



892 WP3
082

**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 5 May 2000

8198/00

LIMITE

ENFOPOL 30

NOTE

from : Presidency

to : Police Cooperation Working Party

No. prev. doc. : 7805/00 CATS 25 ENFOPOL 25, 6391/00 CATS 14 ENFOPOL 15

Subject : **The European Police College Network**

1 Introduction

This document seeks to summarise the results of the discussion in the Article 36 Committee. In addition, delegations can find the text of the revised (*new*) option 1 as a basis for further discussion in the Police Cooperation Working Party. Paragraph four of the document includes a list of those items which, in the opinion of the Presidency, should be debated by the experts.

2 Results of the discussion in the Art. 36 Committee on 18 April 2000

On 18 April the Art. 36 Committee discussed the future development of the European Police College Network and agreed on the following:

- Member States choose option 1, as outlined in Council document 6391/00 CATS 14 ENFOPOL 15, as a basis for further discussion. Delegations agreed that the Network should be funded by Member States and underlined that this should not preclude the possibility to apply for Community funding regarding specific projects in the framework of Title VI financing programmes such as OISIN or FALCONE.

Member States also were of the opinion that the European Police College Network should be supported by a permanent Secretariat with the option to decide about the final seat of the Secretariat after a period of several years.

- This option will be further elaborated by the Police Cooperation Working Party. To that end, the Presidency will convene the group, composed of experts in the field of law enforcement training, in May/ June this year. It was agreed that it would be useful to invite also representatives of the AEPC. The results will be presented in a report during the June-meeting of the Art. 36 Committee (9/10 June in Vilamoura).
- The Portuguese Presidency, together with the three future Presidencies (France, Sweden, Belgium) will develop a draft legal instrument which will be tabled under French Presidency in July 2000 in the Article 36 Committee. This draft instrument will reflect the discussion in the Police Cooperation Working Party.

3 The *new* option 1

3.1 Objectives

The objectives of the EPCN are:

- Strengthening knowledge of the existing EU instruments in the area of law enforcement and of Member States' law enforcement structure
- Promoting the application of these instruments
- Optimising co-operation and co-ordination between EU law enforcement training institutes with regard to European and cross-border co-operation
- Offering training to Accession Candidates and involving them in the EPCN

3.2 Tasks

The EPCN should be given the powers necessary to realise its objectives and should have the following tasks:

- Ensuring the training of senior officials of the national police forces with regard to European and international cooperation on the basis of harmonised curricula, and also ensuring appropriate coordinated advanced training

- Ensuring the training of law enforcement officials at middle management/practitioner level of the national police forces with regard to European and international cooperation on the basis of harmonised curricula and helping to set up appropriate co-ordinated advanced training programmes
- Developing and providing training regarding EU Member States' collective non-military response to international crises
- Developing training for law enforcement authorities from Accession Candidates and from other foreign countries, including the training and consulting of key law enforcement officials
- Developing appropriate language skills in Member States law enforcement officials
- Constant monitoring of areas where there might be a need for "European training"
- Disseminating best practices and research, especially by developing the eEPCN
- Developing and carrying out training for trainers
- Facilitating relevant exchanges and secondments of law enforcement officials to other countries in the context of training

3.3 Structure

Each Member State will establish an organisational unit at its central law enforcement training institute. Together, these national units will form the European Police College Network.

The EPCN will be managed by a board consisting of the heads of the relevant central national law enforcement training institutes. The board will be presided over by the Member State that holds the EU Presidency. The decisions of the board will be implemented by the national units.

A Secretariat, which will support the board, shall be permanently established at one of the national central law enforcement training institutes. After [...] years, a final decision on the seat of the Secretariat will be made.

3.4 Finance

The costs incurred by the board and the Secretariat shall be borne by all Member States in accordance with the gross national product scale. This does not preclude the possibility to apply for Community funding regarding specific projects in the framework of Title VI financing programmes such as OISIN or FALCONE.

4 Items for discussion

The discussion among experts in the Police Cooperation Working Party should aim at addressing all subjects, which should be included in the draft legal instrument. The Network can deal with questions of detail itself once it has been established.

Example: It is certainly necessary to discuss whether a "Training course on European Policing" should be one of the central elements of the Network, where it should take place and also, very broadly, how it should be set up. At this stage it does not seem to be necessary to discuss the curriculum of this training course in detail.

In view of the limited time available for discussion, the Presidency proposes to discuss, on the basis of the findings of Council document 6391/00 CATS 14 ENFOPOL 15 (the EPCN study), the following issues:

- Objectives of the European Police College Network
- Tasks of the EPCN
- "Priority list" regarding the tasks of the EPCN
- The "training course on European policing"
- Structure and legal status
- Financing
- Relationship and cooperation with other institutions in the field of law enforcement training
- Relationship and cooperation with the Applicant Countries

The group determines which questions it wants to discuss in greater detail. The Presidency will draft additional documents to facilitate the discussion.