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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 15 March 2017
To: Terrorism Working Party (TWP) / Working Party for Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE)
Subject: Summary of discussions

Joint TWP / SIS/SIRENE (morning session 10.00-12.00) in "mixed committee"-format¹

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Terrorism Working Party and the Working Party for Schengen Matters adopted the agenda as set out in CM 1301/17.

¹ Experts of the Working Party for "Schengen Matters" (SIS/SIRENE) are invited to participate in the morning session that will be in "Mixed Committee" format (incl. Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Lichtenstein).

2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency reminded delegations that further to the finalisation of the overall SIS evaluation, the Commission issued three proposals aimed at enhancing the system's functionalities in the light of the new security and migration challenges. The Presidency organised three meetings of the Working Party for Schengen Matters (the Acquis configuration) to examine the content of these proposals. During the meetings, which were held on 6th and 7th of March 2017, the Working Party examined the following themes:

1. The categories of data which may be entered in the SIS;
2. Obliging Member States to enter alerts where a person or an object is sought in relation to terrorist offence;
3. The entry of biometric data;
4. The entry of alerts for the purposes of discreet checks, inquiry checks or specific checks;
5. The entry of alerts for the purpose of refusing entry and stay;

The Presidency added that another two-day meeting of the Working Party was scheduled for May 2017, with a view to finalising the initial examination of the three proposals. The Presidency also stated that a Roadmap-related questionnaire with three questions had been circulated. The outcome of that questionnaire had been taken into account in the discussion paper circulated to the participants in preparation for item 3 on the agenda.

3. Information exchange

- Actions from the roadmap on information exchange and management (13554/1/16) to be followed-up jointly by the SIS/SIRENE and TWP groups

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The TWP and SIS/SIRENE Working Parties discussed the way forward in relation to the implementation of the Roadmap to enhance information exchange and information management including interoperability solutions in the Justice and Home Affairs area². In particular, the way forward in relation to a number of Actions from Chapter 3 of the Roadmap, aimed at strengthening the collection, checking and connection of information for the detection of persons involved in terrorism and terrorism related activity and their travel movements, that are relevant to both the TWP and the SIS/SIRENE Working Party, were discussed, namely Actions 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 35 and 36.

While delegations generally agreed to the proposed way forward in relation to most of these Actions, some delegations would provide further written comments regarding some of the Actions, in particular Action 17, by 31 March 2017. As regards Action 23 relating to the creation of a new type of action, a number of delegations referred to the ongoing discussions in the Schengen acquis Working Party on the newly proposed "inquiry checks" in the draft Regulation on the use of SIS in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (15814/16).

In addition to the Actions listed above, some suggestions were made to further discuss the automatic SIS hit reporting solution and the sharing of post-hit information among Member States.

² 9368/1/16 REV 1