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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Law Enforcement Working Party (European Network for the Protection of Public Figures - ENPPF)
No. prev. doc.:	15189/14
Subject:	ENPPF work programme

Introduction

The LEWP at its meeting on 25 June 2014 agreed to set up a working group within the European Network for the Protection of Public Figures (ENPPF), tasked to draw up a work programme for the network considering possible synergies with the European Network of Public Figure Threat Assessment Agencies (ENPFTAA). Delegations were invited to nominate members of the working group by 14 July 2014.

Upon the request of the ENPPF, Europol hosted the first meeting of this working group, which reflected on the work programme for the network and its cooperation with ENPFTAA, CEPOL and Europol. The meeting took place on 30 September 2014 at the Europol Headquarters in the Hague. The meeting was chaired by the ENPPF representative of the Italian Presidency. Experts from LV, EL, DE, RO as well as from Europol and CEPOL attended the meeting.

It was agreed to apply the following structure when drafting the ENPPF work programme:

- mission and vision of the network;
- main objectives;
- strategy;
- elements of the work programme.

State of play

At the ENPPF meeting on 19 November 2014, delegations were informed that the working group had identified seven possible topics for the ENPPF work programme, and the Presidency suggested that seven sub-groups of the working group be created in order to develop proposals for the work programme in relation to each topic. Delegations were invited to nominate experts to be part of these sub-groups by 15 December 2014¹.

Only several Member States expressed their readiness to participate or lead the sub-working groups. Therefore, the working group proposed to combine several sub-working groups as follows:

- General Coordination and Cooperation with ENPFTAA, CEPOL, Europol and Coordination of Working Groups;
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles;
- Mixed Closed Protection Teams and Common Training;
- Information Platform and Secure Communication.

In the opinion of the working group, the work programme should cover a period not exceeding one year. After that, the results achieved should be evaluated, and on the basis of the outcome of such evaluation a new work programme should be drafted.

¹ See 15816/14.

On this basis, the work programme for the ENPPF for 2016 was prepared as set out in the Annex.

Delegations are invited to exchange their views on and approve the proposed work programme.

ENPPF work programme for the period 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016

1. Mission of the ENPPF

As set out in Council Decision 2002/956/JHA of 28 November 2002, setting up a European Network for the Protection of Public Figures as amended by Council Decision 2009/796/JHA of 4 June 2009 (hereinafter "the Council Decision"), the increased travel by public figures within the Union requires a formal channel for communication and consultation between national authorities. This is therefore the mission of the ENPPF.

2. Objectives of the ENPPF

As set out in Article 4 of the Council Decision, the ENPPF has the following objectives:

- (a) promoting the exchange of information between the departments participating in the Network, in particular:
- general and technical information and experience regarding the protection of public figures,
 - information on the most appropriate criteria for selecting and training appropriate staff of the services which are responsible for the protection of public figures;
- (b) promoting the development of a set of common best practices as regards operational activities undertaken by the departments participating in the Network;
- (c) promoting the mutual secondment of officials of the departments participating in the Network;
- (d) allowing the departments participating in the Network to exchange information, communicate and develop common views on:
- procedures and requests for authorisation by the host Member State of the presence in its territory of the protection services of the requesting State accompanying a public figure,

- methods of common action to prevent assaults and attacks, including the way in which officials and resources could be deployed,
 - protocols on the priority to be granted to the protected public figure during movement of delegations,
 - collaboration with relevant law enforcement services and other public departments,
 - recommendations regarding media;
- (e) favouring the exchange, in accordance with the national legislation, of operational information, either through the contact points or by means of direct contacts between the responsible services, as communicated by the contact points, concerning the application of security in cases where the protection of a public figure has to be assured in two or more Member States;
- (f) favouring contacts concerning the application of protection in cases where the protection of public figures has to be assured in two or more Member States between the relevant authorities within the Member States responsible for rendering protection services, either through the contact points or by means of direct contacts between the responsible services, as communicated by the contact points.

3. Actions of the ENPPF to be carried out in 2016

	Topics	Leading MS	Members of the sub-working group	Aims / actions	Timetable
1	General coordination, cooperation with ENPFTAA, CEPOL, Europol and coordination of sub-working groups	Presidency	DE, EL, IT, RO, Europol, CEPOL	1.1. Development of strategic planning and quality management for the ENPPF. 1.2. Coordination of the work of all sub-working groups. 1.3. Evaluation of the possibility of the creation of a common curriculum for training personnel in protecting public figures, offering online training.	Group to organise meetings upon necessity
2	Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV)	DE	FR, HR, LU, HU, Europol	2.1. Summarising information regarding threat caused of the UAV against protected officials in 2015. 2.2. Summarising methods that are used to prevent the possible threat caused by the UAV, evaluation of the efficiency of those methods.	Group to organise meetings upon necessity
3	Mixed closed protection teams and common training	IT	PL, DE, PT, SK, LU, EL, RO, Europol, CEPOL	3.1. Summarising information regarding cooperation of the mixed close protection teams between countries. 3.2. Evaluating the efficiency of the working methods within the mixed close protection teams. 3.3. Identifying the possibilities for common training. 3.4. Collecting information or further developing the Handbook set out in document DS 1534/14 in relation to the training procedures for the personnel qualifying as protection service officers. 3.5. Organising thematic workshops for trainers.	Group to organise meetings upon necessity

4	Information platform and secure communication		PL	4.1. Summary of the available information platforms. 4.2. Evaluation of the appropriate platform (availability, maintenance, efficiency).	Group to organise meetings upon necessity
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3.1. Further information in relation to certain actions

- Action 2: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

A working group, which deals with the topic “Unmanned Aerial Systems” already exists within the Association of Personal Protection Services (APPS). It is chaired by DE with the participation of the Netherlands, Poland, Israel and South Korea. The first meeting of this APPS working group was held on 26-27 March 2015 in Germany.

Almost all ENPPF members are also members of the APPS, so DE will inform the APPS working group about the readiness of the ENPPF members (FR, HR, HU, LU) to deal with this topic to ensure that these experts can be involved in the APPS Working group. It would be beneficial for both networks as it would create synergy effects.

FR, HR, HU, LU would be involved in the preparation of a questionnaire (drafted by DE) about the current situation and the technical and tactical possibilities, which would be sent to all APPS and ENPPF members to gain data for a detailed analysis.

When APPS agrees to this way forward, DE will provide a time schedule for further actions.

- Action 3: Common training

According to Article 4 of Council Decision setting up the ENPPF, one of its objectives is promoting the development of a set of common best practices as regards operational activities undertaken by the departments participating in the Network.

ENPPF should therefore contribute to fostering cooperation via joint trainings and to supporting each other’s possible applications for EU or other funds for training activities, in line with their professional interests.

Member States should also promote, in the framework of mutual cooperation, each other's work by organising conferences, seminars and workshops, thus facilitating the exchange of information and experiences as well as the presentation of each other's procedures aiming at the development of common good practices.

In this regard, Member States should also support each other in the theoretical and practical training of personnel by organising courses.

One of the aims of this action is to collect information or to further develop the Handbook set out in DS 1534/14 in relation to the training procedures for the personnel qualifying as protection service officers, with the purpose of achieving as uniform operational techniques as possible in order to have shared standards in the employment of personnel and facilitate interaction with foreign counterparts during official visits of foreign delegations. To this end, a common "professional Curriculum Vitae" could also be drawn up.

At the same time, the organisation of thematic workshops will be promoted on a regular basis for trainers, also aimed at spreading knowledge of the various training realities at European level, the technological innovations relating to technical equipment and materials and, in particular, at constantly exchanging ideas on the problems emerging in this field.

- Action 4: Information platform and secure communication

Europol will inform ENPPF about the possibilities to communicate via Europol channels.

On the basis of this information further discussions are necessary to agree on the communication channel that would be most suitable for all members of the network.

4. Evaluation of the work programme

The results achieved should be evaluated at the end of 2016, and on that basis a new work programme should be drafted.