Council Decision
of 6 December 2001
extending Europol’s mandate to deal with the serious forms of international crime listed in the
Annex to the Europol Convention
(2001/C 362/01)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Convention on the establishment of a
European Police Office (Europol Convention) (1), and in
particular Article 2(2) thereof,

Having regard to the initiative of the Kingdom of Belgium and
the Kingdom of Sweden (2),

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament (3),

Having regard to the preparatory work on this issue performed
by the Europol Board, in particular regarding the budgetary
and staffing implications for Europol,

Whereas:

(1) One of the Union’s objectives is to provide citizens with a
high level of safety within an area of freedom, security and
justice by developing common action among the Member
States in the fields of police cooperation.

(2) The effectiveness of the cooperation within the framework
of the Europol Convention would be enhanced if Europol,
within certain prioritised areas, could perform its tasks in
respect of all aspects of international organised crime listed
in the Annex to the Europol Convention.

(3) Prioritised areas should be defined on the basis of the
continuous collection of data on trends in crime in the
territories of the Member States.

(4) This Decision is without prejudice to the respective roles of
the Commission and the European Central Bank.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Europol is hereby instructed to deal with the serious forms of
international crime listed in the Annex to the Europol
Convention.

Article 2
1. On a proposal from the Europol Management Board, the
Council shall unanimously lay down which serious forms of
international crime are to be given priority.

2. The Director shall regularly update the Europol
Management Board on the implementation of these priorities.

3. The general report on Europol’s activities referred to in
Article 28(10), first subparagraph, point 1 of the Europol
Convention shall make explicit reference to, and reflect, these
priorities and their implementation.

Article 3
1. This Decision shall take effect on 1 January 2002.

2. As from 1 January 2002, the Council Decision of 29
April 1999 extending Europol’s mandate to deal with forgery
of money and means of payment (4) shall be repealed.

Article 4

This Decision shall be published in the Official Journal of the
European Communities.

Done at Brussels, 6 December 2001.

For the Council
The President
M. VERWILGHEN

(3) Opinion delivered on 12 November 2001, not yet published in the
Official Journal.
(4) OJ C 149, 28.5.1999, p. 16,