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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
On: 28 September 2018
To: Delegations

Subject: Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security
(COSI)

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda as set out in CM 4202/1/18 REV 1 was adopted.

2. Information from the Presidency

The Presidency informed COSI about some of the meetings and events that have taken place since July, e.g. the Informal meeting of JHA ministers in Innsbruck (12 July 2018), the Ministerial Conference “Security and Migration – Promoting Partnership and Resilience” with the WB and Africa partners (Vienna, 13-14 September 2018). The European Police Chiefs Convention and Customs Director Generals meeting (the Hague, 26 - 27 September 2018) included a joint session of the two communities with a view to creating further opportunities for cooperation. The Police Chief Convention was also instrumental in facilitating bilateral contacts with strategic partners with more than 60 delegations attending the event. The Presidency also informed about the preparations for the next EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs (Tirana, 4-5 October 2018).

3. Implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy: joint Presidency paper¹

12009/1/18 REV 1

The Committee took note of the joint Presidency paper on the implementation of the Renewed ISS, as set out in 12009/1/18 REV 1. In line with the Council conclusions of 12 October 2017 on the mid-term review of the Renewed Internal Security Strategy² (13319/17) the paper has a new format with a structure based on priorities, on the planning and implementation of the renewed EU Internal Security Strategy for the first and second half of 2018. The need to adopt the proposals on interoperability, terrorist content online, explosives precursors and e-Evidence before the end of the legislative term of the European Parliament was underlined.

4. EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime/EMPACT

4.1. 2018 EU Policy Cycle funding: state of play

Europol briefed the Committee on the implementation of the 2018 EU Policy Cycle budget with reference to the 'three streams' of funding (high value grants, low value grants and EMPACT meetings organised by Europol) (11975/1/18 REV1.). There is a high implementation rate in relation to the use of low value grants, however the average implementation rate for the High Value Grants in 2018 is currently at 22 %. It was recalled that there is also a possibility to transfer the unallocated funds from the high-value grants to the overall envelope available for the low-value grants, thus increasing the operational support for all OAPs. Member States were encouraged to engage proactively in maximising the use of available funds.

4.2. 2019 EU Policy Cycle budget: strategic guidance on proposed allocation of funding

11497/2/18 REV 2

COSI confirmed the distribution of 2019 EU Policy Cycle budget, between the two types of grants, i.e. EUR 3 million for the high-value grants and EUR 1 million for the low-value grants.

¹ Exceptionally in the presence of the Schengen Associated States.

² 13319/17

Furthermore, with regard to the distribution of high value grants in 2019, the enhanced support provided for the OAPs Cannabis, Cocaine, Heroin and Facilitation of Illegal Immigration will continue, i.e. EUR 400,000 for each of the 2 OAPs and EUR 200,000 for each of the remaining eleven OAPs.

Specific criteria, e.g. political priority, implementation rate, operational needs and results should be taken into account when deciding on providing enhanced funding for certain OAPs.

In order to keep a clear perspective of the funding distribution and expenditure, Europol will present a state of play to COSI every June so that funds may be reallocated within the two types of grants.

Before the NEC meeting (scheduled in November), the Presidency, together with the Commission, Europol and interested Member States will seek to clarify the issue on availability of meeting rooms for operational meetings in Europol raised by some delegations.

4.3. Recommendations of the ad-hoc expert group on funding

12417/18, 11473/18, 12010/18

COSI endorsed the short term recommendations of the ad hoc expert group on funding established under the NEC auspices in April 2018, as set out in 11473/18. Some of these recommendations are already reflected in the proposed allocation of EU Policy Cycle funding in 2019. Work on the mid- and long-term recommendations, as set out in 12010/18 will continue in the expert group and a report will be presented to COSI in a future meeting.

4.4. Other items

The Committee took note of the items concluded at COSI SG on 17 September 2018, as set out in WK 11086/2018.

5. Strengthening European police cooperation and police training

5.1. Migrant Smuggling: follow-up on the informal COSI and informal JHA ministerial meetings in July 2018

12267/18, 12383/18

In a follow up to the discussions at the informal meetings of COSI and the Justice and Home affairs Ministers in July and further to the leaders discussion at their informal meeting in Salzburg on 19-20 September 2018, the Committee held a first exchange of views on the 10 specific action points put forward by Europol, as set out in 10944/18 and further specified in 12383/18, as well as on the model of the Joint Operational Office in Vienna.

Taking into account the outcome of the discussion, work will continue with a view to presenting a set of concrete actionable measures for an enhanced response to migrant smuggling at the next COSI meeting in November and submitting it for endorsement to the Council in December.

Delegations were invited to submit written contributions by 10 October 2018 in this context.

5.2. Community Policing

- **Presentation of the joint activities by CEPOL and EUCPN in implementing the community policing initiative of the Austrian Presidency**

12088/18

CEPOL and EUCPN presented the state of play of their activities regarding the Presidency initiative on community policing. They have taken a joint action approach to facilitate the collection and analysis of best community policing practices with a deadline for contributions by the member states by 12 October 2018. A joint handbook/toolbox of best practices will be prepared on that basis. An analytical paper on the use of community policing in the Member States, including an applicable legislative and policy framework will also be developed.

5.3. Integrated training

- Presentation of a joint FR/ES project on “Law Enforcement Agencies Integrated Training”

12412/18

COSI took note of the joint project of integrated training of Police academy cadets run by the French Gendarmerie and the Spanish Guardia Civil. Delegations welcomed the initiative. The possibility to develop this model at EU level, including by EU financing support should be considered. CEPOL involvement as soon as possible was encouraged.

6. AOB

The Presidency presented a summary of the findings at the Expert conference: "Enhancing Synergies: Military Assistance to Civilian Institutions" that took place on 10 July 2018 in Vienna.

Further to the adoption by the Council on 4 June 2018 of the negotiating mandates for Agreements between the EU and eight countries³ for exchange of information of personal data with Europol, the Commission informed COSI that the first round of negotiations with Turkey and Israel should take place in the coming months. Negotiations will gradually open with the remaining six countries.

³ Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey and Israel