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SIRIS 199
VISA 438
COMIX 783

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	COREPER/Member States meeting within the Council
No. prev. doc.:	14721/17, 7544/17 + ADD 1
Subject:	Presentation of the SISNET accounts 2016

1. Article 48 of the SISNET Financial Regulation as established by Council Decision 2000/265/EC of 27 March 2000 on the establishment of a financial regulation governing the budgetary aspects of the management by the Secretary-General of the Council, of contracts concluded in his name, on behalf of certain Member States, relating to the installation and the functioning of the communication infrastructure for the Schengen environment, "SISNET"¹, as subsequently amended, provides that – following auditing of the accounts by the Court of Auditors – the Member States referred to in Article 25, meeting within the Council, are to give a discharge to the Secretary-General in respect of the budget's implementation.
2. The revenue and expenditure accounts and the balance sheet for 2016 are set out in 7544/17 SIRIS 51 VISA 109 COMIX 208. The Court of Auditors' report on the annual accounts for the financial year which ended 31 December 2016, is set out in 7544/17 SIRIS 51 VISA 109 COMIX 208 ADD 1.

¹ OJ L 85, 6.4.2000, p. 12.

3. At its meeting on 25 October 2017, the Working Party for Schengen Matters (SIS/SIRENE) examined the accounts as set out in 7544/17 SIRIS 51 VISA 109 COMIX 208 and agreed to the Court of Auditor's Report as set out in 7544/17 SIRIS 51 VISA 109 COMIX 208 ADD 1. The Working Party accepted them without comment and agreed that they should be submitted to the Member States meeting within the Council. It has also been confirmed that following the termination of SISNET (see 8298/16) and the subsequent closure and reimbursement of the remaining budget to the Member States concerned (see 13476/16), all the activities regarding the SISNET budget have now been accomplished.

4. **COREPER is therefore invited to submit to the Member States referred to in Article 25 of the abovementioned Financial Regulation, meeting within the Council, the revenue and expenditure accounts and the balance sheet for 2016 (7544/17 SIRIS 51 VISA 109 COMIX 208) and the Court of Auditors' report (7544/17 SIRIS 51 VISA 109 COMIX 208 ADD 1), in order for them to give the Secretary-General, on the basis of Article 48 *in fine* of the abovementioned Financial Regulation, a discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget for 2016.**