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European Union

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Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.

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NOTE

From : Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management
To : Political and Security Committee

Subject : CIVCOM advice on the EUPOL AFGHANISTAN Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul

In view of the PSC meeting on 16 October, delegations will find enclosed an advice on the EUPOL AFGHANISTAN Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul, as agreed by CivCom.

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CIVCOM Advice on the EUPOL AFGHANISTAN Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul

1. On 6 October 2009 PSC tasked CIVCOM to provide an advice on the EUPOL AFGHANISTAN Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul.
2. In its meeting of 7 October CIVCOM received a presentation by CPCC and the HoM, and had a discussion on EUPOL AFGHANISTAN Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul, as well as discussed the Food for thought paper.
3. In its meeting of 12 October 2009 CIVCOM has agreed on the following advice.

Considerations

4. CIVCOM underlined its continuous support for the work of EUPOL AFGHANISTAN and welcomed the Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul.
5. CIVCOM welcomed the Head of Mission (HoM)'s efforts to identify the adequate numbers of EUPOL personnel to be deployed in the Regional Centers (RC) and the PRTs to ensure the implementation of the six consolidated strategic objectives.
6. CIVCOM noted the operational consequences for the Mission's mandate implementation of the persisting personnel (especially police and Rule of Law experts) and logistics shortfalls as indicated in the Action Plan; CIVCOM emphasized the need to overcome these gaps in order not to jeopardize the implementation of EUPOL's mandate outside Kabul.
7. CIVCOM called upon the PRT lead nations to make all possible efforts to allocate sufficient space for EUPOL staff in the RCs and PRTs and give them required logistical and security support. CIVCOM asked the CPCC and the Mission to follow-up with individual PRT lead nations on the requests put forward in the Action Plan before the end of October.

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8. CIVCOM fully supported HoM's recommendation regarding the hiring of airlift hours as a necessity to allow mobility for the Mission staff within the area of operations. CIVCOM noted that security and duty of care issues need to be considered carefully.
9. CIVCOM acknowledged the importance of ensuring that Rule of Law expertise is available in RCs and PRTs in order to ensure the implementation of the Rule of Law related priorities. CIVCOM however understood that there may be practical constraints (insufficient space, security) on having dedicated Rule of Law experts and that in those cases alternative solutions would need to be identified with the PRTs, including the possible deployment of armed police officers with adequate Rule of Law expertise. At the same time CIVCOM underlined that the qualification of candidates should remain the primary criterion for the selection of personnel.
10. CIVCOM restated the need for extraordinary efforts to reach full staffing of the Mission. In this regard CIVCOM welcomed the Secretariat Food for Thought paper on force generation for EUPOL Afghanistan, underlining however that the proposals listed in the Paper will need further elaboration to meet EUPOL's staffing needs.
11. CIVCOM recalled that secondment is the agreed principle for force generation in ESDP missions. CIVCOM recalled the Guidelines for improving Force Generation for civilian ESDP missions (st.8504/09). Given the exceptional circumstances and difficult situation in the country of deployment, CIVCOM saw a possible operational added value in applying paragraph 3.3 thereof in order to transform on a case by case basis a limited number of seconded positions into seconded/contracted positions. CIVCOM requested CPCC to provide CIVCOM with an assessment of the impact of this measure after completion of the 19th CfC and a longer term assessment in the course of 2010.
12. CIVCOM welcomed the organisation of a Technical Conference on EUPOL Afghanistan planned for the end of October. This Conference should give representatives from Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Justice and Police authorities a forum to discuss EUPOL's progress and challenges as well as to find pragmatic solutions to outstanding logistical and staffing shortfalls.

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Recommendations

13. CIVCOM recommended:

- that CPCC and the Mission follow-up with individual PRT lead nations on the requests put forward in the Action Plan before the Technical Conference on EUPOL Afghanistan planned for the end of October;
- that the Mission hires the recommended airlift hours. Budgetary implications will be looked into by the relevant Council bodies;
- that the Mission, taking into account the practical constraints for the deployment of Rule of Law experts outside Kabul, identifies with PRT lead nations alternative solutions, including the possible deployment of armed police officers with adequate Rule of Law expertise to implement Rule of Law priorities;
- that Secretariat invites relevant representatives from Member States and contributing Third States to a Technical Conference aimed at discussing EUPOL's progress and challenges as well as finding pragmatic solutions to outstanding logistical and staffing shortfalls;
- that the Secretariat provides an assessment of the results of all the above work, against the background of the Food for Thought paper, in relation to reviewing the shortfalls and operational impact, so as to enable CIVCOM to inform PSC before the November GAERC. A longer term assessment will be provided in the course of 2010.

14. CIVCOM invites the PSC to take note of this advice on the EUPOL Afghanistan Action Plan for securing logistical capacities outside Kabul and to endorse its recommendations.
