

9925/3/95

REV 3  
LIMITE

ENFOPOL 99

**NOTE**

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from: Steering Group II

to : K.4 Committee

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No. prev. doc.: 9928/2/95 ENFOPOL 99 REV 2

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Subject: Measures to combat counterfeiting

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At its meeting on 12 December 1995 Steering Group II examined the text given below.

The text was approved by fourteen delegations.

1. The German delegation entered a reservation on the fourth paragraph in view of the federal structure of its country. It was suggested as a compromise that this sentence read as follows:

"It would operate around one or more contact points which would be the interlocutor(s) appointed under national powers dealing with measures to combat counterfeiting."

2. The K.4 Committee agreed to return to this matter at its next meeting.

**SEMDOC**

Statewatch European Documentation &  
Monitoring Centre on justice and home  
affairs in the European Union

PO Box 1516, London N16 0EW, UK  
tel: 0181 802 1882 (00 44 181 802 1882)  
fax: 0181 880 1727 (00 44 181 880 1727)

**Proposal to facilitate anti-counterfeiting measures  
in the Member States of the European Union**

The fight against counterfeiting and the international networks involved in it is further complicated by the disparity between national laws in the field, even within the European Union itself.

In addition, depending on the country, there is a great variety and very often a multiplicity of services that may be called on to combat this type of crime.

Thus, in terms of police cooperation between the competent national authorities, this action and the investigations which it requires need to be facilitated by a system which is based on a simple principle and is workable in practice.

[It would operate around a contact point, which in each State would be the interlocutor appointed under national powers, dealing with measures to combat counterfeiting.] <sup>(1)</sup>

Acting as an interface, the contact point would thus be able to respond to requests for information or verification from correspondents in other Member States, organize operational measures to be carried out, and be of use for the purposes of conducting enquiries by means of international letters rogatory.

As an intermediary, it would thus greatly facilitate the work of investigatory services within the Community.

In the parallel field of customs cooperation, concrete measures to combat counterfeiting even more effectively should be studied in the Customs Cooperation Working Party in accordance with ENFOCUSTOM 14 REV 1.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Reservation by the German delegation.

Ways of further improving cooperation between the police and customs services in this field should also be explored.

Attention is drawn to the benefit which all parties stand to derive from consulting the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market in Alicante (Spain) and the European Patents Office in Munich in the interests of handling counterfeiting cases efficiently.

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