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COMIX 381

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 25 June 2014
To: Law Enforcement Working Party (including Mixed Committee EU/Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein)
Subject: Summary of discussions

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING PARTY - MIXED COMMITTEE

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 3113/14 with the addition of an information point from the General Secretariat of the Council under AOB.

2. Progress report of the Radio Communications Expert Group (RCEG) and the results of its meeting held on 2 May 2014 in Athens

The LEWP took note of the RCEG progress report and the results of its most recent meeting as set out in doc. 10624/14. Delegations also discussed the possible way forward in relation to the RCEG position on radio frequencies, and the Presidency concluded that relevant stakeholders would be approached in writing with a contribution for the preparation of the Council position in view of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 2015.

3. Outcome of the self-evaluation of the Radio Communications Experts' Group (RCEG)

The LEWP took note of the outcome of the self-evaluation of the RCEG as set out in doc. 10748/14 and agreed to set up an ad-hoc support group within the RCEG tasked to draw up a work programme for the RCEG and to invite the General Secretariat of the Council to keep the list of RCEG contact points updated.

4. Report on the activities of e-MOBIDIG and on its meeting held on 25-26 March 2014 in the UK

The LEWP took note of the report on the activities and the outcome of the recent meeting of e-MOBIDIG as set out doc. 9380/14.

5. Any other business

The General Secretariat of the Council reminded the delegations that their contributions for updating the Compendium on law enforcement liaison officers were expected by 1 July 2014 (doc. 13129/13 + ADD1) and for updating the national factsheets of the Manual on cross-border operations by 18 July 2014 (doc. 10505/4/09 REV 4 ADD 1 REV 3).

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING PARTY

1. Adoption of the agenda

The meeting adopted the agenda as set out in doc. CM 3113/14.

2. Steering of LEWP-related expert groups and networks

2.1. Overview of expert groups and networks related to the LEWP and the provisional planning of their meetings

The LEWP took note of the provisional planning of meetings of expert groups and networks related to the LEWP as set out in doc. 8709/14. Delegations were invited to constantly provide updated information to the General Secretariat of the Council.

The HU delegation suggested to prepare a document on revitalising the KYNOPOL network by seeking synergies with other networks and inquired about the possibilities to receive funding for this network. The representative of the Commission informed the meeting that applications for funding under ISF-Police would be evaluated based on merits.

2.2. European Network for the Protection of Public Figures (ENPPF)

The LEWP took note of the results of the ENPPF meeting held on 8 April 2014 in Brussels as set out in doc. 8844/14 and of the outcome of the self-evaluation of this network as set out in doc. 10611/14.

Representatives of the Commission provided some information about operational exercises carried out in cooperation with the Belgian authorities in relation to EU summits (further details of which could be presented at the upcoming ENPPF meeting) and suggested to look for synergies and avoid possible duplication between the activities of the ENPPF and the European Network of Public Figure Threat Assessment Agencies (ENPFTAA).

The LEWP agreed to set up a working group within ENPPF tasked to draw up a work programme for the network considering possible synergies with ENPFTAA.

Delegations were invited to nominate members of the working group by sending the names of experts to the Presidency at lew@consilium.europa.eu by 14 July 2014.

2.3. European Firearms Experts (EFE)

The meeting was briefly informed about the ongoing discussions in COSI about firearms (see doc. 5195/7/14 REV 7) and took note of the results of the EFE meeting held on 22-23 April 2014 in Athens as set out in doc. 10758/14.

A few delegations underlined the importance of EU activities in the field of deactivation of firearms and were informed by the Commission that future steps in this area, including consideration for the need of legislation, would be presented by the end of 2014.

One delegation underlined the need to reflect on the dispersion of information in relation to stolen firearms in different databases. It was also suggested which countries should be prioritised in the fight against illegal trafficking in firearms.

2.4. ENLETS, RCEG and e-MOBIDIG

The LEWP took note of the results of the ENLETS meeting held on 28-29 April 2014 in Athens as set out in doc. 9836/14.

Delegations discussed the relations between ENLETS, RCEG and e-MOBIDIG on the basis of the discussion paper prepared by the Presidency (doc. DS 1276/14) and agreed to encourage these three expert networks, which would remain autonomous, to work more closely together and in a complementary manner, for example, by organising meetings together. On this basis the possibility of e-MOBIDIG becoming a subgroup of ENLETS would again be discussed in one year.

2.5. Experts for major sports events

The LEWP took note of the results of the meeting of experts for major sports events held on 30 April 2014 in Brussels as set out in doc. 10610/14.

2.6. Network of National Police Contact Points for tackling cross-border vehicle crime (CARPOL)

The LEWP approved the coordination initiative for CARPOL set out in doc. 10847/14 and took note of the network's Long Lasting Agenda set out in doc. 11138/14 while noting the UK delegation's concern in relation to the call for legislation in the Long Lasting Agenda.

3. Joint Police Operations (JPOs)

3.1. Final report on Joint Police Operation LITCAR

The meeting took note of the presentation by the LT delegation of the final report on Joint Police Operation LITCAR (doc. 7391/1/14 REV 1, approved by the LEWP by written procedure on 31 March 2014).

3.2. Proposal for a Joint Police Operation ITACAR

The meeting took note of the presentation by the IT delegation of the proposal for a Joint Police Operation ITACAR (doc. 8862/14, approved by the LEWP by written procedure on 5 May 2014). Suggestions were made to involve CARPOL and use the experience of TISPOL when organising the operation and drawing up a standardised results' form. Delegations were encouraged to confirm their participation in the JPO.

3.3. Proposal for a Joint Police Operation regarding road traffic security control on Trans-European Road Networks TENT-IT

The meeting took note of the presentation by the IT delegation of the proposal for a Joint Police Operation TENT-IT (doc. 8865/14 + COR 1, approved by the LEWP by written procedure on 5 May 2014). Delegations were encouraged to confirm their participation in the JPO.

4. Europol

4.1. State of play of the draft Europol Regulation

The Chair presented the outcome of the Council meeting of 5-6 June 2014 where the Council reached the general approach on the draft Europol Regulation noting that in order to have a coordinated approach to the data protection provisions in the legislative acts relating to various JHA agencies, in particular Eurojust and EPPO, coherence should be sought, where relevant and taking into account the special features of these agencies, between Chapter VII of this Regulation, the draft Regulations on Eurojust and EPPO as well as the data protection package.

On this basis the incoming IT Presidency invited delegations to identify by 1 July 2014 the exact Articles and/or issues within Chapter VII of the draft Europol Regulation on data protection where the coherence should be sought between the relevant draft legislation in view of a possible technical discussion on such provisions.

4.2. General Report on Europol's activities 2013

The LEWP took note of the General Report on Europol's activities 2013 as set out in doc. 10426/14, presented by Europol, and agreed to submit it to COREPER and Council for endorsement.

5. Law enforcement training

5.1. CEPOL Annual Report for the year 2013

The LEWP took note of the CEPOL Annual Report for the year 2013 as set out in doc. 10580/14, presented by CEPOL, and agreed to submit it to COREPER and Council for endorsement. Delegations were also briefly informed about the need to find solutions in relation to the budget and staff of CEPOL in view of the upcoming relocation of the agency from Bramshill (UK) to Budapest (HU).

5.2. Discussion on the Commission Communication on establishing a European Law Enforcement Training Scheme

Delegations exchanged views on the Commission Communication on establishing LETS (doc. 8230/13), mostly supporting LETS and suggesting that CEPOL should be its driving force while some points of concern in relation to the implementation of LETS were also raised: definition of the target audience, financing, division of competences between CEPOL and Member States while respecting the principle of subsidiarity, ensuring coherence with training activities of other EU bodies/agencies (eg. Frontex, police missions).

The representative of the Commission took note of delegations' comments and confirmed that the Commission would reflect the four strands of LETS in the future proposal for a Regulation on CEPOL and that LETS would be financed with the savings from CEPOL's relocation to Budapest.

6. Presentation of the priorities of the incoming Italian Presidency

The meeting took note of the presentation of the incoming Chair of the LEWP about the priorities of the Italian Presidency. The calendar of the meetings of the LEWP and its related expert groups and networks was also presented.

7. Presentation by the European Confederation of Police (EuroCOP) on its activities

The LEWP took note of the presentation by the European Confederation of Police (EuroCOP), existing since 2002 and representing the interests of more than 500 000 police officers from 36 police forces in 25 Member States. The attention of delegations was drawn to the increasing challenges that police forces were facing and to the need of EU-led initiatives in the areas of internal security and police safety.

8. AOB

No points were raised under AOB.
