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ENFOPOL 172
COMIX 851**

DECLASSIFICATION

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Subject: Schengen evaluation of the new Member States
- ESTONIA: Report on Police Cooperation (October 2006)

Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.

RESTREINT UE



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ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT

from : Police Cooperation Evaluation Committee
to: Schengen Evaluation Working Party

Subject : Schengen evaluation of the new Member States
- ESTONIA: Report on Police Cooperation (October 2006)

Following the agreement reached during the Schengen Evaluation Working Party on 30 October 2006, Estonia presents herewith an explanation of the reasons behind the decrease in the number of police officers, the increase in the number of registered crimes, and the increase in the clear-up rate of crimes during the period of 1993-2006 (see page 5, last paragraph, of doc. 14171/1/06 REV 1).

The reasons for the increase in the number of registered crimes during the period 1993-2001

1. Changes in the legislation (the Criminal Code was replaced by the Penal Code that criminalized some misdemeanors and decriminalized some of the criminal offences),
2. Increase in the offences reported to the police – in 1995 38% of the population trusted the police; in 2005 the percentage was 74%. Due to the increased trust in the police, people also notify the police of minor criminal offences and other violations of law that they did not expect the police to clear earlier.

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From 2002 until 2005 the number of registered crimes has remained stable.

In general, homicide rate (or the number of homicides per 100 000 inhabitants) is considered to be an objective measure of criminality, as it is not influenced by changes in the legislation. From 1995 to 2006 the homicide rate has decreased almost three times.

At the same time the clear-up rate of crimes has nearly doubled in 1993-2006. The clear-up rate of crimes has increased notably since 2000, as better leadership, structural reorganizations, and training have improved the efficiency of the police.

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