



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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DECLASSIFICATION

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Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.

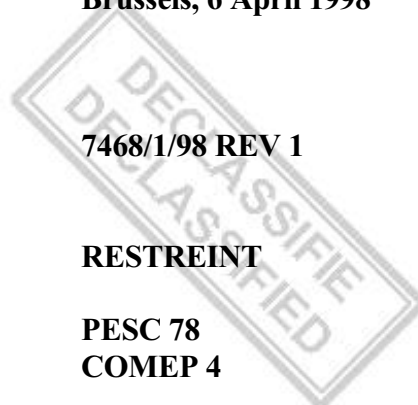
**EUROPEAN UNION
THE COUNCIL**

Brussels, 6 April 1998

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NOTE

from : Secretariat

to : Delegations

on : 3 April 1998

Subject: Proposed EU/Palestinian Security Cooperation

Delegations will find attached the proposed text for the EU/Palestinian Security Cooperation which was agreed by the Political Committee on 30 March 1998 and reviewed by the Ad Hoc Group on the Middle East Peace Process on 1 April 1998.

DECLARATION ON EU/PALESTINIAN SECURITY COOPERATION

- 1) The Palestinian Authority and the European Union will meet regularly with the aim of developing joint cooperation on security issues in a Permanent Security Committee.
- 2) Membership of the Committee will comprise the EU Special Envoy's Security Adviser, the Head of General Intelligence and the Heads of Preventive Security in Gaza and the West Bank or their representatives. Other EU or Palestinian Authority officials will participate according to circumstances and the agenda for discussion. The Committee will meet on a fortnightly basis, at the request of either party or at time of crisis.
- 3) Participation initially will be representatives of the Palestinian Authority and the European Union, but participation may be extended to include those associated with earlier efforts to provide the framework for cooperation in the fight against terrorism.
- 4) This new cooperation will not supersede or replace bilateral relationships between the Palestinian Authority and any other parties on security or intelligence matters.
- 5) The functions of the Committee will be:
 - (a) to discuss security issues, obstacles to cooperation and to exchange information;
 - (b) to provide a channel for contact and rapid exchange of information at times of crisis;

- (c) to arrange fact-finding visits;
 - (d) to identify the requirements in order for the EU to implement further practical assistance to help the Palestinian Authority in fulfilling its security obligations to combat terrorism, complementing existing EU cooperation programmes; and
 - (e) to discuss protection of human rights.
- 6) The Palestinian Authority accepts the principle that the EU may, from time to time, form an evaluation of part or all of the discharge of its security obligations to combat terrorism. However, the Palestinian Authority reserves to itself the control and freedom of action of its officers.
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