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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	9 April 2024
To:	Delegations

Subject:	Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI)
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1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda in CM 2107/24 was adopted.

2. Information provided by the Presidency

The Presidency informed of the state of play of the High-level Group on access to data for effective law enforcement. The last plenary meeting will take place on 21 May. CATS on 22 May and COSI on 29 May will prepare a debate at the JHA Council in June. The Presidency also provided an update regarding the ongoing legislative work in the LEWP-Police on the proposed regulations to fight migrant smuggling and child sexual abuse. The Presidency also informed of a comprehensive mapping exercise of the diverse activities of entities active in the domain of new ways of protesting. Finally, the Presidency informed of the work on the proposed Directive on European Cross-Border Associations launched in the Company Law Working Party. This file has clear implications for internal security, and the Presidency encouraged delegations to contact their counterparts to ensure that the internal security perspective is taken into account.

Discussion items

3. Mapping of the criminal networks that pose the greatest threats to society

Europol gave a presentation on its recently issued report ‘Decoding the EU’s most threatening criminal networks’. For the first time, the report sheds light on the modus operandi of criminal networks that are active in Europe. COSI welcomed the mapping exercise, and considered the findings to be very useful. The Presidency announced its intention to anchor the mapping exercise in the future, and announced its intention to adopt the Council conclusions at the June JHA Council.

4. Cooperation between the EU and the Latin American Committee on Internal Security (CLASI)

COSI prepared the EU-CLASI senior officials meeting (SOM), which will take place in Brussels on 30 and 31 May. Delegations greenlighted both the draft programme for the meeting and the draft working procedures for future meetings. Both documents will be shared with the CLASI partners in preparation for May’s SOM meeting.

5. Administrative approach: Challenges and way forward

The European Union Regional Information Expert Centre (EURIEC) gave a presentation to share its experience in the area of cross-border cooperation and the exchange of administrative information. COSI discussed the necessity to boost the implementation of the administrative approach, including changes in national laws and enhanced operational cooperation. COSI agreed to map the existing tools before asking the Commission to put forward new legislative proposals.

6. The impact of quantum technologies on internal security

During lunch, COSI discussed the impact of quantum technologies on internal security. COSI welcomed the timely discussions on the topic. The Innovation Hub was invited to raise awareness of quantum computing with the support of the respective agencies, and to establish cooperation with industry and academia. Europol was called upon to continue its activities in the area of quantum technologies with the European Clearing Board.

Items for information/endorsement

7. EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security: State of play and way forward

COSI took note of the Hub's reports (annual report 2023, report of the Hub's annual event 2023, and work plan for 2024) and endorsed the Presidency suggestions including, inter alia, regular reporting to COSI, the inclusion of Hub-related activities in JHA agencies' financial programmes and a high-level strategic reflection on the future of EU security research and innovation.

8. Justice and Home Affairs Agencies Network (JHAAN): 2023 activities and 2024 priorities

COSI took note of the annual report of the JHA Agencies Network 2023 and of the Network's priorities for 2024.

9. Items concluded by the COSI Support Group

COSI took note of the items concluded by the COSI Support Group in 7746/24.

10. AOB

At the request of Spain, the COSI Chair explained the process for the appointment of a new Secretary-General of Interpol.

The Netherlands raised a point on the preparations for the implementation of the European Ports Alliance Public Private Partnership and the coordination and interconnections with Council preparatory bodies, in particular COSI.