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Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.

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# COUNTER-TERRORISM: INTELLIGENCE COOPERATION WITHIN AN EU FRAMEWORK

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## A. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The European Council decided at its meeting of 25 March *to endorse the efforts of the Secretary-General/High Representative to integrate, within the Council Secretariat, an intelligence capacity on all aspects of the terrorist threat with a view to informing EU policy and invited him to make proposals in advance of the European Council in June.*

1.2. Discussions in the preceding Justice And Interior Council of 19 March showed a wish on the part of certain Ministers to consider the exchange of both analytical and operational intelligence. Discussion at the European Council itself did not rule out cooperation in exchanging operational intelligence, but emphasised the analytical element of the tasking to the SG/HR. Accordingly, this report will cover both elements, but with a principal focus on the analytical aspects. Its purpose is to outline current options and make recommendations for the most effective course of action in the short term.

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4.1. Within the Council Secretariat, the *EU Joint Situation Centre (SitCen)* has been producing all-source situation assessments since 2002 on the basis of assessed intelligence provided by the external intelligence services of some Member States. Customers for this reporting have primarily been Council bodies dealing with CFSP issues, notably the PSC. Whilst the majority of the reporting to date has therefore related to issues affecting EU interests in the second pillar, a number of SitCen assessments have also been of interest to third-pillar bodies, since they have dealt with cross-pillar subjects such as CT, Counter-Proliferation (CP) and threats from non-conventional weaponry (CBRN).

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