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**ENFOPOL 331** 

### **OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

From: General Secretariat of the Council

On: 14 October 2014

To: Terrorism Working Party

Subject: Summary of discussions

# 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in document CM 4393/14.

# 2. Information by the Presidency

The Presidency briefed the meeting on the results of the discussions on foreign fighters at the Council on 9-10 October 2014 and highlighted the importance of rapid implementation of the measures and actions agreed by the Ministers. The conclusions are summarised in document 14160/14 and a roadmap for the implementation of the measures was also being prepared.

Furthermore, the Presidency reported on the results of the Seminar on the use of malicious means/methods to carry out acts of terrorism held in Rome on 2-3 October 2014. The conclusions from the Seminar as well as Member States' replies to the questionnaire circulated by the Presidency on this subject (CM 3624/14) will be summarised in a document to be prepared by the Presidency.

# 3. Incidents of significant interest - Information from Member States

A number of delegations reported on recent terrorism-related incidents, operations, ongoing or finalised court cases and important arrests which took place in their respective countries since the last TWP meeting.

# 4. EU Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to Terrorism Draft Guidelines

As a result of the fact that the silence procedure introduced by the Presidency on 11 September was broken by four delegations, the Group re-examined the guidelines on which comments were made since its last meeting. An agreement was reached on the text as set out in document 13001/1/14

REV 1 with one modification in guideline 13. The draft Guidelines will be submitted to

Coreper/Council for approval subject to lifting of the scrutiny reservation made by one delegation.

BE delegation announced its willingness to lead in the implementation of guideline 6 relating to strategic communications. Member States supporting the creation of the network of MS authorities and experts in this domain were invited to contact BE which would submit an application for funding to the COM.

# 5. North Africa and the new holdings of Jihad - Focus on Libya

In the presentation on the situation in Libya, the IT delegation stressed that in view of the crisis in the country, the threat from terrorism is now very much linked with other global threats and multidisciplinary responses are needed to address it. There is a risk that the country becomes a safe haven for Libyan and international terrorist groups.

# 6. European Foreign Fighters and Returnees – Focus on Syria

The meeting took note of a presentation by a representative of IntCen (EU CONFIDENTIAL) on the abovementioned subject.

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The EU Counter-Terrorism coordinator provided a state of play of the policy response to the phenomenon of foreign fighters, making reference to the discussions at the Council on 9 October, the Ministerial dinner with internet providers and the preparation of the Roadmap for implementation of the measures agreed. He noted how important it was to use the momentum and high political interest in the file for proper implementation of existing measures and putting in place new initiatives which have been suggested and confirmed at political level.

#### 7. Possible initiatives to strengthen the counter terrorism capabilities of Western Balkans countries

SI updated the meeting on the Initiative on strengthening Western Balkans CT capabilities<sup>1</sup> and informed on the upcoming workshop in Ljubljana (16-17 October) organised by the COM in cooperation with the EEAS and the US which should help establish the necessary networks for the sharing of expertise between the EU and Western Balkans authorities. The overall purpose would be to stimulate the local creation and implementation of a counter-radicalisation strategy for each country, ultimately reducing the recruitment of WB citizens into extremism. During the workshop, SI was planning to present the abovementioned initiative to WB partners.

Representatives of the COM and the EEAS added details about the workshop and confirmed the importance of addressing the WB countries in a coherent way.

Furthermore, SI informed that eight Member States as well as COM and the CTC office expressed their interest in participating in the informal working group for the further development of the SI initiative, but other delegations were also invited to participate.

#### 8. Findings of the Mini-Seminar on "Isolated Actors" held in Brussels on 9 September

The meeting took note of the summary of the mini-seminar<sup>2</sup> made by the Chair who noted that a document with the main findings would follow.

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see also 13226/14

# 9. Information on the activity of platforms on radicalisation in Member States

- presentation by France
- overview about "Ombudsstelle gegen Radikalisierung" by Austria

Following a brief presentation by the FR delegation of the new department focusing on combating radicalisation at the TWP meeting in July, a representative of the French National Counter-Terrorism Coordination Unit (UCLAT) provided updated information on the first six months of its functioning. The department, which also includes the national platform for the assistance and orientation of the families of foreign fighters, focuses on sharing intelligence, assessments, awareness raising and deals with cases of radicalised individuals requiring monitoring. The high number of reports made during this period demonstrates that the platform has been successful and is considered as a useful tool in addressing radicalisation.

The AT delegation gave a brief overview of the work of the Ombudsman's Office against Radicalisation, which is a platform dedicated to dealing with cases of young people who get radicalised and might present a danger for the society. The creation of the platform was inspired by the FR initiative and the best practice studies from Germany.

### 10. Information on counter-terrorism activities

Commission

The Commission representative briefed about the following events:

- informal meeting between the EU Interior Ministers and representatives of internet industry who discussed issues in relation to online communication on 8 October in Luxembourg;
- meeting of experts on explosives to discuss some aspects of Regulation 98/2013;
- the fifth round of air cargo risk assessment which took place in Brussels on 30 September and classified meeting of the aviation community.
  - Europol

The representative of Europol mentioned ongoing activities of Europol mostly focusing on the phenomenon of foreign fighters and highlighted that a new working method was being introduced at Europol which allows Member States to take a lead on certain files. The forthcoming signature of an operational agreement between Europol and Frontex was also mentioned.

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# EEAS

The EEAS representative referred to the following past and upcoming events:

- UNGA on 22-26 September, the main outcome of which was the adoption of the UNSC Resolution 2178;
- EU-UN CT political dialogue in Brussels on 20 October;
- 2nd conference of the CT Implementation Task Force on regional CT centers;
- GCC political dialogue on CT.

# 11. AOB

No issues were raised under AOB.

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