

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION Brussels, 11 April 2014 (OR. en)

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ENFOPOL 109

NOTE	
From:	Presidency
To:	Law Enforcement Working Party
No. prev. doc.:	15612/13
Subject:	Results of the meeting of the European Network for the Protection of Public Figures (ENPPF) held on 8 April 2014 in Brussels

The meeting of experts of the European Network for the Protection of Public Figures (ENPPF) under the Hellenic Chairmanship was held within the framework of the LEWP on 8 April 2014 in Brussels.

The LEWP is invited to take note of the results of this meeting set out below.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 2046/14 with the addition of information points by the IT and HU delegations under AOB.

2. Discussion on the future of the ENPPF and the self-evaluation of the network

The Chair invited delegations to discuss the questions raised in the discussion paper on the future of the ENPPF and the self-evaluation of the network (doc. 7791/14 ENFOPOL 83).

A few delegations intervened suggesting to establish a working or a core group in order prepare the self-evaluation of the network and also its work programme for 2-3 coming years. Europol's representative expressed his willingness to contribute to organising a meeting of such a working group and to establishing a virtual Europol platform of experts (EPE) for the ENPPF on Europol's website. One delegation also suggested to consider having an elected Chairperson of the network rather than the rotating one.

The Chair invited delegations to provide their further feedback and suggestions for the future of the ENPPF and for making it more effective in writing by 9 May 2014. The outcome of this exercise would then be presented to the LEWP.

3. Evaluation of the training methods and techniques used by the VIP protection services. Results of the questionnaire.

The EL delegation presented an overview of replies to its questionnaire on training methods and techniques used by the VIP protection services. A video on practical training for such services provided in Greece was demonstrated.

As a few delegations were interested in receiving all the contributions collected by the EL delegation, the Chair invited the Member States who had not provided replies to the questionnaire to do so by 9 May 2014 so that the full overview of the results of the questionnaire could be distributed to the network.

4. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

The DE delegation made a presentation on the outcome of its questionnaire on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), the threat posed by them and possible measures to counter such a threat. One delegation encouraged all the Member States to provide replies to the DE questionnaire and underlined that it would be useful for the members of the ENPPF to receive the full overview of Member Sates' contributions to this questionnaire.

The FR delegation briefly presented the ongoing discussions on this subject in France and suggested to present further information at the upcoming ENPPF meetings.

5. Security planning in Greece

The EL delegation presented an overview of the security measures taken in relation to the official opening ceremony of the EL Presidency of the Council in Athens where the leaders of the European Council and the European Commission as well as all the Commissioners participated.

6. Difficulties for the protection units to bring firearms on flights

Following up to the discussions at the previous ENPPF meetings in relation to the difficulties for the protection units to bring firearms on flights, a representative of the Commission made a brief presentation on the existing legislation in the field of aviation security, mainly Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 on common rules in the field of civil aviation security where on this particular subject a reference to national laws is made due to the sensitivity of this issue.

7. Any other business

(1) The IT delegation presented its proposal to distribute a questionnaire to Member States in order to collect information on the selection and training procedures of the personnel recruited by the protection services. Further proposals based on the outcome of this questionnaire would be developed under the incoming Italian Presidency. The Chair noted that this initiative fitted in with the initiative of the EL Presidency on the subject of training and that the two Presidencies could work together on this matter.

(2) The HU delegation presented the role and the scope of duties of its Special Protection Department within the Counter Terrorism Centre.