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LIMITE

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NOTE

from :	German delegation
to :	Heads of central bodies for public order and security
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Subject :	Special units to guarantee the safety of meetings of the European Council and other comparable events

The citizens of Europe must have the right to assemble in a peaceful manner and to express their opinions freely. Above all, however, they must be able to do so in conditions which do not pose a threat either to their own safety or to the health or property of others.

As shown once again by the events in Göteborg and Genoa, this will be possible only if the Member States of the European Union implement joint and harmonised measures against travelling offenders committing violent acts.

The basis for a common approach has already been created in the form of the "Conclusions of the JHA Council on the safety of the meetings of the European Council and other comparable events" of 13 July 2001. These must be developed further.

To this end, Germany proposes the **creation of common standards for the training and equipment** of existing special units in Member States of the European Union entrusted with the task of ensuring public safety and order. The European Police College is an appropriate platform to draft and implement the concepts required.

In that context, the following should be developed:

A common tactical framework concept to ensure the safety of meetings of the European Council and other comparable events, including a graded response system respecting the principle of proportionality (e.g. separation of troublemakers from peaceful demonstrators).

Requirements imposed on a basic and advanced training programme for the practical management of large-scale (emergency) situations.

These include *inter alia*:

- the institutionalisation of exchanges of experiences;
- continuous analysis and adaptation of the tactical framework concept;
- study trips to locations of large-scale (emergency) situations;
- conduct of joint exercises;
- presentation of national police laws, in particular comparison of intervention rights applicable in the countries in question;
- description of national organisational regimes for protecting the police against threats;
- public relations measures in the context of operations;
- language training.

Proposals for standard equipment with command, control and operational means (e.g. radios, weapons, special devices).

The aim of these measures is to achieve a uniformly high level of training and equipment for the special units.

In addition, the preconditions must be established to enable one Member State to request the support of special units from other Member States and to ensure the safety of large-scale events.

We would also recommend the establishment of advisory bodies composed of both national experts with operational experience in ensuring the safety of large-scale events (in particular in the drafting of situation reports, the analysis of relevant situations and the strategic and tactical planning of operations) and national security experts, who can be convened at the request of the respective host country.
