



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 6 December 2012

17303/12

**JAI 872
COSI 129
COMIX 713**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI)
on: 28 November 2012
Subject : Summary of discussions

MIXED COMMITTEE

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted (doc. 16579/12).

2. Report on the project groups implementing the "29 measures"

COSI took note of the progress report on the achievements of the project groups (PGs) implementing the "29 measures" as set out in doc. 16661/12 and agreed that all parties involved in "Measure 6" should continue the implementation of the recommendations set out in doc. 7942/2/11 REV 2. The relevant activities of the project groups will be continued as actions of the "Illegal Immigration" priority within the framework of the Policy Cycle. The Committee also invited SCIFA to ensure that actions developed in the PGs are taken into account, where appropriate, both in the implementation of the EU Action Plan on Migratory Pressures and in the bi-annual updating of the list of actions.

COSI took note of the Follow up to the final report on Measure 12 (doc. 15908/1/12 REV 1) and the updated final report on "Measure 16" (doc. 9336/4/12 REV 4).

Finally, COSI invited PG "Measure 4" to continue its activities and report back to COSI at a later stage.

3. EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime

a) monitoring of the Operational Action Plan: report of the Europol Director and of the National Empact Coordinators meeting and six-month progress report

- Priority on illegal immigration

doc. 16014/12 + ADD 1 EXT 1 (EU RESTRICTED)

Delegations supported the findings of the Director's report on Europol's experiences regarding the implementation of the EU Policy Cycle in 2012 (doc. 16014/12). Whilst the establishment of the Policy Cycle could be considered a success, a number of improvements were still needed for its implementation, notably regarding the participation of Member States, financing, the lack of awareness regarding the Policy Cycle and the involvement of the National EMPACT Coordinators (NEC). Delegations underlined that in future the Europol report should first be discussed at the NEC meeting. Concerns were also raised about the timing of the drafting of the six-monthly monitoring reports and the need for improved coordination with projects developed in other bodies which are related to the EU Policy Cycle priorities. Some delegations preferred to maintain a certain level of flexibility in the OAPs. Finally, it was stressed that other players needed to be involved, in particular the customs authorities and that a multidisciplinary approach should be pursued.

b) Operational Action Plan 2013 "Illegal Immigration"

The Committee validated the "Illegal Immigration" OAP 2013 as set out in doc. 16440/2/12 REV 2 (EU RESTRICTED).

COSI

1. Adoption of the agenda

No new items were raised for AOB.

The DE delegation indicated that it would be interested in holding discussions on the future of CEPOL and EUROPOL at a forthcoming COSI meeting depending on the outcome of the Commission's reflections on a possible merger.

2. EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime

a) monitoring of the Operational Action Plans: report of the Europol Director and of the National Impact Coordinators' meeting and six-month progress report

This item was covered by the discussion in the Mixed Committee format.

b) Operational Action Plans 2013

The Committee validated the Operational Action Plans as set out in docs: 16020/2/12 REV 2 (EU RESTRICTED), 16021/1/12 REV 1 (EU RESTRICTED), 16022/2/12 REV 2 (EU RESTRICTED), 16024/3/12 REV 3 (EU RESTRICTED), 16028/2/12 REV 2 (EU RESTRICTED), 16029/1/12 REV 1 (EU RESTRICTED) and 16030/1/12 REV 1 (EU RESTRICTED).

c) Investment of training and resources

doc. 16315/12 COSI 116 ENFOPOL 376

The Committee welcomed the investments by Cepol and Europol in terms of training and resources and took note of their plans regarding the future training and funding for the EU Policy Cycle. The FR delegation stated that a fair balance should be sought in terms of training and resources between the actions developed under the Policy Cycle and the other actions for which those Agencies are responsible.

d) Funding of the EMPACT projects under ISF

The Committee took note of a joint paper by the BE, CZ, LU, NL and PL delegations regarding the funding of the Policy Cycle (doc. 15885/12) which proposes entrusting Europol with the management of funding earmarked for the Policy Cycle implementation through a system of indirect central management. Various delegations supported the joint paper and underlined the need for a flexible and adequate financing instrument.

The Commission representative stated that the Commission has produced Fiche No. 18 on financing, based on the information collected from Member States on their funding needs and that parallel discussions with the discussions on the MFF in the Ad Hoc Group on the MFF and the JHA Counsellors should be avoided. He noted that singling out one specific mode of budget implementation in relation to the Policy Cycle would not be appropriate and preferred exploring all potential resources which could be more beneficial for Member States.

3. Report on the project groups implementing the "Drugs Pact"

COSI took note of the progress report on the achievements of the project groups (doc. 16541/1/12 REV 1) and agreed to the recommendations therein.

COSI took note of the Cocaine project group evaluation report (doc. 15967/1/12 REV 1) and the state of play of the Treptower group (doc. 15970/12).

4. Security-related industrial policy and research

COSI discussed a Presidency proposal for enhancing user involvement in the EU's security-related research and industrial policy (doc. 16538/12). The Counter-Terrorism Coordinator welcomed the Presidency proposal and explained the importance of having a stronger user involvement and creating a foresight capability.

The Committee agreed on the need to improve the user involvement of the internal security community in the EU's security-related research and industrial policy. Delegations recognised the importance of developing a foresight function at EU level but further reflection was needed in various Member States concerning the possibility of setting up a "foresight unit" at Europol. Delegations first wanted to strengthen the ENLETS network and receive information on its functioning. To this end Member States were encouraged to devote the necessary resources to the further development of the ENLETS network and to become more involved.

5. MAOC-N

Following a presentation by the MAOC-N Director and the President of the MAOC-N Executive Board on the activities of MAOC-N and its operational added value, delegations held an exchange of views on the future of MAOC-N on the basis of a Commission non paper (doc. DS 1764/12). In general delegations expressed their appreciation for the work of MAOC-n and appeared to be in favour of maintaining this platform, in particular in view of its military dimension. Closer cooperation with Europol should, however, be developed, in particular in the field of information exchange.

The Europol Director informed the Committee that there was a significant risk of duplication regarding operational coordination and information exchange, and felt that more synergies between both organisations should be explored. In this connection, he announced that he would meet the MAOC-N Executive Board in the coming week to discuss cooperation.

6. Presentation of the programme of the incoming IE Presidency

The IE delegation informed the meeting of the priorities during its incoming Presidency. Main issues for COSI would be the SOCTA, the Policy Advisory Document, the draft Council Conclusions on the EU Crime priorities 2013-2017, the ISS, the evaluation of the Policy Cycle, the presentation of the report to the European Parliament and National Parliaments on COSI activities, and the organisation of a meeting on the administrative approach. Three COSI meetings have been provisionally scheduled.

7. Any other business

- Outcome of the EU - Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs

COSI took note of the outcome of the above-mentioned meeting held on 5 and 6 November in Tirana (doc. 15977/12) which led to the adoption of a joint declaration by the Western Balkan countries on enhancing the fight against the illicit trafficking of firearms and ammunition in the Western Balkans. The Commission said that it would issue a Communication on a firearms policy strategy, probably in the second half of 2013.
