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## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
On: 1 June 2016  
To: Customs Cooperation Working Party  
Subject: Summary of discussions

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1. The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 2703/1/16.

### 2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency informed the Working Party of the latest documents relevant to customs, outlining in particular:

1. the expected entry into force on 1 May 2017 of the new EUROPOL Regulation, following its endorsement of by the European Parliament on 11 May 2016;
2. the document released on 27 May 2016 by EUROPOL on the status of implementation of the recommendations from the Strategic Review on cooperation between Europol and Customs;
3. the agreed Operational Plan for the JPCO ARES at the joint CCWP/LEWP meeting of 22 April 2016;
4. the Commission Communication from 20 April 2016 on delivering the European Agenda on Security to fight against terrorism and pave the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union;

5. the adopted on 30 May 2016 by the Civil Liberties Committee of the European Parliament negotiating mandate for the legislation on the European Agency for Border and Coast Guard.

The Presidency informed the Working Party of the following upcoming meetings relevant to customs:

1. the Council, JHA on 9-10 June 2016; 2) the WCO Security Programme Strategic Seminar on 7-9 June 2016; 3) the COSI meeting on 21-22 June 2016; 4) the meeting of the Risk Management Strategy Implementation Coordination Group under DG TAXUD on 22 June 2016.

### **3. Conclusions and Follow-up of the first Directors General Customs Meeting on 19-20 April 2016**

The Presidency informed the Working Party of the conclusions and proposed follow-up of the first Directors General Customs Meeting held on 19-20 April 2016 (1256/16).

### **4. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council delivering on the European Agenda on Security to fight against terrorism and pave the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union**

The Commission presented its Communication (8128/16 + ADD 1), including the key legislative and policy initiatives on security and counter-terrorism, as well as the launched and completed initiatives on prevention, prosecution and protection. The Commission noted the Communication's primary focus on fighting terrorism and radicalisation, but also its relevance for the fight against organised crime.

### **5. Interactions between the EU Policy Cycle Operational Action Plans and the CCWP 8th Action Plan**

The Working Party agreed on the synergies and opportunities for coordination between the activities developed under the EU Policy Cycle and the 8th CCWP Action Plan (6015/2/16).

## **6. 8th Action Plan (2016-2017) of the Customs Cooperation Working Party**

The Working Party approved the mandates for three of the six draft mandates on the Agenda:

1. Mandate for Action 8.2 " Customs against internet crime' (C@iC - extension of Action 7.3)" as set out in 7448/1/16;
2. Mandate for Action 8.6.1." Cigarettes and tobacco products " ( 7449/1/16 REV 1);
3. Mandate for Action 8.7 "Central Coordination Units" (7450/1/16 REV 1).

The Working Party discussed three more mandates for Actions:

1. Mandate for Action 8.1 " Illegal trade via Internet /small consignments " (9021/16), presented by NL;
2. Mandate for Action 8.4. " Illicit trafficking in firearms " (8700/16), presented by PT;
3. Mandate for Action 8.5." Export of strategic goods" (9022/16), presented by the UK.

Member States were invited to provide written comments to the three draft mandates by 16 June 2016, with a view to presenting revised versions at the next plenary meeting of the CCWP on 23 June 2016.

The Presidency presented an updated overview of the actions and reference documents of the 8th Action Plan (1098/1/16 REV 1), and asked Member States for updates and confirmations as to their participation in the Actions.

## **7. Finalisation of the 7th Action Plan**

The Working Party adopted the Final Report of Action 7.3 "Internet crime" ( 9023/16 + COR 1).

## **8. EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking - draft Council Conclusions**

The Presidency informed the Working Party of the revised Council Conclusions ( 9166/1/16 REV 1) which would be presented for adoption by the Council on 20 June 2016.

## **9. Renewed European Union Internal Security Strategy Implementation Paper: Report on the implementation in the first half of 2016**

The Presidency presented the Implementation Report ( 9151/16), and noted

1. the finalisation of the Action Plan 2014-2015,
2. the adoption of the 8th Action Plan (2016-2017),
3. the reinforced link between the Action Plan and the EMPACT Operational Action Plans,
4. the ongoing implementation of Action 8.3 on cash movements,
5. the discussion of the Commission Communication and input to the Council Conclusions on wildlife trafficking,
6. the discussion on possible coordination and synergies between the JPCO Ares and the PCA Firearms.

## **10. Update on the implementation of the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management**

The Commission presented an update on the implementation of the Strategy (12644/14 + ADD 1), and the link to CCWP activities, outlining in particular:

1. customs input to initiatives from other policy areas such as the European Agenda on Security, the EU Action Plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives, the Communication and Action Plan on smarter and stronger information systems for EU borders and security;
2. customs input to other authorities in the threat and risk assessment and
3. customs cooperation with other authorities such as the Dialogue with Frontex and the cooperation with Europol (EMPACT/SOCTA).

## **11. Update of the existing study on the powers of Member States customs officials**

The Presidency presented its paper (1267/16) on updating the existing study (13606/2/06). Member States were invited to provide their comments by 1 August 2016.

## **12. Representation of CCWP in other fora**

The Presidency presented its paper (1268/16) and requested Member States' comments by 16 June 2016.

## **13. Six months report of the Luxembourg Presidency**

The Luxembourg Presidency presented its six months report, outlining the threats and challenges that needed to be faced during their Presidency, as well as the actions and joint customs operations undertaken to this effect.

## **14. Thematic use of expert groups and networks by CCWP: Draft Framework**

The Working Party agreed the draft framework for the thematic use of experts (7455/1/16).

## **15. Update of the monitoring file of implementation of the Project Groups' recommendations + Overview of actions**

The Working Party discussed the updated monitoring file (7456/1/16 REV 1 + ADD 1 REV 1 and 1269/16). Member States were invited to provide written comments and indicate their interest for drivers for the relevant actions by 16 June 2016.

## **16. AOB**

HU debriefed the Working Party on the outcome of the Indirect Tax Expert Group from 31 May 2016. FR reminded the deadline for participating Member States in Action 8.3 for responding to their Questionnaire. SK informed the Working Party of the date of its first meeting, 12 July 2016.