

7406/97

LIMITE

PV/CONS 21

JAI 13

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES (\*)**

**of the 2002nd meeting of the Council  
(JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS)**

held in Luxembourg on Thursday 28 April 1997

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(\*) **Information concerning the final adoption of Council acts released to the public is given in Addendum 1 to these minutes.**

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1. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**  
Doc. 7647/97 OJ/CONS 21 JAI 18

The Council approved the agenda as set out in doc. 7647/97 OJ/CONS 21 JAI 18

2. **APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF "A" ITEMS**  
Docs 7652/97 PTS A 20 + ADD 1

The Council adopted the "A" items as listed in 7652/97 PTS A 20 + ADD 1.

Information concerning item 4 on the list is given in Addendum 1 to these minutes.

3. **REPORT BY THE HIGH-LEVEL GROUP ON ORGANIZED CRIME TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL**  
Docs 7482/2/97 JAI 15 REV 2  
7421/97 JAI 14

The Presidency explained that the report of the High Level Group would constitute the basis for a European response to fight organized crime. It would be submitted for approval to the European Council and the Council (JHA) would need to take account of the report in the future implementation of the multi-annual work programme. Such implementation would also take account of the conclusions of the Dublin European Council.

Delegations warmly congratulated the Presidency for the excellent work which had been carried out by the High Level Group. In general, the report constitutes a good basis for future work to fight organized crime in the Union.

Certain amendments to the conclusions of the Council were proposed and accepted (see doc. 7482/3/97 JAI 15 REV 3).

The Italian Minister of Justice reminded his colleagues of the importance of being able to use structural funds in regions which are particularly touched by organized crime and of preventing offshore institutions from being used by organized crime.

The United Kingdom Minister of State reminded her colleagues that the United Kingdom had accepted the report of the High Level Group on the understanding that the conspiracy offence in the United Kingdom would be covered by the participation offence foreseen in political guideline No 1 of the Plan of Action.

The French Minister reminded his colleagues of the importance of implementing in particular the extradition conventions, the Joint Actions on Racism and Xenophobia, on trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation and on approximation of drugs legislation.

#### 4. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No items were raised under "Other business".