



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 16 May 2007**

**9369/1/07  
REV 1**

**LIMITE**

**ENFOPOL 85**

**NOTE**

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from: Working Party on Terrorism  
to: Article 36 Committee / COREPER / Council

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No previous doc.: 7261/07 ENFOPOL 40 RESTREINT UE

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Subject: Follow up of policy recommendations on counter terrorism

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1. In doc. 7261/07 ENFOPOL 40 RESTREINT UE, the Presidency suggested establishing a mechanism to ensure that the political recommendations adopted by the Working Party on Terrorism are being put into practice in a more focussed way.
2. Following consultations with delegations it was suggested that the policy recommendations should be contained in a separate document (addendum) to supplement the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism and their implementation be evaluated.
3. At its meeting of 15 May 2007 the Working Party on Terrorism endorsed this approach, which is described in detail in the Annex.
4. The Article 36 Committee is requested to confirm agreement on the approach as set out in the Annex. Subsequently the document will be forwarded to COREPER / Council (JHA Council of 12-13 June 2007) for endorsement.

**A. INTRODUCTION**

1. Since April 2005 SitCen has presented reports to the Working Party on Terrorism. 75 Policy recommendations have been agreed on the base of the reports. An overview of SitCen reports and Policy recommendations is contained in doc. 7261/07 ENFOPOL 40 RESTREINT UE.
2. As explained in doc. 7261/07 the Presidency feels that time has come to consider:
  - How to streamline these recommendations in the EU framework for Combating Terrorism and
  - the drawing up of a mechanism for verifying the implementation of the recommendations.

**B. STREAMLINING OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE EU FRAMEWORK FOR COMBATING TERRORISM**

1. The EU framework for combating terrorism is laid out in the EU Counter Terrorism Strategy with its four pillars of action: prevent – protect – pursue – respond. This structure is reflected in the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism that complements the Strategy listing all relevant measures under those four strands.
2. In Addendum to this document, all policy recommendations have been allocated to the headings and measures of the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism. Through this exercise, all policy recommendations have been streamlined into the general EU counter terrorism policy.

3. The policy recommendations that the Working Party on Terrorism has developed serve as guidelines and concrete proposals for action by the Member States and the European institutions in their counter terrorism efforts. The Presidency and Council Secretariat expect that the streamlining of these recommendations into the structure of the EU Counter Terrorism Strategy and Action Plan broadens the attention that is given to the recommendations and makes them an even more viable instrument for all concerned with combating terrorism in the EU.
4. For reasons of coherence and because of the different nature of classification of the Action Plan and the recommendations, the latter should in the future serve as an *restreint* supplement to the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism. It is proposed to adopt them as addendum to the EU Action Plan on Combating Terrorism at its next revision.
5. The compilation of all policy recommendations in an addendum to the Action Plan will contribute to giving continuous attention to the recommendations and help to better identify the complimentary benefits that the recommendations give to the measures in the Action Plan and vice versa.
6. As is the Action Plan, the addendum containing the policy recommendations should be regularly updated with the new recommendations that have been endorsed and recommendations that have been implemented be deleted. This exercise should be carried out in parallel with the regular update of the Action Plan on Combating Terrorism. In order to ease this update, future policy recommendations should contain a reference to the heading / measure of the Action Plan where they ought to be allocated.

## C. EVALUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In document no 7261/07, the Presidency has laid out that it is important to keep track also of the implementation of the policy recommendations in order to ensure full use of the recommendations' potential.
2. Regarding the evaluation procedure and mechanism, it appears to be important to avoid double work while at the same time provide for a mechanism to ensure that the political recommendations are being put into practice in a concentrated way.
3. The Implementation of the Action Plan on Combating Terrorism is being evaluated on a regular basis<sup>1</sup>. As the policy recommendations now serve as a supplementary addendum to the Action Plan, their implementation should be evaluated together with the Action Plan and the Implementation report be combined.

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<sup>1</sup> EU Counter Terrorism Strategy par. 39 to 41, document no 14469/4/05