTS classification (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics – *from French: Nomenclature des Unités territoriales statistiques*).



Figure 12: Region

Field/Section	Description	
Region or area wher	Region or area where the operation has been located or carried out	
NUTS level 1	Select from the list the region or area where the operation has been located or carried out.	
NUTS level 2	The values in this list are available only according to the selection made for "NUTS level 1" (cascading)	
NUTS level 3	The values in this list are available only according to the selection made as "NUTS level 1" and "NUTS level 2" (cascading)	

Table 12: Region (Options)

16. Sanctions

Provide here information about the sanctions issued following specific procedures related to the irregularity.



Figure 13: Sanctions

Field/Section	Description	
Criminal or administrative procedures for imposing penalties		
No further activities to be undertaken	If you agree with this statement, tick the checkbox next to it.	
Were criminal or administrative procedures for imposing penalties initiated?	Ticking the checkbox next to this field means YES. When your option is YES, two new fields become available: Type of procedure Status of procedure	
Type of procedure	It becomes available and mandatory only if your option for the previous field is YES. The procedures can be: Administrative and criminal Administrative Criminal	
Status of procedure	It becomes available and mandatory only if your option for the field "Were criminal or administrative procedures for imposing penalties initiated?" is YES.	

Field/Section	Description
	The status of the procedures can be:
	AbandonedCompletedInitiated
	→ If the procedures were abandoned or they have just been initiated, there is no more information for you to enter.
	→ However, if the procedures were completed, extra fields become available and they are presented under the section "Applied sanctions".
Applied sanctions	
NA /	Ticking the checkbox next to this field means YES.
Were sanctions/penaltie	When your option is YES, two new fields become available:
imposed?	Nature of imposed sanctions/penalties
	 Imposed sanctions/penalties resulted from the breach of It becomes available and mandatory only if your option for the previous field is YES. By default, the value that you selected as Type of procedure is displayed. If needed, you can select another value which is available in the list.
Nature of imposed sanctions/penaltie	
	Administrative and criminalAdministrativeCriminal
	Select from the drop-down list the type of law that was infringed.
Imposed sanctions/penaltie resulted from the breach of	It can be: EU law EU and national law National law
2.00.01.01	→ Depending on the type of law that you select, different fields are displayed and you can enter details about different provisions in which penalties are laid down.
	It becomes available only if you select "EU law" or "EU and national law" in the previous field.
	→ You should specify the provision, its number, the year and the article and paragraph in which the penalties are laid down.
European provision	n To do so, use the options you have in the master-detail list:
in which penalties are laid down	 helps you add a new provision use this button when a provision is already added, but you need to edit it use this button when you only want to view the provision(s) details
	- helps you remove a provision from the list
	→ Click Add when you finish entering the provision and its details.
	Select the corresponding type(s) of legislation from the drop-down list.
Provision	There are three categories of legislative acts: Decision (DEC) Directive (DIR) Regulation (REG)

Field/Section		Description
	Number	Enter the number of the provision you selected, in a maximum of 4 characters. → Note that, according to the European legislation, Regulations show the number first and the year after, while for the Directives and Decisions it is the opposite. e.g.: • Decision - 2004/316/EC, art.1 • Directive - 2004/2/EC, article 1 and 2 • Regulation - 1260/99, article 32, 33, 34
	Year	Enter the year when the provision you selected was issued.
	Article and paragraph	Enter the article and the paragraph of the provision you selected.
in	ational provision which penalties e laid down	It becomes available only if you select "National law" or "EU and national law" in the previous field. → Write the name of the national legislation in which the penalties are laid down. e.g. Legislative Decree
	Number	Write the number and year of the national legislation in which the penalties are laid down. e.g. 74/2000
	Article	Write the article(s) of the national legislation in which the penalties are laid down. e.g. articles 2 and 8

Table 13: Sanctions (Options)

17. Comments

On this tab-page you can enter any additional remarks, comments, recommendations, suggestions.

You can also add attachment(s) relevant for the case.

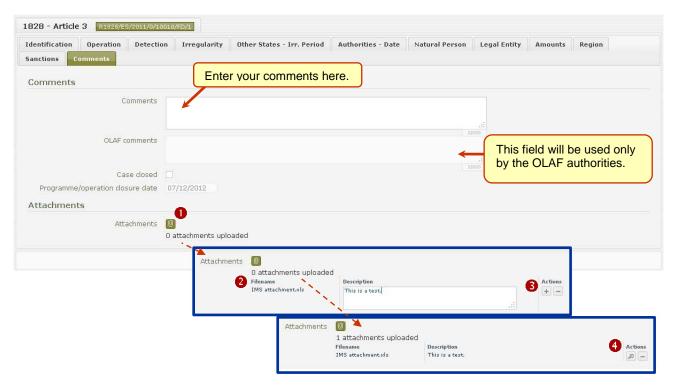


Figure 14: Comments

Field	Description
Comments	→ Notice the character counting while you put down the text (right down corner).
OLAF comments	 You cannot use this field. If needed, the OLAF authorities will enter their remarks and comments when reviewing and amending the communication you send.
Case closed	You cannot use this field. • When needed, the OLAF authorities will close the case by using this field.
Programme/operation closure date	This date appears depending on the CCI number you select on the Operation page.

Table 14: Comments (Options)

IMS AFIS IMS

User Manual

17.1 Attachments

- You can attach up to 10 files to a communication.
- The size of each file should be maximum 20 megabytes (MB).
- The title of the file that you are attaching cannot have more than 50 characters.

How to attach a file:

- 1. In the Attachments section, click the "attach" button ()
- Browse on your computer for the file/document you intend to attach
- Select the file from your computer and click "Open"
- 2. The Filename and the Description field appears.
- You can describe the file you are attaching in a maximum of 250 characters, with spaces.
- 3. Click the "add" button (+).
- → The attachment is uploaded.
- **4.** If you need, you can perform the following actions on the file you attached:
- View by clicking the "view" button (...).
- Remove by clicking the "remove" button ().

17.2 Communications Belonging to a Closed Case

You will not use the "Case closed" checkbox. This can be done only by OLAF authorised staff (when reviewing and amending a communication you send).

When the case is closed by OLAF, the information regarding the closure of the case is available on this tabpage (see image below).

You can see the communications belonging to the closed case on the search results page, by applying specific search criteria (for example, **Case Status: Closed**).

The status of the communications belonging to the closed case is *Submitted to OLAF* or *Modified by OLAF* and they are represented with the icon ...

When you view a communication belonging to the closed case, you can notice the "Case closure date" as in the following image:



Figure 15: Sample View on a Case Closed (by OLAF)

III. Create Article 5 (Update) Communication

18. Create a New "Article 5" (Update) Communication

Create an Article 5 (update) communication = update a case which was submitted to OLAF.

You can create an **Article 5** (update) only from the latest communication (last update) of a case which was submitted to OLAF.

This latest communication can be either an Article 3 or an Article 5 and can only have one of the states:

- Modified by OLAF ()

To create a new 1828 Article 5 communication do the following:

- On the page listing all the communications click the reference number to open the latest communication of the case you want to update (1)
- While viewing the communication you've just opened click the Article 5 button (2)

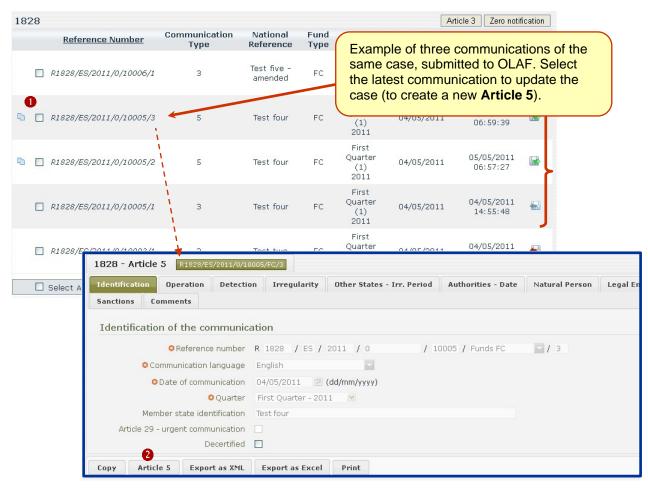


Figure 16: Create Article 5 (Update) Communication

19. Cancel a Case

In order to cancel a case, follow the steps below:

- 1. Create and send an Article 3 communication.
- 2. When it is in one of the states: Submitted to OLAF (), Modified by OLAF (), open it and start the creation of an Article 5 communication.
- **3.** On tab-page *5. Irregularity* go to field "Classification of the irregularity".
- 4. Select from the list: no irregularity (IRQ0).



→ The field "Cancellation reason" is displayed and you have to explain why the case should be cancelled.

Remember not to enter any personal/nominal data, such as people's or companies' names etc.

- 5. Click Finalize or Send (depending on your rights).
- 6. A pop-up window appears, asking you to confirm or not the cancellation of the case.
- 7. Click **OK** and the communication is sent to the next authority.

When the **Article 5** communication is eventually submitted to OLAF, the case is considered as being cancelled together with all the communications that you sent relating to the respective case.

- → In a communication belonging to a cancelled case, only the following information remains available:
- In the list of communications: reference number, national reference number, communication type, communication date, registration date, status (icon).
- Inside the communication: reference number, national reference number, communication date, classification of the irregularity (IRQ) and cancellation reason.
 - → None of these fields should contain personal data.



Figure 17: Irregularity - Cancel a Case



Support Team Contact Information

In case of technical problems, please contact your local administrator or the AFIS Helpdesk team:

AFIS IT Helpdesk	
Address	Rue Joseph II, 30/B-1049 Brussels
Telephone number	+32 2 296 27 27
Internet e-mail	olaf-afis-it-help-desk@ec.europa.eu
MAB mail	EC-OLAF-IT

For any other matter, please send an e-mail:

- To your contact person in OLAF, Unit D.4 or
- To the IMS Team <u>OLAF-FMB-IMS@ec.europa.eu</u>.