



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 24 June 2013

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**JAI 509
COSI 81
COMIX 387**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI)
Mixed Committee (UE-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
on: 12 June 2013
Subject : Summary of discussions

MIXED COMMITTEE

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in doc. 10647/13.

2. EU Policy Cycle:

monitoring of the Operational Action Plan: report of National EMPACT Coordinators meeting and 6 month progress report

- Priority on illegal immigration
doc. 9996/1/13 REV 1 ADD 3 (RESTREINT UE)

The Committee took note of the final reports for 2012 and first progress reports for 2013 of the Operational Action Plans (OAP) on Illegal Immigration as set out in docs. 9996/13 ADD 3 (RESTREINT UE). The Committee also took note of the findings of the Director's report on Europol's experiences regarding the implementation of the EU Policy Cycle from November 2012 to April 2013 (doc. 9996/1/13 REV 1).

Various delegations recalled the importance of obtaining adequate financing which was considered as a crucial element for the success of the Policy Cycle. Some projects have been successful in obtaining financing under ISEC and TAIEX programmes but some concerns were raised on the financing of EMPACT projects under the new Multi Annual Financial Framework. The Commission representative suggested discussing Member States' concerns within the framework of the policy dialogues that were started on the MFF.

COSI

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in doc. 10647/13 with the addition of one item ("Follow-up to the Stockholm Programme") under AOB at the request of the SE delegation.

2. Information from the Presidency:

- Solidarity Clause: state of play

The Presidency presented the work carried out during this semester in the framework of the Friends of the Presidency Group on the Solidarity Clause and announced that a progress report would be submitted to Coreper and the Council on 25 June. The three meetings of the FoP have helped to clarify a number of issues and most particularly have pointed to a convergence of opinions on the need to reinforce the role of the Council and of the Member States in the proposed Council Decision. The AT delegation, supported by the IT delegation, reiterated that COSI and PSC should provide a joint contribution to the process.

- COSI/CATS - Interpol meeting on 21 June 2013

The Committee took note of the draft agenda of the meeting with Interpol at the level of COSI/CATS which would be held in Lyon on 21 June 2013 (doc. 9848/13 JAI 406 ENFOPOL 150 JAIEX 37 COSI 61 CATS 23).

3. EU Policy Cycle:

a) monitoring of the Operational Action Plans: report of National Empact Coordinators meeting and 6 month progress report

9996/1/13 REV 1 JAI 421 COSI 67 ENFOPOL 159 CRIMORG 81
ENFOCUSTOM 93 CORDROGUE 38 PESC 594 RELEX 443 COAFR 163
COWEB 74 TRANS 261 UD 110 FRONT 60 GENVAL 27 + ADD 1 + ADD 2
(RESTREINT UE)

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

The Committee took note of the final reports for 2012 and first progress reports for 2013 of the Operational Action Plans (OAP) on West Africa, Western Balkans, Containers, THB, MOCG, and Cybercrime as set out in docs. 9996/13 ADD 1 and 2 (RESTREINT UE).

The Committee took note of the report of the National EMPACT Coordinators meeting, which was held at Europol on 14 and 15 May (doc. 10012/1/13 REV 1 COSI 68 ENFOPOL 161), and invited all participants in the EU crime priorities to continue their efforts, in particular in terms of resources, commitment and participation in order to achieve tangible results at the end of the first policy cycle 2011 - 2013.

b) Engagement by national administrations with the EU Policy Cycle, in particular the Customs administrations: presentations by the Presidency

The Chair of the Customs Cooperation Working Party presented the results of a Presidency report regarding the engagement of Customs administrations with the Policy Cycle and in COSI work in general, as set out in doc. 8255/13. The delegations that took the floor acknowledged that there is scope for improvement in the Customs' engagement , especially with regard to the work on the new Policy Cycle, although some Member States reported having positive experiences in their cooperation with Customs. Customs' involvement is also influenced by the different legislation in MS.

The Commission representative from DG TAXUD referred to the Commission Communication on the security of the supply chain and customs risks management and the relevant draft Council conclusions (doc. 8761/3/13 REV 3) which invite the Commission to bring forward an Action Plan including an analysis of how to enhance the synergies with other actors/authorities at national and EU level, which could cover cooperation between customs, police and border guards.

c) State of play Policy Cycle 2014 - 2017

The Commission representative informed the meeting about the state of play regarding the MASP workshops and welcomed Member States' strong interest in participating in the MASPs.

The meeting confirmed the new templates for the MASPs, OAPs and reporting which were recently approved by the COSI Support Group, as set out in doc. 9940/13.

Delegations were also invited to keep the General Secretariat of the Council informed of any changes in the list of relevant experts for the 2014-2017 policy cycle (doc. 10615/13).

4. Foreign fighters and returnees from a counter-terrorism perspective, in particular with regard to Syria

The Committee discussed the implementation of the CTC's paper regarding foreign fighters and returnees from a counter-terrorism perspective which was recently endorsed by the Council, as set out in doc. 9946/13). The Committee identified what would be undertaken by those involved, notably the Commission, EEAS, Europol, Eurojust, Frontex and specific Member States (e.g. NL for measure 10 and FR for measure 13) to implement the 22 measures. The importance of establishing a PNR system was stressed once again.

The Committee would closely follow the implementation of the different measures and would be involved as appropriate. The CTC would prepare a report on the implementation to be submitted to a joint COSI - PSC which would possibly be held in November 2013.

5. Terrorism as an EU internal security threat: presentation by the Swedish delegation

The Swedish discussion paper on the COSI competences and tasks with regard to terrorism (doc. 10612/12) was welcomed by various delegations. Several delegations suggested having a wider debate at some stage on whether COSI is fulfilling its mandate and where it could provide added value, including in the context of the Council's JHA structures (CATS, SCIFA). Delegations felt that COSI could address the topic of terrorism but with due respect to the provisions of the Treaty and Member States' competences. Delegations also highlighted that duplication of efforts with other working parties such as the Terrorism Working Party and COTER should be avoided.

Some delegations announced that they would submit written comments with a view to continuing the discussions after the summer.

6. Presentation: MAOC-N evaluation report 2013

COSI took note of the MAOC-N evaluation report 2013 which was presented by the IE delegation. Europol stated that there would be an extraordinary meeting of the MAOC-Executive Board to discuss the set of recommendations for concrete actions. Reference was also made to the new request for EU funding that had been submitted to COM recently in order to secure financing of MAOC-N since the current grant would end by September 2013.

7. Manual of Best Practices in the fight against financial crime: A collection of good examples of well-developed systems in the Member States to fight financial crime doc. 9741/13 JAI 393 COSI 59 CRIMORG 75 ENFOPOL 144 + COR 1

The Committee took note of the above-mentioned Manual as set out in doc. 9741/13 + COR 1.

8. Presentation work programme incoming LT Presidency

The LT delegation informed the meeting of the priorities for its incoming Presidency. The main issues for COSI would be the implementation of the policy cycle (the adoption of the MAPS, the NEC meeting on 17-18 November, the monitoring of the OAPs 2013 and the approval of the OAPs 2014), the administrative approach to fighting organised crime, the ENLETS, counter-terrorism (follow-up on the CTC paper and the SE paper) and the fight against illicit trafficking in firearms. Two COSI meetings have been provisionally scheduled for 17 September and 17 December. A joint COSI - PSC meeting would be organised in November 2013 (tbc.).

9. Any other business

The SE delegation, supported by DE, AT and FI invited the incoming Presidency to consider the involvement of COSI in preparing the follow-up to the Stockholm programme.
