

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION		Brussels, 12 October 2000 (17.10) (OR. fr)
		12275/00
		LIMITE
		SIS 91 COMIX 728

NOTE

from :	Presidency
to :	Article 36 Committee (EU/Iceland and Norway Mixed Committee) COREPER
No. prev. doc. :	1134/00 SIS-TECH 251 COMIX 640
Subject :	Follow-up to SISNET call for tenders

1. On 23 July 1999 the Article 36 Committee decided not to extend the contract for the existing communications network, SIRENE Phase II. Consequently, a tendering procedure was initiated for a new network, named SISNET.
2. This procedure has now been completed and a decision taken on the award of the contract. At the meetings of the SIS-TECH Working Party and the Working Party on SIS on 7 and 21 September respectively, it was decided to award the SISNET contract for both lots (lot 1 being the provision of the network and lot 2 the provision of security) to BELGACOM. This company offers the best price/quality ratio for each of the two lots.
3. Subsequently, the SIS Working Parties decided to choose from among the options proposed by the successful tenderers, in accordance with the contract conditions, a meshed network with bit rates calculated on the basis of present requirements plus a safety margin, and including access points in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

4. At its meeting on 28 September the Advisory Committee on Procurements and Contracts for SISNET, set up pursuant to Article 37 of Decision 2000/265/EC of 27 March 2000¹, gave a positive opinion on the conclusion of the contract.
5. The Member States subsequently confirmed their choice by a written procedure which was completed at 15.00 on 4 October 2000.
6. Thus, discussions have begun with BELGACOM for the signing of the contract launching the project. It is envisaged that the contract will be signed at the end of October and that the installation of the network will be completed in April 2001. Subsequently, the Schengen bodies will carry out tests with a view to the network becoming operational in July 2001.

¹ OJ L 85, 6.4.2000, p. 12.