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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 7 June 2016
To: Terrorism Working Party
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 2762/1/16 REV 1.

2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency briefly outlined the main deliverables of its mandate in the area of CT:

- the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area (9368/1/16 REV 1 + COR 1);
- the general approach for the Counter-terrorism Directive;
- the general approach for the Firearms Directive;
- streamlining the different competences in the area by bringing the CTG closer to the EU and giving COSI a coordinating role;
- a more prominent role for TWP in the future preparation of the joint threat assessment (INTCEN/Europol).

3. Latest incidents of significant interest

Member States (IT, EL, FR, DE, SI, ES) reported on the latest incidents relevant for the CT area.

4. Preparation of the JHA Council on 10 June:

4.1 Information sharing in the counter-terrorism context: Use of Europol and Eurojust

The CTC presented its note on Information sharing in the counter-terrorism context: Use of Europol and Eurojust (9795/16). The following findings were underlined: massive underuse of Eurojust, uneven use of Europol and the fact that the number of FTF in Europol databases does not reflect the numbers reported by MS. The note also put forward a number of recommendations aiming also at coordinating the activity of non-EU stakeholders with Europol and Eurojust. The debate that followed focused on the part of the note which concerned the information exchange with Europol and most Member States expressed reservations with respect to those recommendations targeting the non-EU stakeholders in the field of CT.

4.2 Information on the ‘restricted session on CT at the JHA Council on 10 June’

- Presentation by AIVD [*CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL*]

Delegations took note of the presentation by AIVD.

5. Radicalisation and CVE

- Drivers of radicalisation – presentation by INTCEN
[*CONFIDENTIEL UE/EU CONFIDENTIAL*]

Delegations took note of the presentation by INTCEN.

- Role of women in Jihad – presentation by the AIVD

The AIVD gave an up-to-date presentation on the role of women in Jihad: driving factors, recruitment and travelling methods, life in the caliphate, involvement in war training, returnees. Details were also given about the life of children in the territory occupied by ISIS: indoctrination, involvement in war training, participation in executions etc.

- SCAT – presentation

UK and BE briefed the delegates about the SCAT project which took place during the past 18 months. Its aim was to provide training on how to use Internet and social media in order to counter violent extremism. A manual on Daesh narratives was drafted and will be made public during a conference to be organised in July 2016. On this occasion, a stocktaking exercise of the past 18 months will also take place and participants will start reflecting on the follow-up. The name of the project will be changed to SCN - Strategic Communication Network and it will offer consultancy to EU governments.

- Update by the Commission (RAN conference, questionnaire CVE and IT Forum)

In its update, the Commission underlined the need to avoid duplication between activities undertaken in the framework of RAN network, of the IT Forum and of SCAT Project. RAN Network: its 9 Working Groups meet weekly. The network has known a reinforced dynamic extending towards the Western Balkans, establishing contacts with Tunisia, having a first visit Jordan and deploying personnel in Turkey. The annual RAN Conference will take place in October 2016. The EU Internet Forum ensures a dialogue with Internet companies. A workshop took place in California, in which SCAT and Europol participated. A roadmap was developed. Internet companies are currently working on developing technical solutions to make sure that content that was referred and removed will not re-emerge. The underlying idea is that of collective ownership: all participants/members guarantee that they will not upload criminal content. The Commission will ensure funding. The Commission also took part in the drafting of the questionnaire on countering violent extremism, which was to be disseminated by the Presidency after the TWP meeting. The replies will be collected by the SK Presidency and their analysis will feed into the RAN Conference in October 2016.

- Update by Europol on IRU activities

Europol briefly updated the delegates on the latest IRU activities: 8080 assessments on 61 platforms, 7334 decisions for referral with a 94% success rate. Also, two Action Days on internet propaganda were organised together with the UK.

Under this item, The Netherlands also informed the delegates about a social event that took place on 23 May 2016 focused on a counter violence youth campaign. The event was organised together with Google, Facebook, bloggers, vloggers etc. under the slogan "Give it up 4 the Ramadan". The short clip created on this occasion was also presented.

6. Information on counter-terrorism activities

- Commission

The Commission updated the delegates on several aspects relevant for CT:

- the ongoing work regarding the Regulation on precursors;
- the home made explosives and the dogs trained to detect explosives;
- the workshop on inside threats on critical infrastructure;
- the security of civil aviation (flights over conflict zones, cargo threat assessment evaluation etc).

- EEAS

The EEAS updated the delegates on the Global Anti-Terrorism Forum it Chaired, organised in the Horn of Africa on 2 June and on the dialogue with Turkey where MS recently sent new staff.

- Europol (ECTC report – 8881/16)

Europol presented the report on ECTC as set out in 8881/16 and informed the delegates that at the beginning of summer the whole system should be upgraded to Confidential.

- WG on Western Balkans CT (WBCTi) Initiative (report of the informal meeting of 6 June 2016)

The speaker informed the delegates that during the WBCTi meeting a state of play of the Integrative Plan of Action (iPA) for 2015-2017 was presented and participants were updated on the related further developments. The debate also focused on the application of the Integrative and Complementary Approach, which had been identified by the countries of the region as an appropriate way forward in regional cooperation in the fight against serious and organised crime in order to raise the level of border security in the area.

7. The priorities of the Slovak Presidency

- Presentation by the incoming Presidency

Slovakia, as incoming Presidency, presented its priorities for TWP: CBRN threats, information exchange and radicalisation.

8. AOB

- European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CESI) - Fighting radicalisation: supporting public service workers

The Presidency informed the delegates about a letter from the European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions on fighting radicalisation. The letter was to be circulated to Member States after the TWP meeting.
