



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 13 February 2007

6289/07

LIMITE

CSCI 3

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : Council Security Committee (INFOSEC)
to : COREPER/Council

Subject : **Recommendation to the Council concerning the prolongation of the approval for cryptographic devices to protect electronic links between the EU and NATO/SHAPE and BICES, respectively**

1. To ensure support of EU led military missions, an electronic link has been established between the GSC and NATO/SHAPE. Another electronic link exists between the EU Military Staff and the Battlefield Information Collection and Exploitation Systems (BICES). These links are used to transmit information classified up to SECRET UE.
2. The Council Security Regulations (cf. Part II, Section XI, paragraph 66) require that during transmission the confidentiality of information classified SECRET UE and above be protected by cryptographic devices approved by the Council, on the basis of a recommendation by the Council Security Committee.
3. For reasons of availability and interoperability, EU approved cryptographic devices could yet not be used for the links under consideration. As a consequence, acceptance of nationally/ NATO approved equipment is a prerequisite for the operational continuity of these links.

4. Therefore the Council Security Committee (INFOSEC) recommends that the Council approve the prolongation of the temporary approvals for all cryptographic devices listed at annex to secure the specified links on the understanding that:
 - a. this approval is valid for a period of one year;
 - b. this approval does not create a precedent for future decisions relating to the EU's protection of information classified SECRET UE in electronic form - and, in particular, in relation to the protection of SECRET UE classified information passed electronically within the EU;
 - c. the cryptographic devices shall only be used for the purpose specified;
 - d. the transmission will only cover information classified no higher than SECRET UE.

5. In the annex further information is provided concerning the approving authorities of the cryptographic devices, the Council Minutes that recorded the previous Council approval, and the expiration date of the current approval.

Equipment	Link	Approving Authorities	Current Council Approval	Expiration
BID 950	SHAPE	UK/NATO	CM 638/06	14.02.2007
KG 84	SHAPE	US/NATO	CM 638/06	14.02.2007
KIV 7	SHAPE	US/NATO	CM 638/06	14.02.2007
STU IIB	SHAPE	US/NATO	CM 638/06	14.02.2007
TCE-621	BICES	Norway/NATO	CM 638/06	14.02.2007
