The 9th meeting of the EPOS Board of Governmental Representatives (BGR) has been held in Athens (Greece) on June 7th and 8th 2017. The meeting aimed at approving the Service Validation Process (i.e., methodology, timeline, criteria) and verifying the EPOS progress toward the ERIC establishment and operation. The BGR approved with unanimity the Validation process allowing EPOS to launch the validation phase in October 2017, as planned in the EPOS IP project. Discussions and guidance for planning the work to achieve the legal establishment of EPOS-ERIC have been provided as usual, demonstrating the effective engagement of Governmental Representatives and National Authorities in EPOS implementation and construction.