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JAI 211
DAPIX 41
CRIMORG 22
ENFOPOL 78

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 15 March 2016
To: Working Party on Information Exchange and Data Protection (DAPIX)
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 1682/16.

2. Information from the Presidency

Delegations were informed about discussions in the JHA Council meeting of 10/11 March 2016, and about recent discussions in COSI, SIS/SIRENE, TWP/SIS SRENE and LEWP on matters related to DAPIX.

3. Information exchange developments, strengthening implementation and use of different systems - the focus of DAPIX

The Presidency outlined the outcome of questionnaire 5180/16 and invited delegates to contribute, in response to DS 1129/16, to an informed discussion to be held in April at COSI level on the issue of building up an integrated EU information architecture, particularly on prioritising short-, medium- and long-term actions to be taken.

It was agreed that the existing information resources should be used extensively and that user-friendly exchange tools systems should further facilitate cross-border information exchange. To enhance interoperability, a one-stop-shop approach should be implemented at technical, operational and, where feasible, also at legal level.

Delegations emphasised that DAPIX was already working on most of the proposals set out in the COSI paper and suggested to add the SPOC concept to the lists of items to be discussed by COSI. They stressed, in particular, the need to identify and overcome obstacles to cross-border information availability and follow-up exchange at both legal or technical level.

The suggestion to carry out a feasibility study on creating a single search interface for cross-checking databases available at European level, in particular with a view to creating interoperability between SIS II, VIS and Eurodac, was supported by eu-LISA.

The issue of choosing the appropriate channel for a smooth information flow was raised without, however, finding an agreement beyond the best practice model set out in the SPOC manual.

Europol advocated an increased use of the EIS, which currently was accessible by around only 4000 users.

4. Passenger Name Record (PNR) Directive

The item was postponed to a later date.

5. Prüm implementation and daily application

Delegations stressed the effectiveness gains of a properly and fully applying the Prüm instrument for combating terrorism and cross-border crime. They underlined the need for training and awareness raising for staff on the potential of Prüm and suggested to imply CEPOL in the development of training schemes.

The Presidency noted that delegations had notified in 6854/16 DAPIX 32 COSI 36 ENFOPOL 64 ENFOCUSTOM 35 CRIMORG 14 only a few technical difficulties. Europol informed that the Prüm helpdesk was not significantly consulted.

6. Prüm Council Decision

6.1 Implementation - *state of play*

Delegations took note of 5017/1/16 REV 1 JAI 2 DAPIX 1 ENFOPOL 3 CRIMORG 1 and were invited to regularly notify changes of the state of play at national level so as to prepare a reliable overview.

6.2 Declarations in accordance with Council Decision 2008/615/JHA, Art. 36(2)

Belgium

Delegations took note of 6858/16 DAPIX 34 CRIMORG 16 ENFOPOL 66.

Latvia

The LV delegate informed that the declaration (6953/16 DAPIX 38 CRIMORG 20 ENFOPOL 75) would be submitted at a later date.

6.3 Organisation of evaluation visits - indicative calendar

Delegations took note of DS 1002/1/16 REV 1 and HR informed to be ready for the VRD evaluation this summer.

6.4 Prüm statistics and reports on automated data exchange 2015

Discussing 5129/16 JAI 9 DAPIX 2 CRIMORG 3 ENFOPOL 5, delegations raised the issue to what extent the statistics set out were comparable. The Presidency suggested to further discuss that issue at expert level.

7. Information Management Strategy (IMS)

7.1 Information Exchange Manual – *update*

Delegations took note of 6704/16 JAI 177 DAPIX 29 ENFOPOL 53 COMIX 173 ENFOCUSTOM 31 CRIMORG 11 SCHENGEN 5 VISA 54 SIRIS 32 COPEN 65 ASIM 21 FRONT 105, and were informed that the manual would be translated in all official languages.

Following a brief discussion on actual use and dissemination of the manual (6901/16 DAPIX 36 ENFOPOL 70 COMIX 195 ENFOCUSTOM 39 CRIMORG 19 SCHENGEN 7 VISA 66 SIRIS 38 COPEN 69 ASIM 32 FRONT 122), the Presidency underlined the need to further aim at best practices.

7.2 Renewed Information Management Strategy - Draft 5th Action List

Delegations took note of the revised draft action list (5175/1/16 REV 1 JAI 18 CATS 1 DAPIX 4 ASIM 3 JURINFO 1) and were invited to further submit suggestions for new actions by 29 April 2016.

Action 1: SPOC training scheme

The IT delegate presented the proposal for developing a SPOC training scheme (6770/16 DAPIX 31 ENFOPOL 57 CRIMORG 13 ENFOCUSTOM 33). Delegations welcomed the project, in particular its regional approach in handling specific SPOC outlooks. The implementation of the action, however, was dependent on Commission funding and the application for that still under scrutiny within the Commission.

Action 3: Pilot programme for PNR data exchange of Passenger Information Units

The HU delegation presented 6857/16 DAPIX 33 ENFOPOL 65 CRIMORG 15 ENFOCUSTOM 36. It outlined the key aspects of the PNRDEP action, which was officially launched on 1 January 2016. Delegations intervened on several details. HU as the coordinator of the action promised to take the remarks into consideration for further progress on the action.

Action 5: Universal Message Format -UMF 3

The DE delegation outlined the key features of the UMF3-action as set out in 6882/16 DAPIX 35 ENFOPOL 68 ENFOCUSTOM 38 CRIMORG 18. Delegations were reminded of the kick-off conference the following day at Europol, The Hague.

Action 6: Prüm post-hit procedures

The FI delegate indicated it was ready to continue work on the action proposed at the previous meeting. As hardly any objection has been received from Member States on the suggestions set out in 5196/16, FI invited Member States which have not yet done so to reply to the questions in that document. A separate request will be sent in April requesting answers by mid-May in order to allow for the drafting of a conclusive report for the DAPIX meeting in June.

BE complemented the intervention by giving a presentation on the PIES project, underlining an effectiveness gain of 15 % in Belgian crime investigations since being operational for Prüm DNA data exchange, and informing about the manual on DNA data exchange as a result of the PIES project and available on the EPE platform.

8. Dutch initiative on Missing Persons

Delegations took note of the results of the questionnaire on the use and optimisation of Interpol instruments as well as of citizens' assistance to identify and find missing persons (6980/16 DAPIX 39 SIRIS 40 and 7012/16/ DAPIX 40 JAI 205). The conclusions would be submitted to the Interpol General Secretariat and shared in Interpol fora in view of ensuring a follow-up with specific practical steps. The issue of citizens' assistance could be further elaborated at the international conference "Missing Persons: Missing Information" in Amsterdam on 25 May 2016.

In this context, the Presidency invited delegations to save the date for that conference. The target groups of the conference are police experts and policy makers from Member States, EU institutions and agencies as well participants from relevant NGO's. Member State were reminded to identify one delegate from the national SIRENE bureau and one law enforcement expert or policy-maker in the field of Missing Persons to attend the conference.

9. Any other business

No issue was raised under this point.

