



**Brussels, 6 December 2017  
(OR. en)**

**15520/17**

**ENFOPOL 610**

**'A' ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Council

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Subject: Selection of the Executive Director of Europol  
- Approval by the Council

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1. The mandate of the current Executive Director of Europol expires on 1 May 2018. It is therefore necessary to select and appoint a new Executive Director, as foreseen by Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and replacing and repealing Council Decisions 2009/371/JHA, 2009/934/JHA, 2009/935/JHA, 2009/936/JHA and 2009/968/JHA ("Europol Regulation").
2. According to Article 54(2) of the Europol Regulation, the Executive Director shall be appointed by the Council from a shortlist of candidates proposed by the Management Board, following an open and transparent selection procedure.

3. According to Article 54(3) of the Europol Regulation, before appointment, the candidate selected by the Council may be invited to appear before the competent committee of the European Parliament, which shall subsequently give a non-binding opinion. By a letter of 7 November 2017, the Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) has already informed the Council that it intends to make use of that possibility.
4. Based on a vacancy notice published in the Official Journal of the EU on 23 May 2017, the Management Board of Europol organised a selection procedure, which led to the establishment of a list of three suitable candidates ranked in order of merit. That list was transmitted to the Council and made available to the delegations in 13340/17 (RESTREINT EU).
5. At the meeting of COREPER on 6 December 2017, Ms Catherine De Bolle was selected as the next Executive Director of Europol.
6. Based on the above, the Council is invited to approve the selection of Ms Catherine De Bolle. The General Secretariat of the Council will inform the European Parliament that the competent committee can proceed to the hearing foreseen in Article 54(3) of the Europol Regulation.

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