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## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
On: 7 November 2016  
To: Law Enforcement Working Party / Customs Cooperation Working Party  
Subject: Summary of discussions

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### LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING PARTY

#### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The Law Enforcement Working Party adopted the agenda as set out in CM 4526/1/16 REV 1.

#### 2. Information from the Presidency

The Working Party took note of the presentation by the Chair about the recent and upcoming meetings of the LEWP-related expert groups and networks. The Chair of the Asylum Working Party briefed delegations about the discussion at the Friends of Presidency meeting of 11 October 2016 on law enforcement access to Eurodac and about the outcome of the questionnaire on this topic<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> See 14099/16

### **3. Implementation of the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management, including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area<sup>2</sup>**

The Working Party took note of a brief presentation by the Presidency about the state of play of the implementation of the Roadmap as set out in 13554/16. The Chair underlined the need for all stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the Roadmap and informed the meeting about further steps in relation to the implementation report.

### **4. Expert groups and networks related to the LEWP:**

#### **4.1 AIRPOL: Draft annual Work Programme 2017<sup>3</sup>**

In line with the Guidelines on the relationship between the LEWP and its related expert groups and networks<sup>4</sup>, the Working Party approved the Work Programme 2017 of the European network of airport law enforcement services (AIRPOL), as set out in 13641/16, following a presentation by a representative of AIRPOL.

#### **4.2 CARPOL:**

##### **4.2.1 Stay of play of the evaluation of the implementation of the Council Decision of 22 December 2004 on tackling vehicle crime with cross-border implications (2004/919/EC)**

Following the presentation by the SK expert, the Working Party took note of the evaluation of the implementation of Council Decision 2004/919/EC on tackling vehicle crime with cross-border implications, and agreed to the recommendations set out in 13637/16. Similarly to the first evaluation carried out in 2008, this evaluation was prepared on the basis of a questionnaire to the members of the EU network of national contact points for tackling cross-border vehicle crime (CARPOL).

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<sup>2</sup> This item was discussed in the presence of the Schengen Associated States.

<sup>3</sup> This item was discussed in the presence of the Schengen Associated States.

<sup>4</sup> 12915/2/15 REV 2

#### **4.2.2 Draft handbook with best practices on calling off the search of a stolen vehicle**

The Working Party took note of the overview of best practices on calling off the search of a stolen vehicle, as set out in 13793/16, following the presentation by the SK expert at CARPOL. The overview was composed of the replies of CARPOL members to a questionnaire regarding in particular the national practices in relation to the seizure of stolen vehicles, their handover to legitimate owners and calling off the search of a stolen vehicle.

#### **4.2.3 Draft annual Work Programme 2017**

Following the presentation by the SK expert at CARPOL, the Working Party discussed the draft CARPOL Work Programme 2017, set out in 13639/16. An exchange of views about the marking of parts of vehicles, the organisation of JPOs and the alignment of activities of CARPOL with the EU Policy Cycle took place. Delegations were invited to provide their written comments on the draft Work Programme by 17 November 2016.

#### **4.3 Experts for major sport events: Draft annual Work Programme 2017**

Following the presentation by the Chair about the changes made in the draft Work Programme of experts for major sport events, based on the outcome of the LEWP meeting of 29 September 2016, the Working Party approved the Work Programme set out in 11909/1/16 REV 1, subject to the lifting of one scrutiny reservation, which was lifted subsequent to the meeting.

#### **4.4 EFE: Draft annual Work Programme 2017**

Following the presentation by the Chair of European Firearms Experts (EFE), the Working Party discussed the draft EFE Work Programme 2017, set out in 13640/16. It appeared that due to a technical problem some strategic objectives were not reflected in the document, which therefore needed to be revised. The Chair concluded that delegations would be invited to send written comments on the revised version of the draft Work Programme. One delegation commented on the proposed Automated Ballistic Identification System (ABIS) and underlined the need for interoperability of different systems.

#### **4.5 EMPEN: Draft annual Work Programme 2017**

Following the presentation by a representative of the European Medical And Psychological Experts' Network For Law Enforcement (EMPEN), the Working Party approved the EMPEN Work Programme 2017, set out in 13643/16, subject to the lifting of one scrutiny reservation, which was lifted subsequent to the meeting.

#### **4.6 EU CULTNET: Draft annual Work Programme 2017**

Following the presentation by the incoming MT Presidency, the Working Party discussed the draft Work Programme 2017 of the informal network of law enforcement authorities and expertise competent in the field of cultural goods (EU CULTNET), set out in 13696/16. An exchange of views about the possible organisation of meetings of the network at Europol, the use of Europol Platform of Experts, the change of the name of the network to reflect its focus on crime, the development of a handbook on combatting crime against cultural goods more effectively took place. Delegations were invited to provide their written comments on the draft Work Programme by 17 November 2016.

#### **4.7 @ON: Draft annual Work Programme 2017**

Following the presentation by a representative of the operational network to counter mafia-style serious and organised crime groups (@ON), the Working Party approved the Work Programme 2017 of @ON, set out in 13642/16. A few delegations intervened asking about the focus of the network and suggesting to use financial investigations in its activities. A representative of CEPOL provided an explanation about its planning cycle and encouraged the network to communicate its training needs to CEPOL as soon as possible in order to include them in the planning for 2018.

#### **5. Implementation of the Action Plan on the way forward in view of the creation of an European Forensic Science Area**

The Working Party took note of the state of play of the Action Plan in relation to the creation of an European Forensic Science Area, as set out in 13636/16, following the presentation by the Presidency. Delegations were informed that a questionnaire in relation to Action 2 would be presented to the LEWP in December 2016.

#### **6. Any other business**

No points were raised under this item of the agenda.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING PARTY /  
CUSTOMS COOPERATION WORKING PARTY**

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda as set out in CM 4526/1/16 REV 1 was adopted.

**2. Environmental Crime:**

**2.1 Discussion on the proposals for actions against environmental crime**

Following a detailed presentation by the Presidency about its initiative aimed at combating environmental crime more effectively, the draft Council Conclusions on countering environmental crime, as set out in 13644/16, were discussed. Some delegations suggested to build on the existing initiatives and networks, such as EJTN, and underlined the role of customs, in particular in the area of illicit waste trafficking. A few delegations asked for further clarifications regarding some parts of the text, for example, on the creation of the focal point at Europol. AT and DE entered scrutiny reservations. Delegations were invited to send further written comments by 17 November 2016.

**2.2 Environmental Crime Conference (24 and 25 November 2016, Bratislava)**

The Working Parties took note of the information by the Presidency about the Environmental Crime Conference, which will be held on 24 and 25 November 2016 in Bratislava.

**3. Customs Risk Management: Progress Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the implementation of the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management**

The Working Parties took note of the presentation by the Commission Services about the Progress Report on the implementation of the EU Strategy and Action Plan for customs risk management, as set out in 11415/16 + ADD 1. The presentation focused in particular on the customs input to initiatives in other policy areas and on the law enforcement aspects of customs risk management, referring, for example, to the ongoing cross-border cooperation in Police and Customs Cooperation Centres (PCCCs) and the work of Europol. It was also suggested that customs authorities could be involved in the activities of, for example, EFE, AIRPOL and EU CULTNET networks.

**4. JPCO ARES: state of play**

The Working Parties took note of the presentation by the NL delegation about the state of play of JPCO ARES on trafficking of firearms, which was conducted on the basis of the business case set out in 6492/1/16 REV 1. Delegations were informed that the evaluation of the results of the operation was currently under way, and a detailed report on the outcome of the JPCO would be presented under the .incoming MT Presidency.

**5. JPO CARS: state of play**

The Working Parties took note of the presentation by the Presidency of the preliminary results of JPO CARS, indicating the number of arrests and serious offences which were detected. Delegations were informed that the final report of this operation would be distributed at a later stage.

**6. Any other business**

No points were raised under this item of the agenda.