



Brussels, 13 May 2016
(OR. en)

8428/16

JAI 334
ENFOPOL 124

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 26 April 2016
To: Law Enforcement Working Party
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 2255/16.

2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency briefed the delegates with respect to the following elements:

- voting in the EP on the Europol Regulation: 27/28 April (LIBE Committee), 10 May (Plenary). The text should be signed on 11 May 2016;
- the strategic cooperation agreement Europol/Brazil: following the positive opinion of the EP, the decision regarding the conclusion of the agreement was adopted in Coreper/Council on 20-21 April 2016;
- the joint CCWP Experts/LEWP meeting on 22 April 2016 where the operational plan for JPCO ARES had been discussed.

3. (poss.) Cepol: Methodology for the strategic training needs assessment

This item was taken off the agenda.

4. European Forensic Science Area - EFSA 2020

The Commission gave a comprehensive overview of the research projects it finances in the area of forensics and Europol presented the main elements and its activities related to digital forensics. A discussion took place on the revised version of the Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward towards EFSA 2020 as set out in 6078/2/16 REV 2. A consensus was reached; the agreed modifications were to be included in a new revised version, which was to be approved via silence procedure (deadline: 9 May). After approval at WP level, the document should be adopted in Coreper/Council in June 2016.

5. Draft Action Plan on Financial Investigation

A discussion took place on the revised version of the Council Conclusions and Action Plan on the way forward with regard to financial investigation. The text was adopted as set out in 6915/1/16 REV 1. However, a new revised version was to be issued incorporating the coordinators and the schedule for each of the actions. The document should be adopted in Coreper/Council in June 2016.

6. LEWP networks

Two aspects were dealt with under this item:

- a revised version of the document containing the strategic objectives of networks and expert groups was put forward for discussion by the Presidency (6883/1/16 REV 1);
- following prior communication with RAILPOL, the Presidency proposed that RAILPOL should no longer be considered as an LEWP related expert network. Delegates approved the Presidency's proposal as set out in 7914/16.

During the debate, delegates underlined a need to better streamline the system of LEWP networks/expert groups in order to know which of the them are still functional, which are still part of the LEWP system and on what basis etc.

7. Draft agreement on strategic cooperation between the People's Republic of China and the European Police Office (Europol)

Europol presented the reasons behind negotiating Europol's strategic cooperation agreement with China (7916/16), in particular as regards the need for Europol to exchange expertise with China in relation to several crime areas. Member States approved the draft agreement and the draft Council Implementing Decision approving the conclusion of this agreement (7917/16).

8. Implementation of the Council Conclusions of 15-16 June 2015 concerning the introduction of mandatory standardised marking of construction machinery and agricultural and forestry vehicles in order to better protect them against theft

The Commission briefed the delegates on the current status of implementation of the Council Conclusions of 15-16 June 2015 concerning the introduction of mandatory standardised marking of construction machinery and agricultural and forestry vehicles in order to better protect them against theft (9665/15): an impact assessment study for new legislation in this field has been done and the Commission is currently working on a report on the basis of it. This will feed into the new legislative proposal to be drafted and presented.

9. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: stronger and Smarter Information Systems for Borders and Security

The Commission presented its Communication on stronger and Smarter Information Systems for Borders and Security (7644/16), along three main lines:

- addressing the shortcomings in the functionalities of existing systems in order to increase efficiency;
- identifying the gaps existing in the current information landscape;
- addressing the fragmentation of systems (management/governance) in view of increasing their interoperability.

10. AOB

The Presidency informed the delegates that between 7 and 9 June 2016 the Dutch Police would organise a Conference on "Seizing the spoils of crime" (a follow-up to the conference on financial investigation organised by the Presidency in February 2016).
