



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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LIMITE

**COSI 7
ENFOPOL 20**

NOTE

from: Presidency
to: JHA Counsellors / COSI Support Group
Standing Committee on operational cooperation on internal security (COSI)

Subject: Draft Council Conclusions on strengthening the internal security authorities' involvement in security-related research and industrial policy

Delegations will find in Annex draft Council Conclusions on strengthening the internal security authorities' involvement in security-related research and industrial policy to be discussed at the next meeting of the JHA Counsellors/COSI Support Group.

Draft Council Conclusions
on strengthening the internal security authorities' involvement in security-related research
and industrial policy

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

RECALLING the Internal Security Strategy¹ which contained a commitment to innovation as one of the strategic guidelines for action and underlined the need *to work together to promote and develop new technologies through a common approach as well as cutting costs and increasing efficiency. In the field of technology, it is also important for the public and private sectors to work together. Building upon the outcome of research and development projects conducted under the Joint Research and Development Programme, the EU should develop technological standards and platforms tailored to its security needs,*

NOTING that the threats to the EU's security are constantly evolving and that crime is increasingly diversified which requires the law enforcement community to be proficient,

RECOGNISING the importance of using modern and adequate technologies in the field of internal security which necessitates an increased involvement of internal security authorities in research and a proactive involvement with suppliers of modern security technologies,

RECALLING the Commission's Communication "Security Industrial policy - Action Plan for an innovative and competitive Security Industry"² which aims at overcoming market fragmentation, reducing the gap from research to market, in particular by using tools such as pre-commercial procurement, and better integrating the societal dimension,

RECOGNISING the importance of the European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services³ (ENLETS) which was set up in 2008 under the French Presidency of the Council with the aim of gathering user requirements, scanning and raising awareness of new technology and best practices, benchmarking and giving advice,

¹ Doc. 7120/10

² Doc. 13050/12

³ Doc. 5629/08

UNDERLINING that the ENLETS if properly supported could become a leading European platform for strengthening the internal security authorities' involvement in security-related research and industrial policy and bridging the gap between the users and providers of law enforcement technologies,

ACKNOWLEDGING that Member States should increase their support to the ENLETS as also mentioned by the Counter-Terrorism Coordinator in the EU - Counter Terrorism strategy discussion paper,

CONSCIOUS that not all Member States have set up a service within their internal security authorities that is dedicated to the research and development of security related issues, and that the JHA Agencies within the terms of their mandate have developed different approaches to research and development,

WELCOMING the realisations by Frontex in the field of research and development, notably in the framework of the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR) project, and the creation by Europol of the Europol Platform of Experts (EPE),

CONSIDERING that pooling EU resources into an "security technology foresight function" could increase the EU's visibility towards the technology and lead to important cost savings,

BEARING IN MIND that the FP7⁴ Security theme was allocated a budget of EUR 1.4 billion for the period 2007-2013 and that the Member States' internal security authorities could contribute to enhancing an effective use of the available funds,

⁴ the 7th EU Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP 7)

CONCLUDES that it is necessary to create an internal security technology foresight function in order to ensure a better and effective involvement of the internal security authorities and better foresight on emerging technologies, which would have the following tasks,

- serve as the central contact point for the Member States' services,
- serve as the central contact point for the Commission's relevant services and technology suppliers,
- closely cooperate with Frontex and Europol as well as with [Joint Research Centre and] other relevant Commission services,
- monitor closely the development of new technologies and ensure an proactive involvement with research institutes and industry,
- meet regularly to discuss the user needs and prepare proposals and joint initiatives for the ENLETS meeting,
- develop an EU overview of the internal security authorities' needs for the research institutes and industry,
- spread innovative ideas and projects in the Member States and Agencies,
- compile a compendium of the accumulated knowledge, experiences and best practices of Member States and JHA Agencies in this field,
- explore funding opportunities and use ENLETS to ensure that internal security authorities follow-them up on cooperation with research and industry,
- regularly report on its activities to the ENLETS

INVITES

OPTION 1

- at least 5 Member States to dedicate the necessary resources to support the foresight function and deliver the above-mentioned tasks⁵.

⁵ In this model, the foresight function would replace the ENLETS Core Group. This group would be reinforced and get sufficient resources to carry out all the tasks expected from the foresight function as described above. It would be similar to the "think tank" that exists for the network of football/major events experts.

OPTION 2

- the Commission to set up the foresight function [within its services] [within the JRC]
- Member States to second experts to the foresight function

INVITES THE MEMBER STATES:

- to join the ENLETS network as far as they have not yet done so, and to nominate a National Contact Point (NCP) to the ENLETS network with the necessary competences, resources and knowledge,
- to request access for their NCPs to the Europol Platform for Experts which would serve as a platform for the dissemination of information concerning new technologies,
- to ensure a close coordination between the Heads of Delegation of the Law Enforcement Working Party, COSI and ENLETS,
- to promote further the use of the ENLETS network both nationally and internationally,
- to intensify the co-operation between public authorities and the private sector.

INVITES THE COMMISSION:

- to consider the organisation of a regular conference between the law enforcement community, the Commission Services and the technology suppliers,
- to devote the necessary resources to the relevant services dealing with security-related research and industrial policy and attract attention of services to engage with several national authorities,
- to enhance the use of the "pre commercial procurement" instrument and to devote the necessary security research budget to this instrument.

INVITES THE AGENCIES

- to participate in the activities of the foresight function.
