

6413/98

LIMITE

CRIMORG 28

NOTE

from : Greek delegation

to : Multidisciplinary Working Party on Organized Crime (MWP)

No. prev. doc.: 12120/97 CRIMORG 18

Subject: Role and place of the judicial authorities in their relations with Europol

Delegations will find attached the Greek delegation's contribution.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

In reply to telex No 5227 of 11 December 1997 from the Council, in which delegations were asked to forward their views on the discussion paper 12120/97 CRIMORG 18, the Greek delegation wishes to make the following comments:

"The Greek delegation considers that it would be useful to increase the effectiveness of Europol to allow in the long term for direct contact with the judicial authorities where necessary.

The need for this seems obvious with a view to ratification by the Member States of the Convention on Simplified Extradition Procedure, which constitutes an obligation incumbent on the Member States under Recommendation 14.1 of the Action Plan to combat organized crime (see also political guideline No 2). As regards the implementation of that Convention, the Greek delegation considers it desirable that Europol should be recognized as having competence to forward requests for extradition in accordance with that Convention.

Finally, it is favourably disposed towards any experience arising from the implementation of the Europol Convention with a view to the possible enlargement of Europol's competences (by an amendment to that Convention), as regards both the effectiveness of the powers conferred on its bodies and any rules on Europol's cooperation with the judicial authorities in the context of European legislation on legal matters."