

Brussels, 1 September 2014 (OR. en)

12697/14

**GENVAL 48** 

#### **OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

From: Working Party on General Matters, including Evaluations (GENVAL)

On: 24 July 2014
To: Delegations

Subject: Summary of discussions

# 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda as set out in CM 3600/14 was adopted.

## 2. Sixth round of mutual evaluations - Adoption of the Report of the Czech Republic

#### 9331/1/14 REV1 GENVAL 26 EUROJUST 87 RESTREINT UE

Following the discussion held at the previous GENVAL meeting, the draft report was adopted by the Working Party.

## 3. Sixth round of mutual evaluations - Adoption of the Report of Slovenia

### 9334/14 GENVAL 27 EUROJUST 88 RESTREINT UE

Following the discussion held at the previous GENVAL meeting, the draft report was adopted by the Working Party.

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### 4. Sixth round of mutual evaluations - Adoption of the Report of Romania

#### 7772/1/14 REV1 GENVAL 17 EUROJUST 60 RESTREINT UE

Following the discussion held at the previous GENVAL meeting, the draft report was adopted by the Working Party.

## 5. Sixth round of mutual evaluations - Discussion of the Report of Spain

#### 11004/14 GENVAL 41 EUROJUST 116 RESTREINT UE

The evaluation team presented the content of the draft report and the ensuing conclusions and recommendations.

The Spanish delegation welcomed the findings of the evaluation team and replied to the questions asked by other delegations.

## 6. Sixth round of mutual evaluations - Discussion of the Report of Bulgaria

### 11005/14 GENVAL 42 EUROJUST 117 RESTREINT UE

The evaluation team presented the content of the draft report and the ensuing conclusions and recommendations. The Bulgarian delegation welcomed the findings of the evaluation team, replied to the questions asked by other delegations.

# 7. Possible initiatives in the fight against organized crime infiltration in the legal economy and in public contracts

Outline of possible initiatives in the fight against organized crime infiltration in the legal economy and in public contracts: traceability and monitoring of financial flows, fight against corruption, enhanced controls of criminal financial activities, information exchange, new forms of attack on and management of criminal assets

DS 1324/14 JAI CATS GENVAL ENFOPOL DROIPEN MI (background paper);

12697/14 AC/mj 2 DG D 2B EN Draft Council Conclusions of the Council of the European Union on combating organised crime infiltration in the legal economy through financial flow traceability and monitoring, in particular regarding public procurement

## DS 1325/14 JAI CATS GENVAL ENFOPOL DROIPEN MI;

presentation by the Presidency followed by discussion;

Exchange of police information for administrative use

#### DS 1326/14 JAI CATS GENVAL ENFOPOL DROIPEN MI

presentation by the Presidency.

The Presidency presented the package on EU action against organized crime infiltration in legal economy, in particular in public procurement. Previous steps in relation to the package were mentioned: the questionnaire distributed via CATS in November 2013, discussions within the ARO (Asset Recovery Office)-platform last year and the Italian CAPACI-project presented in Rome on 10-11 July 2014. The complexity of the matter, encompassing several areas - money-laundering, confiscation, public procurement, etc. - was stressed. Main aim of the package was to establish a strengthened cooperation in relation to identification of criminal proceeds before they were introduced in the legal economy, efficient exchange information and agreement on anomaly indicators. Existing instruments, authorities, fora and networks should be properly taken into account, as well as the diversity of national legislations that would require some degree of flexibility. Prevention and awareness-raising were keywords.

The package had also been submitted also to the informal COSI/CATS-meeting held on 22 July in Rome. Initial reactions from delegations had been cautious, in particular due to ongoing internal consultation.

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The Commission welcomed the increased attention to public procurement. Several delegations took the floor acknowledging the importance of the matter and in general supporting the initiative. However, many expressed preference for focusing on exchange of information and best practices first and questioned the need for new measures. Due to the complexity of the matter, internal consulting between different ministries involved were still ongoing.

Meeting document 1326/14 - Exchange of police information for administrative use, containing two questions to delegations - was presented separately by the Presidency. According to the Presidency, the increasing interconnection of economies and participation of "foreign tenderers" had augmented the need to access or verify information in possession of the authorities of Member States other than the one where the call for tender was published. The aim of the two questions was to examine which channel(s) Member States use to obtain investigative information from other EU Member States for administrative use - and whether Member States perceived a need to establish a new *ad hoc* channel.

The Presidency concluded that clarification was needed in relation to a number of points.

Delegations were invited to give written comments by **3 September 2014** (and not on 15 September 2014 as stated in the DS1326/14 (discussion paper on exchange of police information for administrative use).

The item (Fight against organised crime infiltration in the legal economy) will be discussed at the upcoming CATS-meeting on 15 September 2014.

[A related initiative, draft Council Conclusions on establishing an Antimafia Operation Network, through the project "@ON", aimed in particular at setting up an operational network of police officers investigating organized crime, as well as at sharing the relevant best practices are discussed within the Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP).]

# 8. Commission Staff Working Document: Action Plan on Crime Statistics 2011-2015

## 9110/14 GENVAL 24 STATIS 57 JAI 249

# update by the Commission

The Commission informed about the mid-term review covering activities and achievements covering the end of 2013. A second report on trafficking in human beings would be published in October 2014, in relation to cybercrime data collection was underway and concerning corruption data collection was to start this autumn. Finally, it was mentioned that the next expert group meeting would take place on 30 September/1 October 2014.

## 9. AOB

No issues were raised under "AOB".

Next GENVAL meeting will take place on 26 September 2014.

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