



Brussels, 27 April 2015  
(OR. en)

8354/15

CSC 90  
CSCGNSS 1  
RELEX 324

**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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Subject: Recommendation to the Council concerning the dissolution of the GNSS experts formation of the Council Security Committee

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1. As a consequence of the adoption on 12 July 2004 of Council Regulation 1321/2004 on the establishment of structures for the management of the European satellite radio-navigation programmes<sup>1</sup> and Joint Action 2004/552/CFSP on aspects of the operation of the European satellite radio-navigation system affecting the security of the European Union<sup>2</sup>, the Council agreed through conclusions adopted on 10 June 2004 to set up a GNSS experts formation of the Council Security Committee.<sup>3</sup> According to said Council conclusions "the Council Security Committee, meeting in a GNSS security experts formation, will, as appropriate, issue technical recommendations in accordance with the Council's security regulations".
2. On 10 April 2006 the Council Security Committee approved the terms of reference for the GNSS experts formation (doc. 7559/1/09 REV 1).

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 246, 20.07.2004, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 246, 20.07.2004, p. 30.

<sup>3</sup> Council conclusions, 10 June 2004, doc. 10507/04.

3. After the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, the CFSP related tasks and responsibilities formerly exercised by the Secretary-General of the Council/High Representative are now performed by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, including for GNSS related matters.
4. Council Decision 2014/496/CFSP of 22 July 2014 on aspects of the deployment, operation and use of the European Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) affecting the security of the European Union and repealing Joint Action 2004/552/CFSP sets out responsibilities to be exercised by the Council and the High Representative.
5. The policy input on GNSS matters is therefore now provided by EEAS and GNSS-related items are discussed in relevant Council preparatory bodies, who may consult the Security Committee on any matter related to the protection of EU classified information.
6. The Council Security Committee GNSS experts formation has not been convened since 2011.
7. As Council preparatory bodies created for specific tasks are supposed to discontinue their activities once they have completed their assignment, it is therefore appropriate to dissolve the existing GNSS experts formation of the Council Security Committee.
8. In the light of the above, the Council Security Committee, at its meeting on 5 March 2015, agreed that the terms of reference for the CSC GNSS experts formation should be terminated and recommended to the Council, subject to approval by COREPER, to decide to dissolve the CSC GNSS experts formation.