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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Terrorism Working Party
Subject:	Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in CM 3162/16, with one intervention by NL being added under AOB.

2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency restated its priorities along the lines detailed during the last meeting under NL Presidency - CBRN threats, information exchange and radicalisation. The delegates were informed about two events:

- 12-15 July 2016: workshop and practical training organised by the European Explosives Ordnance Disposal Network (Kosice, Slovakia);
- 13-14 July 2016: workshop on enhancing resilience of critical infrastructure (Bratislava, Slovakia).

The Presidency also reminded the delegates about the questionnaire on CVE (CM 3082/16), for which the replies should be sent by 29 July 2016.

3. Latest incidents of significant interest

Six Member States (IT, DE, IE, ES, SI and HU) reported on the latest incidents of significant interest and on the latest legislative developments in the CT area. BE provided information on the recent arrests of suspects and FR gave an overview of the security measures taken during the Euro 2016.

4. Implementation of the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area - TWP relevant actions

The Commission briefed the delegates on the kick-off meeting of the **High Level Expert Group**, which took place on 20 June. Participants discussed among others the importance of data quality and reliability, of the end user and of the single search. Three subgroups will be established on the following themes: existing systems, new systems and interoperability. The Commission also briefed the delegates about certain aspects regarding the **SIS-SIRENE related actions in the Roadmap** (e.g. a functionality that would allow to identify persons by fingerprints, the fact that information on terrorism activities are not introduced in the system etc). A report on SIS has already been drafted and distributed to Member States. All these aspects were to be discussed in detail during the meeting of the SIS-SIRENE WP on 12 July.

In relation to action 31 of the Roadmap, **Europol** gave a presentation on its SIENA communication channel and the way it can be used in the CT area.

In relation to action 32 of the Roadmap, **Eurojust** briefed the delegates on those aspects of its activity that are relevant for CT in relation to prosecution, definition of crimes, convictions etc.

Essentially the information put forward by the two presentations can also be found in the note drafted by the CTC for the JHA Council on 9/10 June 2016 - Information sharing in the counter-terrorism context: Use of Europol and Eurojust (9201/16).

5. The *modi operandi* used during the recent terrorist attacks in Orlando, Florida

The FBI speaker gave a presentation on home-grown violent extremists, which contained a general part (threat trends, targets, tactics and grievances, role of social media, challenges for law enforcement) and two case studies (the attacks in San Bernardino and Orlando).

6. Radicalisation and CVE

The **Commission** presented its recent Communication on supporting the prevention of radicalisation leading to violent extremism (10466/16). Reacting to this, the **CTC** strongly underlined the importance of the fight against radicalisation, emphasising the following aspects:

- even when the caliphate is destroyed physically, its ideology will survive,
- the foreign fighters will most likely return (similarly to the fighters who returned from Afghanistan at the end of the 80s), and
- the current rise of islamophobia will lead to an increase of radicalisation.

The CTC praised the fact the communication links elements regarding the fight against radicalisation to broader areas like sports, education and emphasised the need to develop an European Islam and the need to focus on rehabilitation programmes. He also stated that RAN could try to engage more at an external level. Finally, he pointed out that the Communication on the prevention of radicalisation should be read in conjunction with the recently published Commission's Action Plan on the integration of third country nationals (10022/16).

The **presentation by The Netherlands on counter-narratives** emphasised elements like the need to strengthen resilience by enhancing the critical thinking and the need to consolidate certain networks involved in counter-narratives. The speaker also emphasised the fact that the training for counter-messages is done in close cooperation with Google, Twitter, Facebook etc. **The Netherlands also gave a presentation on the family support unit and the exit facility** - two facilities accommodated in one organisation, operational since autumn 2015. The family support unit is designed for families which have members who are strongly radicalised and offers the following services:

- coaching in dealing with radical family member;
- keeping in touch with family member who is in Syria/Iraq;
- contact with local authorities, school, work, friends and others;
- organising of proper care and support;
- support and information in case of death of family member.

The exit facility targets the radicalised persons with “opening” towards reintegration; the aim is that the person in question breaks with extremist environment and stops being a security risk. The objectives are reintegration and rejection of violence (if possible of extremist ideology), the focus being in principal his/her behaviour.

In this context, France also informed that it would open its first de-radicalisation centre this year.

7. INTCEN - The evolution of the Islamist Threat in Europe

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Delegations took note of the presentation by INTCEN.

8. Information on counter-terrorism activities

The **Commission** briefed the delegates on the following aspects:

- the LIBE Committee voted the amendments on the Counter-Terrorism Directive and the trilogues should start in July; a final text should be adopted by the end of the year;
- the second workshop on Insider threats to critical infrastructure that took place on 15 June 2016 was a follow-up to a similar workshop that took place last year; a few facts finding missions took place in between. Participant Member States agreed that they will need to have similar standards for the background checks done on individuals. Reflection on these aspects will start in autumn 2016. It was agreed that is of outmost importance not to have radicalised persons working in strategic spots (like water plants) and that safety and security aspects will need to be dealt with together.

Europol briefly informed the delegates about the latest developments in relation to IRU and ECTC activities - increase of information exchange, intelligence packages prepared by IRU to help investigators in the aftermath of Paris and Brussels attacks, internet investigations etc.

9. AOB

The Netherlands informed the delegates that a conference will take place on 11-3 October 2016 in The Hague with the aim to create a network that allows the exchange of tactics, techniques and procedures (TTP's), the establishment of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) and the rapid implementation of the lessons learned. The conference is meant for staff members of operational units only.
