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NOTE

from : General Secretariat

to : Multidisciplinary Group on Organized Crime

Subject: Conclusions of the European Conference⁽¹⁾
- Combating organized crime

The delegations will find attached, for their information, the Presidency conclusions of the European Conference, held in Luxembourg on 6 October 1998, relating to combating organized crime.

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(1) This document is only available in English, French and German.

PRESIDENCY CONCLUSIONS

1. We have noted with interest the first findings of the Experts Group set up by the European Conference.
2. We take the view that the prevention of and fight against the sexual exploitation of children, in particular child pornography requires concerted action both by the European Conference and within the UN.
3. We have also noted that smuggling of human beings is emerging more and more frequently as a new and serious form of organised crime which warrants attention at all levels.
4. We have noted with interest the work currently being undertaken in the UN with a view to drafting an international instrument to combat smuggling of human beings as a complement to an international convention on organised crime.
5. We have instructed the Experts Group on Drugs and Organised Crime to include on the agenda for its next meeting practical cooperation measures for combating child pornography and organised trafficking in human beings.
6. In particular we have asked the Experts Group to examine whether and in what way the measures provided for in the Joint Action adopted by the Council on 24 February 1997 to combat trafficking in human beings and the sexual exploitation of children can be extended to all States participating in the Group's work.
7. We have noted that the entry into force of the Europol Convention and the future extension of Europol's powers are likely to help combat these phenomena more effectively.
8. We have emphasised the interest expressed by the States meeting within the European Conference in concerting and coordinating their positions during the proceedings under way in the UN.
