

## CYPRUS

### **Written comments by Cyprus concerning the proposed revision of the Europol Regulation (EU) 2016/794 (Blocks 5 & 7):**

Cyprus in general supports the proposed amendments which are clearly aiming to strengthen the mandate of EUROPOL.

#### Article 6

However, Cyprus believes that there is no need for the proposed amendment of Article 6, since the existing form responds to the mandate of Europol. Europol's role is, and must continue to be a supporting Agency to the Member States and their Competent Authorities.

#### Article 25

Cyprus agrees with the amendments on Article 25. However, the Regulation of Europol must ensure that all data will be transferred to Third Countries, after the written approval of the country which is the owner of the information, in each case of transfer. Also, Cyprus strongly believes that the information should be transferred to Third Countries that are directly related with the case and their contribution is required for purposes of preventing and combating crime such as terrorism and organized crime that affect the interests of the European Union.