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9471/17

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 17 May 2017
To: Terrorism Working Party (TWP)
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda, as set out in document **CM 2682/1/17**, was adopted.

2. Information by the Presidency

The TWP chairman mentioned the main terrorist-related incidents, and summarised the outcome of CT-related meetings and documents since the last TWP meeting on 15 March 2017.

3. Latest updates on Aviation Security

– Information by the Commission

The Commission briefly explained the background for and the scheduling of the upcoming EU-meetings with the US following the introduction on 21 March 2017 of security procedures for electronic devices larger than a smartphone, banning these types of devices from carry-on bags as a counter-terrorism precaution. The US ban so far covered inbound flights on nine airlines operating out of ten airports.

4. Radicalisation of asylum seekers

- Presentation by INTCEN [*CONFIDENTIAL EU/EU CONFIDENTIAL*]

Delegations took note of the presentation by INTCEN. The INTCEN report can be found in doc. EEAS (2017) 10243.

5. Analysis of the background and process of radicalisation

- Presentation by the German Federal Criminal Police Office

Delegations took note of the presentation by the German Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) analysing reasons for radicalisation and the radicalisation process. The report, executive summary thereof as well as the presentation have been circulated following the meeting as WK 5763 2017, WK 5756 2017 and WK 5762 2017.

6. An EU Centre for Prevention on Deradicalisation?

7531/17

- Presentation by DE/FR

DE elaborated its ideas for an EU Centre for prevention and addressing radicalisation, as briefly presented at the March JHA Council. DE, supported by FR, suggests an "under the same roof"-structure anchoring all existing EU-initiatives and stakeholders related to radicalisation (RAN, ESCN, IRU, EU Internet Forum and CSEP (Civil Society Empowerment Programme)), among other things to create/explore synergies with a view to strengthening the preventive side; to be introduced step by step in a flexible manner. Eight delegations took the floor, mainly to express initial support for strengthening prevention and highlighting a number of issues which would need to be considered and clarified. Delegations who so wished were invited to send written comments by 24 May 2017. The discussion will be continued at the JHA Council meeting on 8-9 June on the basis of a Commission proposal.

7. Terrorist Finance Tracking Program (TFTP) - joint review report of January 2017 and outcome of a meeting with Member States on a possible system complementing the TFTP

5557/17

– Presentation by the Commission

The Commission briefly informed about the most recent evaluation, the results of which can be found in the report of January-2017. The programme had been correctly implemented and was viewed as an instrumental CT-tool, including in relation to recent terrorist attacks in Europe. The Commission requested Member States to make more use of it, either directly or through Europol, which played a vital role in the programme, and to give more regular feedback.

On TFTS covering intra-EU payments, a report would be issued in summer setting out the findings of the ongoing options study. A meeting with the Member States (representatives from ministries, law enforcement and Financial Intelligence Units) had taken place on 15 May 2017 on the basis of a discussion paper circulated by the Commission.

8. Incidents of significant interest

– Information from Member States

Eight Member States delegations took the floor to report terrorist-related incidents and/or inform on recent national CT initiatives and legislation.

9. Update on the conclusions, recommendations and way forward on the INTCEN and Europol threat assessments mechanism

6699/1/17

There were no further comments to the revised version of the note taking into account delegations' latest comments. The document will be submitted to COSI for endorsement.

10. Update on the Guidelines for the EU Strategy for combating radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism

6700/2/17

Apart from a comment from DE regarding pt. 1 of the guidelines, the current version was agreeable to all delegates. The Presidency concluded that following accommodation of the DE concern, the guidelines would be submitted as a I/A-item to the next COREPER/Council for adoption.

11. Implementation on a post-hit information procedure when monitoring the movements of foreign terrorist fighters under Article 36 of SIS II

8610/17

– Presentation by FR

The French delegation presented its proposal to consider the setting up of a 'post hit' information mechanism to keep Member States informed of hits generated by movements of foreign terrorist fighters within the Schengen area. Some of the Member States taking the floor were convinced about the added value of such a proposal and expressed concerns about the potential additional workload of the SIS-SIRENE bureaus, and the creation of large amounts of data which would mostly be relevant only for few Member States. A couple of delegations, together with a representative of the CTC's office, stated that this topic merited more reflection. The Commission suggested a limitation of the proposal, by specifying that it should apply only to very dangerous persons. A more complete picture on travel movements in Europe was needed, and delegations were encouraged to share as much information as possible.

In relation to the discussions of the last joint TWP/SIS-SIRENE meeting on 15 March 2017, among other things on the list of criteria on when a person should be included in the SIS in relation to terrorism and terrorism-related offences, a summary can be found in 8806/17.

12. Terrorist Risk Management at the Comisaria General de Información (CGI)

- Presentation by ES

Delegations took note of the presentation by the Spanish General Information Office (WK 5981/17)

13. An insight on the emerging terrorist and extremist communications challenges facing EU Member States

- Presentation by the European Strategic Communication Network (ESCN)

ESCN shared the first of three thematic papers, on the emerging communications challenge with a focus on DAESH, finalised in May 2017. The paper was distributed during the "fringe-event" following the meeting (WK 5979/17).

14. Information on Counter-terrorism activities

Europol briefly mentioned the state of play of the staffing of the ECTC, latest numbers of entries into the various databases (which in general had increased substantively over the past year), such as the Europol Information System (EIS), and also touched upon the number of assessments and referrals made by the IRU, and the number of requests made under the TFTP.

15. AOBs

No items were raised under AOB.

The next TWP meeting is scheduled for 14 June 2017.

The outcome of the joint TWP/COTER of 18 May 2017 can be found in 9472/17 (to be issued).
