



Brussels, 23 March 2023
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COSI 35
JAI 237

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 22 February 2023
To: Delegations

Subject: Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security
(COSI)

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda as set out in CM 1302/1/23 REV 1 was adopted.

2. Information by the Presidency

The Presidency informed about the entry into force of the SIS Regulation and of the updated timeline for the start of operations of the Entry/ Exit System.

COSI took note of the state of play of the issue of Chinese Overseas Police Stations, with discussion on the topic ongoing in RELEX context. COSI will revert to the issue as necessary.

Furthermore, COSI was informed that the European Forensic action plan has been agreed by the LEWP -Police and will be submitted to Coreper/Council for approval.

The Presidency informed about the second meeting on the Implementation of the EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime 2021-2025 hosted by the European Commission in Brussels on 14-15 February 2023, and about the Conference to Prevent and Combat Smuggling of Firearms in the Context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine with a focus on customs cooperation that took place in Stockholm on the same days.

Finally, the Presidency informed about the EU-US JHA Ministerial meeting held on 15 December 2022 in Washington and brought attention to the agenda of the upcoming EU-US Senior Officials meeting scheduled for 16-17 March 2023 in Stockholm.

Discussion items:

3. Going dark: access to data for judicial and law enforcement purposes – the way forward

COSI gave broad support to the Presidency proposal on the establishment of a High-level expert group on access to data, as outlined in 5601/23. The Presidency together with the Commission will continue work on detailing the mandate of the group. It will be brought back to COSI with a view to providing orientations for the setting up of the expert group by the Commission.

4. Internal security implications of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine: countering firearms trafficking – the way forward

COSI took note of the list of actions to counter firearms and other small arms and light weapons diversion in the context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine prepared jointly by the Commission and EEAS. COSI will monitor the progress made in the implementation of the specific actions.

5. EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security: 2022 Annual activity report and Multi-annual planning of activities 2023-2026

COSI took note of the 2022 Annual Report and the Multi-annual planning of activities 2023-2026 of the EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security and confirmed the priorities identified. COM was invited to present more information on available EU funds for research and innovation, e.g. Horizon Europe that could be an opportunity for Member States to bring relevant projects under the umbrella of the Hub, next to an invitation to EU JHA agencies to consider earmarking funds for the Hub in their 2024 and beyond budget programming activities, while cautioning against diverting funding from the core activities of the agencies.

Items for information/endorsement

6. Revised coordinated approach – Evaluating information on third-country nationals suspected to be jihadist terrorists received from third parties or a Member State for possible processing in the Schengen Information System

COSI endorsed the revised coordinated approach, as set out in 5606/23.

7. Digital files

COSI took note of the state of play of key digital files with implications on internal security, as set out in 5607/1/23 REV 1 and will follow up on further developments. Delegations were invited to ensure an effective national coordination in view of future developments.

8. JHA Agencies network (JHAAN)

COSI took note of the presentation of the JHAAN activities for 2022 by CEPOL and of the key priorities for 2023, as presented by EU Asylum Agency.

9. Items concluded by COSI SG

COSI took note of the items concluded by COSI Support Group as set out in 5609/23.

10. AOB

COSI took note of:

- The information by the French delegation in relation to associations and organisations promoting values contrary to those of the EU calling for vigilance, in particular when it comes to potential funding of such entities.
- The upcoming Ministerial meeting on the Firearms Action Plans with Western Balkan partners organised by the Commission that will take place in Brussels on 16 May 2023 with the participation of Interior and Foreign Ministers from Members States and the Western Balkans countries.
- The information by the Bulgarian delegation on a Conference on migrant smuggling, which took place in Sofia on 2 February 2023.
- The presentation by the Portuguese delegation of the Conclusions from the EU-MENA Ministerial International Conference, that took place in Lisbon on 13 and 14 February 2023.