



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 5 June 2012

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**ENFOPOL 163
COMIX 359**

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Law Enforcement Working Party (including Mixed Committee EU/Iceland,
Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein)

on: 1 June 2012

Subject: Summary of discussions

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING PARTY - MIXED COMMITTEE

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 3019/12.

2. Information from the Presidency

No information points were brought up under this item.

3. Proposal for JPO APHRODITE

The CY delegation presented the proposal for JPO APHRODITE (doc. 5947/1/12 REV 1 ENFOPOL 22 FRONT 13 COMIX 66) which was revised on the basis of comments of FRONTEx following the joint meeting of the LEWP and the CCWP of 15 February 2012. Member States were invited to indicate their wish to participate in this operation by 19 July 2012.

Following the exchange of views on the proposal and the role of FRONTEX in the operation, some delegations indicated their wish to take part in it. The meeting approved the proposal for this JPO.

4. Any other business

No items were raised under AOB.

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING PARTY

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 3019/12.

2. Information from the Presidency

The Chair provided information on the state of play as regards JCPO ATHENA III, in which 26 Member States would participate and on the preparatory meeting for this operation to be held on 4 June 2012. Delegations were also informed about the progress as regards the draft Council Conclusions on the increased and more effective use of the Europol Information System (EIS) in the fight against cross-border crime (doc. 10600/12 ENFOPOL 153) and the draft Council Conclusions on the establishment of a European cybercrime centre, announcing that DE and UK delegations had lifted their reservations on this document and that it would therefore be submitted to COREPER/Council for adoption as set out in doc. 10603/12 ENFOPOL 154 TELECOM 116.

The Chair also briefed delegations about the outcome of discussions of the European Police Chiefs Convention, which took place on 30-31 May 2012, in particular as regards smart policing in times of austerity, countering cybercrime and itinerant crime. Delegations were informed about other recent Presidency events, such as the meetings of the Coordination Mechanism for joint operations and of the ENLETS Core Group, the CBRN conference, the regional liaison officers' meeting in Albania and the upcoming Infopolex meeting on 12 June 2012.

One delegation referred to the upcoming proposal of the Commission on the entry/exit system of third country nationals to the EU and underlined the need for the current and incoming Presidencies to work on ensuring access for law enforcement to this system.

3. State of play as regards the European Cybercrime Center (EC3)

The Commission representative presented the state of play and the ongoing work of the implementation team as regards the establishment of EC3, referring in particular to the suggested guiding principles of the Centre and the forthcoming meeting of its future Programme Board to be held on 12 June 2012. It was noted that the financial aspects of EC3 would be decided in accordance with the budgetary procedure and that the Centre could start functioning in 2013, becoming fully operational in 2014.

4. Law enforcement training:

4.1 CEPOL Annual Report for the year 2011

The Deputy Director of CEPOL presented the CEPOL Annual Report for the year 2011 (doc. 10020/12 ENFOPOL 140), in particular providing the statistics relating to CEPOL's activities and underlining its key achievements.

One delegation expressed concerns as regards the procedure of grant agreements and its impact on the number of CEPOL events. Another delegation referred to the improved governance of CEPOL, which was welcomed by the EP.

The meeting took note of the report and agreed to submit it to COREPER/Council for endorsement.

4.2 Results of the mapping exercise carried out by CEPOL

The Deputy Director of CEPOL presented the first findings and main conclusions of the mapping exercise carried out in the framework of the preparation for the European Training Scheme (ETS) relating to its 4 proposed strands. Certain recommendations were also presented, in particular as regards the necessity for the EU to provide more training on thematic topics (strand 3), the need for centralised access to training material and the pool of EU experts and trainers, for better coordination and avoiding duplication of training activities of various EU agencies and, where relevant, other international organisations.

4.3 State of play as regards the European Training Scheme (ETS)

The Commission representative presented the background of the ETS as well as the outcome of the expert meetings held in order to discuss the elements of the future ETS as regards its 4 proposed strands (basic knowledge, regional cooperation, thematic areas, external dimension). The meeting was informed that the Commission Communication on the ETS would be presented in the end 2012 building upon the outcome of the aforementioned expert meetings and the mapping exercise carried out by CEPOL.

One delegation underlined the need to take into account the financial capabilities of Member States to implement the ETS.

4.4 State of play as regards the new legal basis for CEPOL

The Commission representative presented the different options currently being considered as regards the future of CEPOL and the elements that could be included in the new legal basis of CEPOL. Delegations were informed that the impact assessment was currently being prepared and the Commission proposal on the new legal basis of CEPOL would be presented in November 2012 to be negotiated in 2013.

Some delegations underlined the need to improve the legal basis of CEPOL maintaining it as a separate agency for law enforcement training and mentioned that they would provide written comments to the Commission on this issue.

5. General Report on Europol's activities in 2011

A representative of Europol presented the main activities of Europol in 2011 (doc. 10036/12 ENFOPOL 141), focusing in particular on the functioning of SIENA and the European Platform of Experts and on various aspects of Europol's operational support to Member States, such as the mobile office, forensics support or organising operational meetings. The results of Operation Rescue and the role of Europol in it were also outlined.

The meeting took note of the report and agreed to submit it to COREPER/Council for endorsement.

6. Results of the European Firearms Experts meeting held on 17-19 April 2012 in Copenhagen

The permanent Dutch Chair of EFE presented the results of the recent EFE Plenary meeting as set out in doc. 9967/12 ENFOPOL 133. In particular, the need for binding guidelines as regards the deactivation of firearms was brought to the attention of the LEWP.

Several delegations intervened suggesting to take a more proactive approach towards the Commission as regards the deactivation of firearms.

The LEWP took note of the report and agreed that the Presidency would send a letter to the Commission regarding the issue of deactivation of firearms.

7. Results of the meeting of the European Network for the Protection of Public Figures held on 3 May 2012 in Brussels

The HU delegation presented the results of the ENPPF meeting held on 3 May 2012 chaired by Hungary as set out in doc. 9970/12 ENFOPOL 134.

8. The LEWP work programme during the incoming Cypriot Presidency

The CY delegation presented the priorities of its incoming Presidency, including overcoming attrition in domestic violence, combating illicit trafficking of cultural goods, countering cybercrime and organising two JPOs. The provisional dates of the LEWP (11 July, 4-5 September, 13-14 November and 18 December 2012) as well as the dates of various meetings of networks and experts groups related to the LEWP during the second half 2012 were also provided.

8.1 Proposal for the creation of an informal network of law enforcement expertise competent in the field of cultural goods

The CY delegation presented its proposal to create an informal network of law enforcement expertise competent in the field of cultural goods (CULTNET) as set out in doc. DS 1347/12, outlining the proposed objectives of the network and the proposed way of the functioning of the network. Delegations were invited provide their contributions as regards this proposal by 22 June 2012.

Several delegations intervened to support the efforts in combating crime against cultural goods while underlining the need avoid duplication with other ongoing initiatives and to ensure the link of such a network with contact points for preventing and combating crime against cultural goods which were recently appointed (doc. 6390/1/12 REV 1 ENFOPOL 31) following the adoption of Council Conclusions on preventing and combating crime against cultural goods under the PL Presidency (doc. 17541/11 ENFOPOL 415 CULT 111 ENFOCUSTOM 143 UD 337).

9. Any other business

No items were raised under AOB.
