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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 25 September 2017
To: Delegations

Subject: Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security
(COSI)

MIXED COMMITTEE

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda set out in 12363/17 was adopted with the addition of an information point by the Presidency on the meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol under the AOB item.

2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency informed delegations on the state of play of the discussions on information exchange and interoperability, notably the outcome of the discussions in the Friends of Presidency format of DAPIX, which had met twice.

The Presidency also referred to expert-level workshops on cybercrime which would be organised in the margins of the fifth Annual Europol-Interpol Conference on Cybercrime on 28 and 29 September 2017. Three workshops would be held on the following topics: a coordinated EU law-enforcement response to major cross-border cyber attacks, the criminality on the Darkweb and the impact of the new General Data Protection Regulation on the reform of WHOIS under ICANN. A fourth workshop on the use of Carrier-Grade NAT (CHN) would be held on 13 October 2017.

Information was also given on the informal meeting of the Working Party on Terrorism (External Aspects) (COTER) in Tallinn on 3 and 4 September 2017 and on the EU-US Senior Officials meeting in Tallinn on 20 and 21 September 2017.

Finally, the Presidency and the Commission informed delegations on the state of play of the High-Level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R). The first meeting of the HLCEG-R had been held on 11 September and would be followed by a meeting on 24 November 2017 where a first report would be presented with a view to submitting recommendations to the Council.

3. Commission recommendation on proportionate police checks and police cooperation in the Schengen area: follow-up to the discussions in the LEWP

The Presidency briefed the Committee on the outcome of the discussions in the LEWP, which had been asked not only to provide an overview of existing instruments based on Chapter 5 of the Prüm Decision and other forms of cooperation, but also to update the national fact sheets of the Manual on Cross-Border Operations and explore training opportunities with CEPOL.

The Commission indicated that it was ready to follow up on the discussions which had taken place in two workshops. The conclusions of these workshops were in line with the findings contained in the Presidency paper, set out in 11839/2/17. The Commission was willing to provide support, including financial support, to strengthen the cross-border cooperation. An evaluation study would be launched at the beginning of 2018 and a series of measures to preserve and strengthen the Schengen area would be issued on 27 September 2017.

Several delegations repeated their position that reinforced police cooperation could not replace border checks. Linking this policy area to the discussions on interoperability was also suggested, with a view to making Schengen more effective.

4. EU Internal Security Strategy (ISS)

- **Draft Council conclusions on the mid-term review of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy 2015-2020**

11901/2/17 REV 2

The Committee agreed on the draft Council conclusions set out in 12650/17, which would be submitted to the Council on 12 and 13 October 2017 for adoption.

- **Trio Presidency paper on the implementation of the renewed ISS**

11968/1/17 REV 1

The Committee took note of the joint Trio Presidency paper on the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy (ISS) 2015 - 2020 as set out in 11968/17. It was indicated that this programme was not to be considered exhaustive as it could be revised and updated where needed. Some delegations underlined that interoperability was also important in relation to the Security and Migration Union 2025 and suggested introducing a ranking with long- and short-term objectives. A second multi-Presidency meeting was provisionally scheduled to take place on 18 and 19 December 2017 in Vienna.

5. Ukraine: presentations by representatives of the European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) Ukraine and the Support Group for Ukraine (SGUA)

The Committee took note of a presentation by the Head of the European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) Ukraine, who gave an overview of the Member States' activities in connection with civilian security sector reform in Ukraine. He highlighted EUAM's five key priority areas in supporting the reform and underlined the importance of cooperation and coordination. These five priority areas are: delineation of competencies, human resource management, community policing, public order and criminal investigations.

The Head of the Support Group on Ukraine presented some trends and lessons learned from donor activities. He referred in particular to the action entitled 'Support to Rule of Law Reforms in Ukraine (PRAVO)', which contributes to providing strategic means and technical expertise to Ukraine in order to help it successfully complete the reform of its justice sector and delivering the necessary support to the National Police and other Ukrainian authorities in charge of law enforcement.

6. EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime:

– Funding 2018: discussion of COSI strategic guidance

The Committee discussed the future funding of the 2018 Policy Cycle on the basis of the questions set out in Presidency paper 11807/17 and taking into account the additional information provided by Europol in 11807/17 ADD 1. It emerged from these discussions that some delegations supported the suggested distribution of funds in 2018 for EMPACT meetings, High Value grants and Low Value grants, whereas other delegations favoured increasing the funding for High Value Grants and Low Value Grants and decreasing the budget for EMPACT meetings. Delegations also asked for greater flexibility in funding and for the funding to become available at an earlier stage.

Regarding the distribution of High-Value grants to the different priorities, most delegations favoured an equal distribution of funds, with the exception of the priorities 'Cannabis, Cocaine, Heroin' and 'Facilitation of Illegal Immigration', which some delegations thought should receive more funding.

The Chair invited the COSI Support Group to re-discuss this topic taking the outcome of the COSI discussions into account.

7. Any other business:

– Project on PIU interoperability

The Netherlands presented its PIU.net project, set out in 12497/17, which aims to deliver a technical solution for interoperability between PIUs and their partners.

– Implementation of the Council conclusions on Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG)

The Slovenian delegation presented the outcome of the kick-off conference of the Integrative Internal Security Governance initiative (12373/17), held on 8 September 2017.

– EU Strategic Training Needs Assessment (STNA)

The Commission and CEPOL briefly introduced the EU Strategic Training Needs Assessment (EU-STNA).

– Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol

The Chair informed the Committee that he was invited as COSI Chair to attend the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol on 10 October to present the EU Policy Cycles for 2014-2017 and 2018-2021.