



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 16 January 2013

5372/13

CSC 3

NOTE

from:	General Secretariat
to:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	12388/11, 11586/12
Subject:	Administrative arrangement on the exchange of classified information with EUROCORPS

Delegations will find attached copies of the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General of the Council and the acting Commander of EUROCORPS, on behalf of the Commanding General, constituting an administrative arrangement on the exchange of classified information between the GSC and EUROCORPS. The administrative arrangement took effect on 17 December 2012.



SGS12/007933

**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

The Secretary-General

Brussels,

13 JUL. 2012

Lieutenant General Olivier de BAVINCHOVE
Commanding General
Headquarters EUROCORPS (COMEC)
Quartier Aubert de Vincelles
Rue du Corps Européen, 4
BP 70082
67020 STRASBOURG
FRANCE

Sir,

In order to establish a framework for mutual collaboration through the exchange of classified information between the General Secretariat of the Council and EUROCORPS (hereinafter, the participants), I would like to propose that the following arrangements be applied to that effect.

The participants will ensure that classified information (i.e. any information (namely knowledge that can be communicated in any form) or material determined to require protection against unauthorised disclosure and which has been so designated by a security classification) exchanged between them under these arrangements retains the security classification given to it in accordance with the relevant rules of the providing participant.

The General Secretariat of the Council will ensure that it safeguards and protects classified information provided to it by EUROCORPS in accordance with the Council's security rules¹. EUROCORPS will ensure that it safeguards and protects classified information provided to it by the General Secretariat of the Council in accordance with its security regulations which take appropriate account of the security principles and regulations of the Council of the European Union.

¹ Council Decision 2011/292/EU of 31 March 2011 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information, OJ L 141, 27.5.2011, p. 17. [Document annexed to the present letter.]

In order to fulfil their obligations:

- The participants will not use the classified information released to them for purposes other than those for which that classified information has been released or for purposes other than those established by the providing participant;
- The participants will not disclose such information to third parties without the prior written consent of the providing participant;
- The participants will ensure that access to classified information released to them will be authorised only for individuals who have a need-to-know and, where appropriate, a valid personnel security clearance;
- The participants will ensure that, before being given access to classified information, all individuals who require access to such information and documents are briefed on the requirements of the protective security regulations relevant to the classification of the information they are to access. All individuals handling classified information must comply with such requirements;
- Taking into account its level of classification, classified information will be forwarded by military, government or diplomatic courier, hand carriage, approved postal services or commercial courier services. The participants will notify to each other in advance the name and address of the body responsible for the security of classified information and the precise addresses to which the information and documents must be forwarded;
- If the classified information is to be transmitted electronically such information will be protected by cryptographic products approved in accordance with the providing participant's respective rules and regulations;
- The participants will ensure that all premises, areas, buildings, offices, rooms, communication and information systems, in which classified information and documents are stored and/or handled, are protected by appropriate physical security measures;
- The participants will ensure that classified documents released to them are, on their receipt, recorded in a special register. The participants will ensure that copies of the classified documents released to them which may be made by the recipient body, as well as their number, distribution and destruction, are recorded in this special register;
- The participants will notify each other about any case of actual or suspected breach or compromise of the classified information released to them. In such a case, the participants will initiate investigations and take appropriate measures to prevent a recurrence.

For the purposes of the present arrangement, EUROCORPS information protected at level EUROCOR DIFFUSION RESTREINTE, EUROCOR CONFIDENTIEL and EUROCOR SECRET will be protected by the General Secretariat of the Council at Council level RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET UE/EU SECRET respectively. Council information protected at level RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET UE/EU SECRET will be protected by EUROCORPS at level EUROCOR DIFFUSION RESTREINTE, EUROCOR CONFIDENTIEL and EUROCOR SECRET respectively.


According to the EUROCORPS' Security Regulations, no non-EU Member State personnel in EUROCORPS will have access to European Union Classified Information (EUCI) held by EUROCORPS without a bilateral security of information agreement between the non-EU Member State and the EU being in place and/or the written consent of the originator.

The present arrangement may be reviewed for consideration of possible amendments at the request of one of the participants. Any amendment to the present arrangement will be made in writing and will be signed by the relevant authority of each of the participants.

If either EUROCORPS or the General Secretariat of the Council considers it necessary to terminate the present arrangement, it may do so by notification six months in advance of the effective date of termination. In such a case, all classified information or material provided or exchanged pursuant to the present arrangement will continue to be protected in accordance with the provisions set forth herein.

Should the above meet with your approval, I have the honour to propose that the present letter and your reply constitute an administrative arrangement which will take effect from the date of your reply.

Yours faithfully,



Uwe CORSEPIUS



HEADQUARTERS EUROCORPS

Quartier Aubert de Vincelles
BP 70082
F - 67020 Strasbourg

Deputy Commander

17 December 2012

Mr. Uwe CORSEPIUS
Secretary-General
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
Rue de la Loi 175
B-1048 Brussels

Sir,

Considering the provisions of Art. 3 and 10 of the Treaty of the Eurocorps and the status of its Headquarters, signed in Brussels on 22nd November 2004, considering Section XII, Art. 3 of the Security Regulations regarding the protection of classified information within the Eurocorps, and pursuant to the decision taken by the Eurocorps Framework Nations' Chiefs of Defense at the Common Committee held on 29th November 2012, it is my honour, on behalf of the Commanding General, to inform you that the Eurocorps accepts your letter of 13th July 2012 which, with this reply, constitutes an administrative arrangement taking effect from the date of this reply.

*Season's greetings and best wishes for 2013
Sincerely yours*

Walter SPINDLER
Major General, DEU Army
Acting Commander

Action Officer : Ltc. Alvarez Roy
G2X

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