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## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
On: 18 May 2017  
To: Terrorism Working Party (TWP) / COTER  
Subject: Summary of discussions

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### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda, as set out in CM 2729/1/17 REV 1, was adopted.

### 2. Information Point by the Presidency: Overview of the work done in TWP and COTER

This was the second time that the two Working Parties gathered under the Maltese Presidency to discuss matters of mutual interest, a point which reinforces the commitment to continue strengthening the synergy between the internal and external aspects of counter-terrorism.

The COTER chair explained that work done focused on specific geographic and thematic areas. Geographical focus in COTER was placed on North Africa, the Western Balkans, Turkey, and the Middle East, and cooperation with international organisations (UN, LAS, OSCE). Terrorism finance, aviation security, strategic communication, foreign terrorist fighters and returnees, as well as radicalisation amongst youth, were also addressed. The COTER Chair outlined that for the first time, COTER travelled to a third country to witness first-hand the impact of EU assistance. The working visit to Tunisia, was held in April 2017. The Presidency also undertook a stock-taking exercise on all actions taken since the adoption of the February 2015 Council Conclusions, and will also be leading negotiations within COTER on these new Foreign Affairs Council Conclusions on Counterterrorism.

The TWP chair also gave a brief overview of the work done in TWP since the start of the year, among other things an update on the Guidelines for the EU Strategy for combating radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism, which would now be submitted to ministers for adoption; an update on the conclusions, recommendations and way forward on the INTCEN and Europol threat assessment; in addition to the joint meetings with COTER, a joint meeting with the SIS/SIRENE discussion had been held on the 15 March, and regular updates from the Commission, Europol, EEAS and the EU CTC as well as the European Strategic Communications Network.

### **3. Youth Radicalisation in the Maghreb and Sahel**

3.1. INTCEN: Radicalisation in the Maghreb and Sahel [*EU CONFIDENTIAL*]

3.2. Updates: Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) Centre of Excellence, EU Internet Forum, Radicalisation toolbox, European Strategic Communications Network (ESCN)

INTCEN provided an assessment. A discussion followed.

The RAN provided an update on its activities with third countries, with a particular focus on Tunisia. The chair of the Youth Working Party delivered a presentation on the Radicalisation Toolbox for Youth Workers. The ESCN delivered a presentation to the Working Parties on its work focused on countering violent extremism, provide consultancy to Member States on how to overcome the violent and extremist communication challenge, and carry out research and analysis in the field.

### **4. Presentation by Albanian Services**

Delegations took note of the presentation by the Albanian intelligence service.

## **5. Exchange with Mr. Jean-Paul Laborde, CTED Executive Director - United Nations**

Under this agenda item, Mr Jean Paul Laborde – Assistant Secretary General and Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee at United Nations - delivered a presentation to the Working Parties on the issue of Foreign Terrorist Fighters and emerging threats in terrorism. The main points raised were increasing EU cooperation with the UN through structured dialogues, involving the JHA-area, in particular in relation to collection of battlefield evidence. Proper implementation of what already had been agreed within the UN was of importance. The groups were informed that a UN Counter Terrorism Coordinator is to be nominated soon.

## **6. The impact of the refugee and migrant crisis on the EU's security situation**

6.1. INTCEN assessment [*EU CONFIDENTIAL*]

6.2. FRONTEX: Challenges at the EU's external borders – operationalisation of common risk indicators for travelling FTFs

6.3. EUROPOL: state of play

ad 6.1: Delegations took note of the presentation by INTCEN. The INTCEN report can be found in [EEAS\(2017\)10242](#).

ad 6.2: Frontex informed delegates on Frontex new mandate. An updated leaflet on "Operationalisation of Common Risk Indicators" was provided to delegations, aiming at sensitising border guards to the phenomenon of FTFs.

ad 6.3: Europol (ECTC) gave a brief mainly dealing with hotspots and the deployment and guest officers in EL and IT.

## **7. Information Point by the Commission: Europol regulation**

The Commission provided an overview of the process behind the adoption of the new Europol Regulation and highlighted the changes that were made to the Europol mandate, in particular those that allow Europol to also exchange data with CSDP missions.

**8. A.O.B.**

The Commission updated delegations on recent developments in relation to the EU Internet Forum. The third ministerial of the EU Internet Forum will be on 6 December 2017, next meeting with senior officials 27 June 2017. Outreach to smaller companies was a current priority.

**In the margins of the joint TWP-COTER session, an informal exchange of views with Facebook's Lead Policy Manager for Counterterrorism, on the company's policies was held.**

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