COVER NOTE
from: Presidency
      to: Article 36 Committee
Subject: Report of the ad hoc group for the study of the 3rd pillar information systems

1. Delegations please find in Annex the report of the ad hoc group for the study of the 3rd pillar information systems.

2. The Article 36 Committee is invited to:
   - take note of the aforementioned report;
   - request delegations to provide written comments to the Presidency before 30 June 2003; and
   - ask the ad hoc group to evaluate the written comments and report back to the Article 36 Committee as soon as possible.
I. Introduction

1. [Mandate, Composition of the Group] Following the recommendation of the Article 36 Committee (meeting of 7/8 November 2002), the Greek Presidency has set up an ad hoc expert group to make an inventory and evaluate the existing and planned Information Systems in the fields of Law Enforcement and Judicial Co-operation with a view to identify possible overlaps and/or gaps. The group was composed of representatives of the Council Presidency, Commission (OLAF, JAI), Europol, EuroJust, Council General Secretariat and the relevant Joint Supervisory Authority.

2. [Output] The present paper presents the findings of the group and constitutes the reply to this request.

3. [Scope of Work] The group decided to consider only EU related Information Systems and to avoid discussion on other related systems which are nevertheless of relevance in the Law Enforcement field. These include among others the Interpol Communication and Database System as well as the systems of the World Customs Organisation.

4. [Phases] Work was organised in the following phases: (i) identification of the information systems; (ii) establishment of the relevant system characteristics; (iii) collection of the necessary data for each system; (iv) first attempt for comparison; (v) recommendations for the future.
5. **Definitions** The group has identified two main categories of Information Systems: *Communication Networks* and *Databases*. The former constitute systems for the electronic interchange of information between closed user communities (where data only transits the IT system) whereas the latter provide EU-wide storage facilities implemented as central or distributed database systems available to a specific user group.

6. **Method of work** In the first place, the group gathered information regarding the Information Systems operated in the framework of the Anti-Fraud Information System of the Commission (AFIS), Customs Information System (CIS), Eurodac, Eurojust, Europol, BDL (Bureau de Liaison) and Schengen, for the reference year 2002. On the basis of the information gathered the group produced tables outlining and comparing the existing systems. In a second phase, the group addressed the question of a possible overlaps or gaps.

7. **Comparison Method** The group has identified 11 standard elements that can be used to describe the Information Systems. The group has come to the conclusion that overlaps and gaps may exist in the following areas: *user population, data stored or exchanged through the system, purpose/objectives* of the system. The information in the other elements is either system-specific or non-harmonised and is therefore considered not suitable for direct comparison.

II. **Evaluation – Preliminary Conclusions**

1. **Presentation of Data** Data about the Information Systems under evaluation is presented in three Annexes, in a tabular format to facilitate comparison. The following systems have been considered:
   - *EUROPOL*: Europol Information System (EIS), Europol Index System, Europol Analysis System, Information Exchange (INFOEX), Europol Secure Communication Network (ESCN);
   - *Schengen*: Schengen Information System (SIS, SIRENE);
   - *OLAF*: Anti-Fraud Information System (AFIS), Customs Information System (CIS), including FIDE;
• Eurodac;
• BDL.

Due to time constraints the communication systems were not evaluated in-depth.


5. [Comparability] The working group has identified that the task of comparison between systems is made all the more difficult due to the lack of harmonisation between the information in the tables (e.g. differences in the data classification schemes or operational data).

6. [User population]¹ The legal instruments creating the above-mentioned systems allow that these systems - dependent on the organisation of law enforcement authorities in the Member States - could be used by the same users. Nevertheless in practice the user population may differ and no major problems have been identified by the group in this respect.

7. [Overlap on data]² The type of information seems comparable (e.g. information on persons, vehicles, companies, etc.) but with different level of detail and with no standardisation³.

¹ Do the same end users operate more than one of the systems? If yes, is it to perform the same function?
² Is the same type of information stored in the various database systems? Are the communications networks used to exchange information of the same type?
³ Standardisation concerns the introduction of rules regarding the minimal set of elements and their format required to describe a data object handled by the Information System
8. **[Overlap of purposes]** The general purpose of all the systems is in the field of law enforcement. However each of the systems covers some specific elements of law enforcement. The existence of different systems can be explained by the different actors and their methods used. In this Group a distinction was made between control systems, investigation support systems and analysis (intelligence) systems. Without more detailed investigation the Group is not aware of major difficulties.

9. **[Access rules/data protection]** All Information Systems considered are bound by the respective National and EU Data Protection legislation. At the same time, most legal instruments implement additional rules for securing storage and access to information with a view to protect the rights of citizens. These are currently based on the business-oriented sensitivity of the information exchanged and/or stored. The group has concluded that the harmonisation of the data access and protection rules will be a laborious and lengthy process which is nevertheless a prerequisite to a possible centralisation of all systems.

10. **[Conclusions]** In the light of the above the group concluded that at this moment the overlap between the existing systems is limited. However the existing systems were created in isolation. The Group would like to stress that at this stage unsufficient information is available about the content and actual usage of the systems.

### III. Recommendations

1. **[Options]** The group has identified three possible options for the long-term future of Law Enforcement systems:
   - To merge the existing systems in a single “Union Information System” which will evolve to encompass future system needs in all relevant business areas;
   - To keep the systems independent and allow creation of new systems on the basis of future business needs;

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1. Is the data stored on the database systems protected using the same/similar rules of storage and access control? (consider parameters like maximum retention, authorisation of data introduction, review processes, user access security models, classification of data like secret, confidential, restricted).
To investigate and implement the harmonisation of the data formats and their respective access rules between the various systems while allowing current systems to evolve to provide interoperability\(^1\) between them (middle ground solution).

2. **[Recommendation]** In order to establish the exact technical, financial and legal implications of the three options, further detailed study should be undertaken in a relevant framework, also taking into account - where appropriate - non EU systems used by all Member States.

3. In the meantime regular meetings of the representatives of the organisations responsible for the aforementioned information systems should take place in order to identify problems and to exchange best practices.

**Annexes:**

(I) Existing Database System (SIS, Europol (3 systems), CIS, Eurodac)

(II) Existing Communication Systems (Europol (2 systems), AFIS, BDL)

(III) Planned Systems (FIDE, Eurojust)

\(^1\) Identification of data categories (business objects) and standardisation of data format to be exchanged; harmonisation on the security rules applicable to data access and manipulation; development of standard interfaces allowing the interconnection of systems without human intervention
## ANNEX I - Databases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EIS</th>
<th>Index System</th>
<th>Analysis System</th>
<th>Schengen</th>
<th>EURODAC</th>
<th>CIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Name of System | Europol Information System | Europol Index System | Europol Analysis System | Schengen Information System:  
  - C.SIS: central part (located in Strasbourg)  
  - N.SIS: national part (one in each State: all MS except for IR and UK for the moment, plus Iceland and Norway)  
  SIRENE: Supplementary Information Request at National Entry: one SIRENE office per country, exchanging operational information amongst each other essentially related to the alerts inserted in the SIS | EUROCIS | Customs Information System – CIS |
| 2. Type: Communication / Database | Database System | Database System | Database System | - SIS = database  
- SIRENE: bi- or multilateral communication | Database | Database |
| 3. Legal basis | Europol Convention, articles 6, 7, 8, 9 (OJ C 316 of 1995) | Europol Convention, article 11 | Analytical workfiles: Europol Convention, article 10 | - SIS: Title IV of the 1990 Schengen Convention, covering both 1st and 3rd pillar matters  
- SIRENE: for the moment these Bureaux only have a national legal basis but, subject to the approval of the draft Regulation and Decision on this issue, there will be a "common" legal basis for the SIRENEs, based on Article 66 TEC and Articles 30(1)(a) and (b), 31(a) and (b) and 34(2)(c) TEU | EUROCIS Regulation: Council Regulation (EC) No 2725/2000 of 11.12.2000, published in the European Journal under L316 on 15.12.2000.  
- Regulation 515/97 of 13 March 1997 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the member States and co-operation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs and agricultural matters (Titles V & VI) (OJ L82-22.03.97):  
3<sup>rd</sup> Pillar Instrument: |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EIS</th>
<th>Index System</th>
<th>Analysis System</th>
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<th>EURODAC</th>
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<tr>
<td>4. Technical Management</td>
<td>Europol</td>
<td>Europol</td>
<td>Europol</td>
<td>- C.SIS: France</td>
<td>The European Commission, DG JAI, Unit C.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(EUROPE)</td>
<td>(EUROPE)</td>
<td>(EUROPE)</td>
<td>- N.SIS: Member States</td>
<td>European Antifraud Office (OLAF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Purpose / Objectives</td>
<td>Provide information coming from MS and third States and organisation to enrich the investigations in the MS about criminal organisations, their members and their activities; Enrich the analytical workfiles with the information provided by all MS and third States and organisation</td>
<td>The INDEX system allows authorised users to check whether data contained in the Analysis system concerns their Member State. Only the existence of information is confirmed, the content can only be accessed via the Analysis System.</td>
<td>The analysis system allows the authorised analyst, to store data in different format (documents, multimedia), extract relevant information to feed a database and manipulate the data in such a way that criminal patterns, organisation structure, links between criminals are discovered or confirmed and so that the MS can take appropriate actions to fight that criminal organisation</td>
<td>Originally: flanking measure to the lifting of the internal borders, for IR and UK: exchange of police information</td>
<td>To facilitate the implementation of the “Dublin Convention” and therefore assist in the prevention of multiple asylum applications and. After knowing which Member State (MS) is responsible for an asylum application, the requesting MS may ask the MS where the applicant applied for the first time (MS of concern) for taking back of or taking charge of the person according to the Dublin Convention.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 Which in being replaced by Dublin II Regulation: Council Regulation (EC) N° 343/2003 of 18 February 2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national OJ L 050, 25/02/2003 which has to be implemented by 1st September 2003.
6. **Restriction of Use**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EIS</th>
<th>Index System</th>
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<th>Schengen</th>
<th>EURODAC</th>
<th>CIS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restriction of use depending on the profile and the role of the user, the prerequisite of a training</td>
<td>Only Liaison Officers, and Europol officials have access to that system</td>
<td>System is only used when an analytical work file is officially open. Only the authorised analyst has access to the file. Report is made available to the participants</td>
<td>(cf. article 92 of the Schengen Convention) - provide access to the relevant authorities to alerts on persons and objects - for the purposes of border checks and other police and customs checks - and, concerning the alerts issued with a view to refusing a third country national entry to the territory, for the purposes of issuing visas, residence permits and the administration of legislation on aliens</td>
<td>Storage and retrieval of data in or from the central EURODAC database only for the purpose of fulfilling the Dublin Convention.</td>
<td>Storage of information in order to perform one the following actions • Sighting and reporting; • Discreet surveillance; • Specific checks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. **Type of information**

| - Names, date and place of birth, nationality, sex, other characteristics only where necessary for identification; - Details on • criminal events, • means to commit crimes, • filing references & details on the competent national police department handling the case, • Criminal organisation Euro counterfeiting | Allows queries on main data types of the Analytical system, such as identities, in order to detect whether the subject of the query is included in an analytical workfile. Depending on the settings on that particular data, the answer is sent back to the requestor or to the analyst in charge | Basically, any type of information can be stored in this system, depending on the nature of the criminal activities of the targeted organisation. | - persons • wanted for arrest for extradition purposes (Art. 95) • to be refused entry to the territory (Art. 96) • that are missing (and need to be placed under protection) (Art. 97) • summoned to appear before the judicial authorities, including witnesses, or to be served with a criminal judgement or to serve a penalty (Art. 98) • to be subject to a discreet surveillance or a specific check (Art. 99) - information on a person that can be included in the SIS (cf. Art. 94): name and forenames, aliases, objective physical characteristics, date & place of birth, sex, nationality, information on whether they are armed or violent (and in future whether they have escaped), reason for the alert (in future for Art. 95 alerts also the type of offence) and the action that needs to be taken when the person is found | Storage of data listed in Art. 5 of the EURODAC Regulation, which is basically MS reference number, date of application/apprehension, place of application/apprehension, date of fingerprinting, sex, date/time of the submission. The concerned categories are: – Asylum applicants (Art. 4 EURODAC Regulation) – “Irregular border crossings” (Art. 8 EURODAC Regulation) | CIS 1P (Customs, Taxation, Agriculture, Coastguard, Public health): Storage of information related to the categories “commodities”, “means of transport”, “company”, “persons”. CIS 3P (Customs, Police, Coastguard): Storage of information related to the categories “commodities”, “means of transport”, “company”, “persons”. |

- **Storage of information in or from the central EURODAC database only for the purpose of fulfilling the Dublin Convention.**

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**CIS**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>EIS</th>
<th>Index System</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>- objects:</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>- vehicles (and in future also boats, aircraft and containers) to be subject to a discreet surveillance or a specific check (Art. 99)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>- vehicles, firearms, (issued and blank) official documents and banknotes (and in future also securities and means of payment) to be seized or used as evidence in criminal proceedings (Art. 100)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

8. Users

- Authorised Europol Officials, MS National Units and Liaison Officers
- Authorised Europol officials, Liaison Officers
- Authorised Europol Analysts
- authorities responsible for border, police and customs checks → all police forces, border and customs authorities; sometimes also judicial authorities, depending on their national competencies
- (limited to Article 96 alerts) authorities responsible for issuing visas, residence permits and administration of legislation on aliens → diplomatic and consular posts, consular authorities, aliens' offices, immigration authorities, asylum authorities
- geographical coverage: Member States minus the United Kingdom and Ireland but including Norway and Iceland
- Asylum authorities
- Immigration services
- Police and border control (as far as they are in charge related to asylum and immigration procedures)

9. Classification level: top secret / secret / confidential / restricted / Other

- In the current implementation: up to confidential information
- In the current implementation: up to confidential information
- In the current implementation: up to confidential information
- no clear classification level decided "police-sensitive"

10. Operational data

- Currently only counterfeiting of Euro Currency is Operational data: 250,000 objects
- Number of file in 2002: 15, number of objects: 250,000
- number of alerts as on 5 March 2003:
  - wanted persons: 877,655 in total
- Registered users: unknown (several hundred)
- EURODAC Central Unit has Registered Users: 2287
- Participating Countries: 15
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EIS</th>
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<th>EURODAC</th>
<th>CIS</th>
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<tr>
<td>stored in the EIS. At the end of February 2002, there were 1002 Criminal Offences stored and 770 person objects</td>
<td></td>
<td>(+ 386 402 aliases), of which 14 023 for Art. 95; 780 992 for Art. 96; 32 211 for Art. 97; 34 413 for Art. 98 and 16 016 for Art. 99</td>
<td>only one technical contact point in each participating country. MS are responsible for their users and are not obliged to send the user information based on a single user basis. The European Commission is supplied with a list of Authorities who have access to the data. (Article 15 (1)EURODAC Regulation)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Records introduced in 2002: 0 (in operational phase from 24 March 2003)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>vehicles: 1 121 901</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>issued documents: 7 772 358</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>blank documents: 268 102</td>
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<td>firearms: 304 762</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>banknotes: 360 715</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number of users: unknown</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number of terminals through which the N.SISes can be consulted (approx. !!!): 125 000 (cf. document 6739/02 EU CONFIDENTIAL)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number of hits: in 2001, approx. 35 000 (cf. document 12150/1/02)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SIRENE communication: no figures available but the volume of communication depends largely on number of hits and number of new Article 95 alerts</td>
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</table>

Participating countries:
- All EU Member States except Denmark for the moment
- Norway and Iceland
- Ongoing negotiations with Switzerland
- 10 Acceding Countries from 1.5.2004

Records introduced:
EURODAC started operational work only on 15.1.2003. The first experience shows that the daily input is approximately 1 000-1 500 cases.

Based on available statistics provided by MS prior to launch, the system is designed to deal with 400 000 asylum cases (Art.4 EURODAC Regulation) per year, 400 000 Art.8 cases and another 400 000 Art.11 cases per year. The maximum peak load capability is 7 500 transactions/day.
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<th>CIS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11. Costs</td>
<td>Current price € 8 M</td>
<td>Internal Development: 0.8 FTE</td>
<td>Internal Development: 4 FTE, 1 M €</td>
<td>Annual maintenance and operational cost (2002): 2 M€</td>
<td>EURODAC implementation to date has been 4 M€ and it is expected that annual running costs will be in the region of 1 M€.</td>
<td>Annual corrective maintenance and operational Cost (2002): 1.1 M€</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### ANNEX II - Communication Networks

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<tr>
<th>ESCN</th>
<th>AFIS</th>
<th>INFOEX / Liaison network</th>
<th>BDL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Name of System</strong></td>
<td>Europol Secure Communication Network</td>
<td>Anti-Fraud Information System – AFIS</td>
<td>Europol INFOEX / Liaison network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Type : Communication / Database</strong></td>
<td>Communication Network</td>
<td>Communication Network</td>
<td>Database System</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3. **Legal basis** | Europol Convention | **1st Pillar Instrument:**  
- Regulation 515/97 of 13 March 1997 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the member States and co-operation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs and agricultural matters (Titles I-IV) (OJ L82-22.03.97);  
- Regulation 595/91 of 4 March 1991 concerning irregularities and the recovery of sums wrongly paid in connection with the financing of the CAP;  
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1681/94 of 11 July 1994 concerning irregularities and the recovery of sums wrongly paid in connection with the financing of the structural policies and the organisation of an information system in this field;  
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1831/94 of 26 July 1994 concerning irregularities and the recovery of sums wrongly paid in connection with the financing of the Cohesion Fund and the organisation of an information system in this field;  
- Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1150/2000 of 22 May 2000 implementing Decision 94/728/EC, Euratom on the system of the Communities' own resources;  
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1469/95 of 22 June 1995 on measures to be taken with regard to certain beneficiaries of operations financed by the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF;  

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**3rd Pillar Instrument:**  
- Convention of 18.12.97 on mutual assistance and co-operation
<table>
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<tr>
<th>ESCN</th>
<th>AFIS</th>
<th>INFOEX / Liaison network</th>
<th>BDL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Technical management</td>
<td>Europol</td>
<td>European Antifraud Office (OLAF)</td>
<td>Europol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Objectives</td>
<td>Technical infrastructure to support • Encrypted exchange of data and voice between Europol and the National units • Encrypted exchange of data and voice between the liaison offices in Europol and their National Unit. • Queries from all users who might be of the EIS, input into the EIS Connection of ELO to their national systems where applicable</td>
<td>To assist in preventing, investigating and prosecuting operations which are in breach of customs legislation by increasing, through more rapid dissemination of information, the effectiveness of the co-operation and control procedures of the competent authorities.</td>
<td>In order to meet the needs of the liaison desks and Europol in the exchange of information between National Units and between National Units and Europol, to provide with workflow capability in order to facilitate the electronic exchange/dissemination of information amongst ELO’s and other Serious Crime units. This tool will, in its evolution, make usage of Document Management System capability (DMS) to stronger support exchange amongst parties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Restriction of use</td>
<td>No restriction of use</td>
<td>Exchange of information between partners of a close user group</td>
<td>System is only used for the exchange of operational information between Liaison Desks, Liaison desk and Europol Officials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESCN</td>
<td>AFIS</td>
<td>INFOEX / Liaison network</td>
<td>BDL</td>
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</table>
|      | **Customs Information System (AFIS-Mail):** European central database for specific controls [Customs, Agriculture]  
**EAGGF Guarantees (595):** Irregularities based on Reg 595/91 [Agriculture]  
**Structural Funds (1681):** Irregularities based on Regulation 1681/94  
**Cohesion Fund (1831):** Irregularities based on Regulation 1831/94  
**Mutual Information System (MIS):** Refund control for meat export to Russia [Customs]  
**Administration/ Management (AFIS-Mail):** Management of the national AFIS/CIS User community [Network Liaison Officers] | | |
| 8. **Users** | Europol, MS National Units, Liaison Officers of Europol in non EU countries and organisation (USA, INTERPOL), Other partners (centre de traduction…). In addition, a separate network is used for the transfer of information with the National Unit of the non EU countries with which a bilateral operational agreement has been signed. | Administrations:  
- Customs  
- Agriculture  
- Coastguard  
- Police,  
- Public Health.  
**Geographical Coverage:** 15 Member States, NO, CH, MT, CY, EE, LT, PL, LV, CZ, PL, HU, BG, CI, GI, RU | Currently authorised Europol officials, Liaison Officers. Later this group is likely to include Member States National Units and potentially other Europol partners.  
In principle one contact point for each Member State and the European Commission (usually Ministries of Justice, Interior or the Police) |
| 9. **Classification level:** top secret / secret / confidential / restricted / Other | In the current implementation: up to confidential information | Restricted | In the current implementation: up to confidential information  
up to secret information |
| 10. **Information on usage** | No measurement available | Registered Users: 3823  
Participating Countries: 30  
Registered Mailboxes (Services): 883  
Messages exchanged in 2002 per domain:  
**Domain** | Messages | Vol(MB) |
| AFIS Mail (generic) | 328,982 | 38.833 |
| Early Warning System Customs | 285,984 | 219 |
| Maritime Information | 63,190 | 311 |
| Early Warning System Excises | 47,365 | 82 |
| Cigarette Seizure Information | 7,949 | 14 |
| Regulation 595/91 | 21,121 | 54 |
| In 2002:  
New cases: 3413  
Number requests: 16824  
Number Answers: 18324. | | On average 500 interactions per month |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ESCN</th>
<th>AFIS</th>
<th>INFOEX / Liaison network</th>
<th>BDL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation 1681/94</td>
<td>17.301 52</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation 1831/94</td>
<td>14 0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Customs Information System (1P)</td>
<td>191 0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Customs Information System (3P)</td>
<td>290 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maritime Surveillance (OCU)</td>
<td>13.970 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>786.357</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,584</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. **Cost**

Running cost € 2 M a year

Annual corrective maintenance and operational Cost (2002):

1.4M€

Internal Development : 1,5 FTE

Running costs are minimal
### ANNEX III - Information systems presently being developed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIDE</th>
<th>EUROJUST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Name of System</strong></td>
<td>Customs Files Identification Database – FIDE</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. Type:</strong></td>
<td>Database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication / Database</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3. Legal basis</strong></td>
<td><strong>1st Pillar Instrument:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Forthcoming Commission proposal for a Council Regulation amending the Regulation 515/97 of 13 March 1997 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the member States and co-operation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs and agricultural matters (Titles V &amp; VI);</td>
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<td><strong>3rd Pillar Instrument:</strong></td>
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<td>• Protocol amending, as regards the creation of a customs files identification database, the Convention of 26.7.95 on the use of information technology for customs purposes (to be signed on 8 May 2003).</td>
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<td><strong>4. Technical management</strong></td>
<td>European Antifraud Office (OLAF)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5. Objectives</strong></td>
<td>To assist in preventing, investigating and prosecuting operations which are in breach of customs legislation by increasing, through more rapid dissemination of information, the effectiveness of the co-operation and control procedures of the competent authorities.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Eurojust intends to build an ICT system which will facilitate the handling of cases transferred to it. A secure communication network will be put in place so that the exchange of information and cooperation in the judicial field can become more effective. Eurojust is currently reviewing its possibilities in this field in order to determine the most appropriate solution of which it can avail. In accordance with Article 26 (2) (b) of the Eurojust decision, the European Judicial Network shall also be provided with a secured network to facilitate the performance of its tasks.
### FIDE

**6 Restriction of use**
The aim of the customs files identification database shall be to enable the national authorities responsible for carrying out customs investigations designated pursuant, when opening a file on or investigating one or more persons or businesses, in order, through information on the existence of investigation files, to identify competent authorities of other Member States which are investigating or have investigated those persons or businesses.

**7. Type of information**
CIS 1P (Customs, Taxation, Agriculture, Coastguard, Public health): Storage of information related to the categories “company” or “persons”.
CIS 3P (Customs, Police, Coastguard): Storage of information related to the categories “company” or “persons”.

**8. Users**
**Administrations:**
* CIS 1P
  - Community Customs legislation: Customs, Taxation, Coastguard
  - Agriculture legislation: Customs, Agriculture.
  - Precursors (drugs) legislation: Customs, Police, Public Health
* CIS 3P
  - National Customs legislation: Customs, Taxation, Coastguard, Police

**Geographical Coverage:** 15 Member States

**9. Classification level:**
- top secret / secret / confidential / restricted / Other
  - Restricted

**10. Information on usage**
- Registered Users: -----
- Participating Countries: 15
- Records introduced in 2002: 0 (not yet in operational phase)

**11. Cost**
- Annual corrective maintenance and operational Cost (2002): ---- M€ (not yet in operational phase)