



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 16 April 2010

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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: COREPER/Council

No. prev. doc.: 7982/1/10 REV 1 ENFOPOL 77
5562/1/10 REV 1 ENFOPOL 20

Subject: Draft Council conclusions on strengthening cooperation between national bodies or structures responsible for analysis of the terrorist threat

1. The Working Party on Terrorism discussed at its meetings on 27-28 January and 17 March 2010 the Presidency's proposal for draft Council conclusions on strengthening cooperation between national bodies or structures responsible for analysis of the terrorist threat, as set out in doc. 5562/10 ENFOPOL 20 and doc. 5562/1/10 REV 1 ENFOPOL 20.
2. On the basis of the discussions in the Working Party meetings and subsequent negotiations with delegations, the Presidency proposed a revised text for the draft Council conclusions as set out in doc. 7982/1/10 REV 1 ENFOPOL 77. The CATS meeting of 12-13 April 2010 agreed on the revised text.
3. COREPER is invited to confirm the agreement on the text of the draft Council conclusions, as set out in annex, and to submit it to the Council for approval.

THE COUNCIL,

REAFFIRMING that terrorism is a threat that puts the security of the EU and the lives of its citizens at serious risk;

RECALLING the Statement on strengthening international security adopted by the European Council in December 2008, in which it reaffirms its determination to combat all manifestations of terrorism, with full respect for the rule of law, through measures such as more effective information exchange between European authorities;

RECALLING the recommendations contained in the “Final Report on the Evaluation of National Anti-Terrorist Arrangements“ (doc. 12168/3/05 REV 3 ENFOPOL 109)¹ and in particular the call to improve coordination and cooperation between Member States' national bodies or structures concerning assessment and analysis of the terrorist threat;

WELCOMING the fact that a number of Member States have set up such coordination bodies or structures including for the purposes of implementing the recommendation;

CONSIDERING that the central position occupied by the coordination bodies or structures enables them to offer a global and forward-looking vision of a threat which is global;

RECALLING the proposals which the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator has put forward concerning the desirability of examining possible means of cooperation between those coordination bodies or structures e.g. in his six-monthly report from November 2009²;

¹ The EU counter-terrorism peer evaluations are conducted pursuant to Council Decision 2002/996/JHA of 28 November 2002 (OJ L 349, 24.12.2002).

² doc. 15358/09 JAI 772 ECOFIN 694 TRANS 435 RELEX 998 ECO 127 PESC 1459 COTER 122 ENFOPOL 277 COSDP 1039 PROCIV 167 ENER 363 ATO 131 DATAPROTECT 67 TELECOM 230

NOTING that the meetings of the heads of the coordination bodies or structures from those Member States where such coordination arrangements have already been established, as well as of experts in the field, have highlighted the usefulness of the work of interaction for promoting dialogue on matters vital to their activity such as those relating to the exchange of analyses, data integration and the training of analysts;

UNDERLINING the value of EU counter-terrorism peer evaluations;

COMMENDING the work being done by Member States' counter-terrorism coordination bodies or structures and

ENCOURAGING the continuation and intensification of their existing cooperation,

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES TO

CONSIDER DEVELOPING, in accordance with the recommendation from the Final Report on the Evaluation of National Anti-Terrorist Arrangements, national coordinating bodies or structures, or nominated as such, for assessment and analysis of the terrorist threat which may involve prosecution services when necessary;

PROMOTE interaction, on a voluntary and informal basis, between the coordination bodies or structures, or nominated as such, through regular meetings of their heads and experts to address matters of common interest, in particular:

- evaluation of the national threat,
- best practices in the field of data integration, and
- training of analysts.