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## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
On: 18 April 2016  
To: Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security  
Subject: Summary of discussions

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### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda set out in 7969/16 was adopted.

The Belgian delegation informed the Committee about the follow-up of the Brussels terrorist attacks on 22 March 2016 and thanked in particular France, the United Kingdom and Sweden as well as Europol and Interpol for their cooperation.

### 2. Fight against terrorism: possible development of a structured and multidisciplinary approach: follow-up to the discussions in COSI on 3 March 2016\*

The Committee agreed on the creation of a master document covering the most relevant Counter Terrorism (CT) actions that have been agreed by the Council (point 7 of 7796/16).

Eurojust suggested that the master document should also include the judicial dimension of the fight

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\* This item was exceptionally discussed in the presence of the Schengen Associated States.

The Presidency concluded that, together with the incoming Slovak Presidency, it would start preparing this document with a view to presenting it in the second half of 2016.

Delegations also discussed the possibility of Europol and INTCEN drawing up a joint threat assessment. It emerged from these discussions that delegations would welcome greater visibility for INTCEN at COSI meetings. However, diverging opinions existed on the production of a joint threat assessment. Several delegations supported the idea of a joint Europol-INTCEN threat assessment but needed further clarifications, in particular regarding the methodology, the type of data and the legal basis. Some delegations emphasised that this should be carried out in full respect of Member States' responsibilities. It was also pointed out that such enhanced cooperation between law enforcement and intelligence services should take place both at European and national level.

The Director of INTCEN stressed the different angles taken by INTCEN and Europol in their assessments but welcomed a coordinated result. The idea of a joint threat assessment and the level of merge would need to be discussed in greater detail.

As a possible first step, Europol suggested setting up a project to look at the threat situation after the Paris and Brussels attacks. Both Europol and INTCEN could contribute with their respective assessments.

The Presidency concluded that several Member States favoured greater visibility for INTCEN in COSI meetings. Strengthening the cooperation between Europol and INTCEN was welcomed but a step-by-step approach should be developed. The Presidency also pointed out that a joint threat assessment would not be the same as a merged threat assessment. The Presidency would prepare a discussion paper for the next COSI meeting, including possible methodologies.

### **3. Architecture of information exchange systems and their interoperability/interconnectivity: follow-up to the COSI - SCIFA meeting\***

The Presidency welcomed delegations' contributions to the discussions on this topic at the COSI-SCIFA meeting, which had taken place in the morning. Based on these contributions and earlier discussions in COSI, and taking into account the discussions at the Justice and Home Affairs Council on 21 April, the Presidency would draft an overarching document on information exchange and information management for the next COSI meeting with a view to submitting it to the Council on 9-10 June 2016.

### **4. EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime**

#### **a) Joint Actions Days: information by Europol**

The Committee agreed on the definition of the Joint Action Days as set out in 8127/16 and validated the concept of the Joint Action Days 2016 as set out in 8069/16 (EU RESTRICTED).

#### **b) Independent evaluation mechanism: information by the Commission on the state of play**

The Committee took note of the state of play of the independent evaluation. The Commission assigned the evaluation to the company Ernst & Young, together with RAND Europe and the Centre for International Legal Cooperation (CILC). A kick-off meeting was organised on 12 April 2016, which was attended by the leading expert of the monitoring group.

The Commission, supported by the Presidency, asked Member States and stakeholders to cooperate with the evaluator to ensure a successful evaluation.

#### **c) Funding**

COSI took note of a Europol presentation on the state of play of funding under the Delegation Agreement. Europol was willing to present this topic again at the June COSI meeting, at which strategic guidance might be required from COSI in the event of a mini call to reuse the unspent money of the OAPs 2015.

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\* This item was exceptionally discussed in the presence of the Schengen Associated States.

The Commission also announced that Europol would be able to carry out the preparatory work for the funding to OAPs 2017 before the entry into force of the new Europol Regulation on 1 May 2017. This would avoid a potential funding gap.

**d) NEC meeting 24 - 26 May 2016**

COSI took note of the agenda of the National EMPACT Coordinators meeting which will take place at Europol on 24-26 May 2016.

**5. Draft Council conclusions on addressing trafficking in human beings for labour exploitation**

The Committee briefly discussed the draft Council conclusions set out in 5287/2/16 REV 2. A new version would be circulated for COREPER/Council.

**6. Any other business**

– **Europol Strategy 2016 - 2020: presentation by Europol**

The Committee took note of the Europol Strategy 2016 - 202 as set out in 15099/15.

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