



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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LIMITE

**CSC 38
CAB 36
PESC 816**

NOTE

From : The General Secretariat
To : Delegations
Subject : NATO unclassified information

Following contacts with the NATO Secretariat in order to clarify the status and handling of NATO unclassified information, delegations are informed that:

- (i) NATO documents which are marked NATO UNCLASSIFIED are released only for official purposes. Therefore, when distributed to delegations, they are not to be made public (unless NATO has given its prior consent);
- (ii) such documents must bear the marking **LIMITE** and are circulated to all delegations without limitations¹ (since they are not within the scope of the EU-NATO Security Agreement and its implementing arrangements);
- (iii) such documents must be handled in accordance with the "need-to-know" principle. It therefore follows that:
 - = the principle of originator control applies regarding the onward release of such documents to any third parties or the general public;
 - = delegations are responsible for ensuring that such documents are distributed only on a strict "need-to-know" basis.

¹ In the event of any extracts of such documents being included, with the consent of the originator, in official Council documents, the sub-code **NUCI** must be added. The handling rules mentioned in point (iii) apply.