EUROPEAN UNION
THE COUNCIL

Brussels, 21 March 1996 (01.04)
(OR. f)

5387/96

LIMITE

ENFOPOL 55

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of : Steering Group II

on : 22 and 23 February 1996

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Steering Group II adopted the agenda set out in telex No 639 and:

- amended certain items as a result of the proceedings of the various working parties;
- entered under "Other business" the item "Approval of the Procedural Guidelines for the BdL network".

2. DRUGS AND ORGANIZED CRIME

(a) Report on organized crime in Europe in 1995
(4047/96 ENFOPOL 5 and 5047/96 ENFOPOL 35)

The proceedings of Steering Group II on this matter are summarized in 5340/96 ENFOPOL 54.

(b) Joint declaration on the fight against organized crime
(4900/96 JAI 6)

As regards that part of the declaration falling within the competence of Steering Group II, see 4900/2/96 JAI 6 REV 2.

(c) **Liaison officers** (4003/96 ENFOPOL 2, 4521/96 ENFOPOL 24, 5065/96 ENFOPOL 36 and 5103/96 ENFOPOL 44)

The Presidency presented the outcome of proceedings on this matter set out in 5065/96 ENFOPOL 36 and stressed the urgent need to send replies to the questionnaire contained in that document.

The Presidency directed the Working Party on Drugs and Organized Crime to continue its work with a view to the adoption of a joint action.

(d) **Computerized exchange of information**
(4046/96 ENFOPOL 4 AND 5117/96 ENFOPOL 48)

The Group held an in-depth discussion of document 5117/96 ENFOPOL 48 on the use of the "TELEDRUG" system.

Several delegations voiced reservations regarding the Presidency's approach, in connection in particular with the role of the EDU and the risk of overlapping with the procedures of other organizations, such as Interpol.

In the light of these reservations the Presidency asked delegations to give their views on an approach under which:

- the EDU would not be involved;
- the possibility of using the TELEDRUG system would be on a bilateral basis both for the countries of the Union and for the CCEE and the Baltic countries.

(e) **Priorities of the programme to combat drugs**
(12247/95 CORDROGUE 69 SAN 115 and 4054/96 ENFOPOL 11)

The Presidency informed the Group of the initiatives which it had worked out following the adoption of the report on drugs by the Madrid European Council.

The Group noted with interest the proceedings concerning the fight against Turkish drug dealers working within the European Union. It was favourable to the guidelines laid down in document 5091/96 ENFOPOL 40, it being understood that the last paragraph on page 3 would be deleted.

As regards the application of Article K.1.4 (Torres report) the Presidency stated that this was a question to be dealt with in the framework of the forthcoming Intergovernmental Conference. At its next meeting, on 1 March 1996, the Working Party on Drugs and Organized Crime would prepare replies to the requests made in the letter from Ambassador Cavalchini.

3. EUROPOL

(a) Development of the implementation aspects of the Convention on the establishment of EUROPOL

(4099/96 EUROPOL 3)

The Group noted the progress made in the proceedings, as outlined by the Presidency, regarding the implementation of the Europol Convention.

(b) Administration of the Europol Drugs Unit

(i) Coordinator's report for 1995

(4520/1/96 EUROPOL 9 REV 1)

The Group recorded its agreement on the text in the above document, it being understood that in order for it to be adopted all language versions would need to be available.

(ii) Supervision of the activities of the EDU

(4808/96 EUROPOL 13)

The Group agreed that this document should be forwarded as an "A" item to the Council.

(iii) Rights and obligations of Europol liaison officers
(5163/96 EUROPOL 16)

The Group recorded its agreement on the texts of Article 6(3) and Article 8 as set out in the above document.

It requested the representative of the Council Legal Service to make any comments on Article 8 at the meeting of the K.4 Committee.

(iv) Draft Financial Regulation
(4751/1/96 EUROPOL 12 REV 1 and 4847/96 EUROPOL 14)

As the Swedish delegation had re-entered its reservations as set out in the above documents, it was agreed to submit this question to the K.4 Committee.

The Belgian delegation suggested consulting the Court of Auditors on the text of the Financial Regulation. The French delegation was against this.

4. TERRORISM

(a) Updating of the document on the terrorist threat

(b) International meetings

The Group

- was informed of the outcome of the Working Party on Terrorism on 16 January 1996 (4382/96 ENFOPOL 19) and of the preparation of two seminars in Rome on Islamic extremism and Middle-East extremist groups (4-6 March 1996) and on the use of electronic networks by terrorist groups (22-24 April 1996);

- noted the Ottawa ministerial Declaration of 12 December 1995 on the fight against terrorism (5237/96 ENFOPOL 53).

5. POLICE TRAINING

(a) **European strategy on training**
(4478/96 ENFOPOL 21 and 11284/95 ENFOPOL 127)

The Group instructed the Working Party on Police Cooperation to continue the examination of European strategy as outlined in the above two documents.

(b) **ILEA**
(4910/96 ENFOPOL 3)

The Group instructed the Working Party on Police Cooperation to continue examining the question of participation by the European Union in the ILEA, with the assistance both of directors of police academies in the Union and directors of such academies in the CCEE.

6. PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

(a) **Draft Council Recommendation on guidelines for preventing and restraining disorder connected with football matches**
(9140/2/95 ENFOPOL 85 REV 2 and 5127/96 ENFOPOL 50)

The draft Recommendation is being put to the next meeting of the K.4 Committee with a view to the text's being adopted by the Council on 19 and 20 March 1996. Two delegations (E/S) entered reservations on the text of point II (exchange of information).

(b) **Urban violence: results of the Saragossa seminar on 8-9 February 1996**
(5118/96 ENFOPOL 49)

The Spanish delegation drew attention to the outcome of the seminar on European police forces and urban crime.

The seminar highlighted a need for:

- the creation of a permanent mechanism for the comparison and analysis of data;

- the preparation of a training programme.

The Spanish delegation suggested that the conclusions of this seminar and those of future efforts in this area (for example the Stockholm Conference in May 1996 on prevention) should be examined by the Working Party on Drugs and Organized Crime.

The Group directed the Working Parties on Drugs and Organized Crime and on Police Cooperation, each insofar as it was concerned, to continue examining the problem of urban safety on the basis of the results of the Saragossa seminar.

7. **INTERCEPTION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Oral report by the Presidency**

The Group

- was informed of the outcome of the meeting of the Working Party on Police Cooperation on 16 February 1996 (5148/96 ENFOPOL 51);

- asked the Working Party on Police Cooperation to examine the technical and legal aspects of legal surveillance of telecommunications systems operating outside national frontiers, with the assistance of legal experts from the Working Party on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (4118/2/95 ENFOPOL 1 REV 2 and 4763/96 ENFOPOL 27).

8. RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

(a) Cooperation with the CCEE and the Baltic States

(5104/96 ENFOPOL 45, 5106/96 ENFOPOL 47 and 5107/96 ENFOPOL 47)

The Working Party took note of the Presidency's approach as outlined in document 5104/96 ENFOPOL 45, on cooperation with the CCEE and the Baltic States.

It also welcomed the outcome of the seminar on money laundering held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1995.

(b) Cooperation with the ANDEAN Pact States

(4049/96 ENFOPOL 6)

The Presidency gave a briefing on the preparation for the meeting on 11 March 1996 in Rome with the Andean Pact States.

The discussion focused on the means of associating the United States delegation with that initiative. It was agreed to refer the matter to the K.4 Committee.

(c) Transatlantic dialogue

(4576/96 USA 2 and 4053/96 ENFOPOL 10)

The main questions relating to the transatlantic dialogue were dealt with during the examination of items 5(b) and 8(b).

9. CUSTOMS COOPERATION

(a) Implementation of joint monitoring operations

(4146/2/96 ENFOCUSTOM 1 REV 2)

The Group suggested that the K.4 Committee record its agreement on the above document with a view to adoption by the Council on 19 and 20 March 1996.

(b) **Draft Naples II Convention: Oral report by the Presidency**

The Working Party

- was informed by the Presidency of the progress of the proceedings of the Working Party on Customs Cooperation regarding the draft Naples II Convention;

- directed the Working Party on Customs Cooperation to continue its examination of specific forms of cooperation (Title IV) of the draft Convention.

10. FINANCING OF TITLE VI OF THE TEU IN 1996

- **Establishing of priorities**

The Group did not examine this matter.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- **Approval of the Procedural Guidelines for the BdL network** (Liaison Bureaux) (5092/96 ENFOPOL 41)

The Group approved the abovementioned guidelines.