

12688/04

LIMITE

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TRANSLATION PROVIDED BY PRESIDENCY

NOTE

from : Presidency

Subject : Internal Security Committee

Objective

The coordination of operational activities by law enforcement agencies must be ensured by a standing committee. This will guarantee that the strategic priorities set by the Council in the light of analyses by Europol, SITCEN and/or EBA are actually implemented.

Measures

1. Coordination of operational cooperation concerning the internal security of the Union and the coherence of action by the relevant services and organisations needs to be improved. In this connection, preparations for the establishment of the Internal Security Committee referred to in Article III-261 (formerly Article III-162) of the constitutional treaty will commence from 1 January 2005 onwards, so that the Committee can become operational as soon as the treaty enters into force.
2. Until the Internal Security Committee becomes operational, there will be a joint meeting every six months between the chairpersons of the Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA) and the Article 36 Committee (CATS) and a representative

of the Commission, Europol, Eurojust, the EBA, the Police Chiefs' Task Force, the CTG and a working group to be established on internal crisis management.

Propositions

1. The Council will have to be able to adopt the rules of procedure of the Internal Security Committee, specifying its field of activity, its tasks and competences and its composition, as soon as the constitutional treaty enters into force, so that the Committee can become operational without delay.
2. In order to encourage some form of integrated operational cooperation in the coming period, the chairpersons of the bodies that now help to prepare meetings of the JHA Council in the fields covered by Title IV of the EC Treaty and Title VI of the Treaty on European Union will meet twice a year to examine how the strategic internal security priorities set by the Council can be effectively implemented.
