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THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**LIMITE**

**JAI           1  
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**NOTE**

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from :            Presidency

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Subject :        JHA External Relations Multi-Presidency Work Programme

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**I. Introduction and priorities under the German Presidency**

Justice and Home affairs policy is taking on an ever broader dimension in the external relations of the EU. This is reflected in the steadily growing importance of this policy area within the EU. The EU has set itself the goal of creating an area of freedom, security and justice for its citizens. The EU can only accomplish this comprehensive goal in close world-wide cooperation with third countries, among others especially with the United States of America, Russia and the EU's neighbouring countries. As such, it is a matter of jointly confronting security threats and of strengthening freedom and justice to the benefit of European citizens. The fundamental principles observed in this process and suitable means and mechanisms are explained in detail in the "Strategy for the External Dimension of Justice and Home Affairs: Global Freedom, Security and Justice" which was adopted by the Council in December 2005. The German EU Presidency will seek to gain support for the implementation of the action plans drawn up as part of the strategy.

The neighbouring countries to which the EU is closely linked in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) are of special importance. The action plans agreed as part of the ENP provide for comprehensive cooperation in the area of justice and home affairs. It is an important objective, on the one hand, to enhance the EU's and the Member States' actions and on the other to support institutions and develop capacities in the partner countries. The German Presidency will resolutely support this medium and long-term goal and, overall, will make it a priority to implement the measures that have already been agreed. The greater financial support provided through the new European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) will make it easier to do so.

The German Presidency will map out ways of further developing and intensifying the ENP including proposals on how cooperation in justice and home affairs can be stepped up. Cooperation in justice and home affairs is particularly advanced with the countries that have a common border with EU countries. The offer to further develop the ENP is aimed at all neighbouring countries, a political focus of the German Presidency being Eastern ENP countries (Eastern Europe and the Southern Caucasus).

### **The strategy for the external dimension of the JHA policy**

In December 2006, the Council welcomed the reports on the implementation of the strategy for the External Dimension of JHA: Global Freedom, Security and Justice presented by Commission and the Council Secretariat. Despite the short reporting period since the adoption of the strategy in December 2005, the reports stated overall positive and steady progress across topics and regions. The German Presidency agrees with the conclusion of the report that the thematic and geographical priorities set out in the strategy remain valid for the immediate future. As the cooperation with third countries on freedom, security and justice is a longer-term effort based on institution and capacity building, a sustained commitment on both sides is of great importance and is the guideline of the German Presidency for the JHA external activities.

## **Action Oriented Plans (as part of the JHA strategy)**

### Russia

Under the Finnish Presidency, the Action Oriented Plan envisaged in the JHA External Strategy for the implementation of the common space for freedom, security and justice was drawn up with respect to Russia. The German Presidency will begin implementing the measures envisaged in the Plan. In this regard, the cooperation between Russia and FRONTEX and operational police cooperation to combat transnational organised crime and human trafficking will have special priority.

### Combating terrorism in North Africa

The JHA External Strategy originally envisaged drawing up an Action Oriented Plan for this purpose. The Member States provided information on their bilateral projects and cooperation and projects with Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. Based on the Council's decision in December 2006, the German Presidency, in cooperation with the Commission and the Council Secretariat, will examine questions related to strengthening cooperation in the fight against terrorism and decide on whether to draw up an action plan.

### Western Balkans and relevant ENP states

Under the Austrian Presidency, an Action Oriented Plan on Improving Cooperation on Organised Crime, Corruption, Illegal Immigration and Counter-terrorism, between the EU, the Western Balkans and relevant ENP countries was adopted, building on the report adopted in 2004 by the Council and prepared by a "Friends of the Presidency" Group in which Germany played a major role.

This action-oriented paper contains concrete recommendations on what action should be taken in specific areas (e.g. improving regional cooperation and improving strategic cooperation, particularly in the areas of trafficking in human beings, drugs and illicit arms and in the fight against terrorism).

As requested by the Strategy, a first interim report of the implementation of this AOP based on information provided by some Member States was presented at the December JHA Council. The German Presidency will encourage all Member States to report on the ongoing commitments in order to allow a complete picture for the next implementation report.

### Afghanistan

The German Presidency will endeavour to continue the implementation of the Action Oriented Plan which was adopted under the Austrian Presidency. Under the Finnish Presidency, the informal group envisaged in the Action Plan met for the first time and the Horizontal Drugs Group (HDG) organised a Troika meeting with Afghanistan. The German Presidency will hold a HDG Troika meeting with Afghanistan on 12 January 2007.

### **Global approach to migration**

The European Council agreed in December 2005 on the Global Approach to Migration and priority actions focusing on Africa and the Mediterranean for 2006, recalling that migration issues are a central element in the EU's relations with third countries, including, in particular, the regions neighbouring the Union, namely the eastern, south eastern and Mediterranean regions. The Global Approach proved to be a comprehensive and holistic European policy on migration by including migration issues in development cooperation, protecting refugees, harnessing the mutual benefits of legal migration, fighting illegal migration in cooperation with countries of origin and transit and combating human trafficking. First action in this regard has been taken by implementing the priority actions agreed at the European Council of 15/16 December 2005 focusing on Africa and the Mediterranean in 2006. On 14/15 December 2006, the European Council has evaluated these actions and set the priorities for the further implementation of the Global Approach to Migration. On this basis, Germany will take forward the implementation of the Global Approach to Migration stressing its comprehensive and also regionally balanced nature. In this regard, Germany will support the Commission in presenting proposals on enhanced dialogue and concrete measures also towards eastern and south-eastern neighbouring regions of the EU by June 2007.

## **High-level dialogue (HLD) on migration and development at the UN**

On the basis of the Secretary-General's report and taking into account the report produced by the Global Commission on International Migration, the HLD was held on 14 and 15 September 2006, providing an opportunity to discuss all aspects of international migration with the aim of achieving a coherent policy approach, particularly from the point of view of development and general migration policy. The Secretary-General's proposal that a Global Forum on Migration and Development be created was supported by a number of states. It offers an informal platform for exchanging opinions to enable the continuation of the dialogue in the future. Belgium will be organising the first meeting of the Global Forum in July 2007 and the German Presidency will support its preparations.

## **II. JHA cooperation with third countries**

### **A. Countries in accession negotiations**

#### Turkey

The accession negotiations with Turkey opened on 3 October 2005, marking the beginning of a new stage in the relations between Turkey and the EU.

The Commission began the screening process, which involves comparing Turkish legislation with EU legislation and assessing Turkey's capacity to apply EU legislation, on 20 October 2005. The screening process for the JHA area began in January 2006 and the report on Chapter 24 (JHA) was presented on 7 June 2006. The report was discussed in the Council bodies during the Finnish Presidency.

The bilateral Screening of chapter 23 (Judiciary and fundamental rights) was done on 12- 13 October 2006.

On 8 November 2006, the Commission published its Regular Progress Report on Turkey. It states that some progress has been made as regards the external borders and Schengen, asylum and in the field of police-cooperation as well as in the justice system particularly in the judicial system. Only limited progress has been made with regard to visa policy, migration and the fight against organized crime and money laundering. Furthermore, measures to ensure the independence of the judiciary must be intensified, and further efforts must be undertaken with respect to the implementation of other legislation.

In addition to the accession negotiations, the accession partnership with Turkey was renewed following the Council decision of 23 January 2006. Turkey is expected to implement the priorities drawn up therein by the means of a programme which contains concrete actions in order to meet the priorities. The implementation is evaluated in the context of the mechanisms foreseen in the association agreement and the progress reports of the Commission.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- assisting Turkey in the fight against Corruption
- Furthering negotiations for the readmission agreement
- Creating necessary conditions for the adoption of the screening reports in chapters 23 and 24.

Croatia

Since 20 October 2005, the accession negotiations have entered the screening-phase. The Screening Report on chapter 24 (Justice, Freedom and Security) was presented by the Commission in June 2006. It stated that further efforts are needed before starting the negotiations. The bilateral Screening of Chapter 23 (Judiciary and fundamental rights) was done on 17 and 18 October 2006.

## **B. Other countries with a European Perspective**

### Western Balkans

The EU has extended its cooperation with the countries in the Western Balkans in order to help them achieve concrete results in all areas of JHA policy. As part of the JHA strategy, the Austrian Presidency produced an Action Oriented Paper on combating organised crime which is to be further implemented during the German Presidency. In the assessment of the current implementation of the JHA External Strategy, it was emphasised that further progress of the Western Balkans countries is required as regards fight against organised crime, reform of the justice systems and strengthening law enforcement agencies, co-operation on border management as well as regarding migration and asylum policies. These findings indicate the specific needs for the further support of the Western Balkan Countries by the EU which will serve as a guideline for the German presidency.

The Finnish Presidency organised the annual JHA Ministerial Forum in Troika format with the Western Balkan countries on 17 November 2006 which dealt with the fight against organised crime and corruption, judicial and operational cooperation and regional perspectives of integrated border management. The meeting was held for the first time in the Western Balkan region (Tirana/Albania) to foster local ownership.

Representatives of Western Balkan countries informed about reforms and progresses as well as remaining challenges and referred to the progress reports presented by the Commission in the beginning of November as an important guidance for the work in the coming year. The significance of enhanced regional cooperation was stressed both by Western Balkan and EU representatives, especially regarding witness protection and border management.

At the GAERC meeting of 13 November 2006, the Council adopted the draft mandates for visa facilitation and readmission agreements with the Western Balkan states. The Commission formally opened negotiations on 30 November. The Commission will seek to ensure that the negotiations with these states are conducted in an efficient and result-oriented manner in order to make progress during the German Presidency.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- Workshop supported by Europol and Eurojust on controlled deliveries to combat drugs trafficking on the Balkan route with participation of Member States and relevant third countries along the Balkan route as well as Switzerland from 24 to 26 April 2007 in Wiesbaden/Germany
- EU-Western Balkan HDG Troika (tbc)
- EU-Western Balkan liaison officers meeting in Western Balkans (tbc)

**C. Russia**

Co-operation in the JHA area with Russia is based on the road map for the common space for freedom, justice and security which was adopted at the 2005 Summit. The Council adopted an Action Oriented Paper for the implementation of this common space as part of the JHA External Strategy. Special importance will be attached to stepping up co-operation in the fight against terrorism, in full respect of human rights and the rule of law, within the framework of this common space.

The visa facilitation and readmission agreements between the EU and Russia were signed at the EU-Russia Summit held in May 2006. Under the Finnish Presidency, the European Parliament gave its opinion and the ratification process should be completed during the German Presidency. The German Presidency welcomes the entry into force of the agreements, which is expected to take place in early 2007 after entry into force of the relevant protocols.

While the Russian aim of mutual visa free travel can only be seen as a long term perspective, any progress on this subject would be of significant importance for Russia. It is therefore under consideration to propose enhanced cooperation between the EU Member States with the aim of shortening travelling distances for Russian visa applicants (e.g. by establishing joint visa application centres or mutual representation of EU Member States).



In 2006, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the EU-Russia Permanent Partnership Council (PPC) in JHA format on 13 October 2005, several conferences and seminars were held with Russia. They brought together experts and practitioners in the areas of combating terrorism, cybercrime, document security and justice. Likewise, terms of reference on the establishment of operational co-operation were concluded between FRONTEX and the Russian border guards' service. The German Presidency will continue meetings of practitioners as indicated below.

The EU-Russian PPC in JHA format (JHA Ministerial Troika) took place under the Finnish Presidency on 29 and 30 October 2006 in Helsinki. The parties welcomed the development of effective cooperation in the fight against terrorism, the agreement FRONTEX with the Russian Federal Border Guards and the strengthening of cooperation in the sphere of drugs. The need to further strengthen operational cooperation in combating organised crime was stressed as well as possibilities to improve legal and judicial cooperation in criminal and civil matters.

The next regular EU-Russian PPC in JHA format will take place during the German Presidency. The meeting will assess progress in the implementation of the Road-map for the Common Space of Freedom, Security and Justice and envisage priorities for the future cooperation.

Germany will strive to ensure that the mandate for the revision of the current PCA will be adopted in a timely manner and negotiations on the JHA Chapter are conducted in an efficient and result-oriented manner.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- Conclusion of negotiations of a cooperation agreement between Eurojust and Russia
- Implementation of the JHA Action Oriented Paper based on the road map for the common space for freedom, security, and justice
- Establish the method for intensifying the dialogue aimed at examining the conditions for mutual visa free travel regime as a long term perspective.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- JHA Troika ministerial meeting in the format of a PPC (Permanent Partnership Council) in Russia (end of April, tbc)
- (poss) EU-RUS-US Trilateral Meeting on Home Affairs in Munich, 23 May 2007, tbc
- EU-Russia COTER Troika with TWG participation (13 March 2007)  
(poss) Meeting of Task Force of Police Chiefs with Russia (tbc)
- Liaison Officers' meeting in Moscow: 15 March 2007 (Moscow, tbc)

#### **D. European Neighbourhood Policy countries**

##### Ukraine

The JHA Action Plan with Ukraine was adopted as early as December 2001 and was integrated into the ENP Action Plan in December 2004. On the basis of two expert missions, work on revising the Action Plan commenced in early 2005. The negotiations were concluded in November 2006.

At the summit meeting held on 27 October 2006, political agreement was reached regarding the visa facilitation and readmission agreements and the texts of the agreements were initialled. Next steps are a decision by the JHA Council on the formal signing and adoption of the agreement texts as well as the hearing of the European Parliament. The agreements will enter into force following the ratification procedures.

The German Presidency will strive to bring negotiations on a co-operation agreement with Europol to a successful conclusion.

Under the Finnish Presidency, the mandate for revising the current PCA was adopted. Germany will strive to ensure that the negotiations on the JHA Chapter are conducted in an efficient and result-oriented manner.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- Conclusion of negotiations of a cooperation agreement between Eurojust and Ukraine
- Implementation of the JHA Action Plan
- Implementation of the visa facilitation and readmission agreements after their entering into force

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- JHA Troika ministerial meeting in Luxemburg on 11 June 2007, tbc
- Cooperation Committee on 31 January 2007 with substantial JHA agenda (Kyiv)
- JHA Subcommittee: end-February (Brussels)
- Cooperation Council on 18 June 2007 with substantial JHA agenda

Moldova

The ENP Action Plan with Moldova seeks closer JHA co-operation in the following areas: judiciary, corruption, migration issues (legal and illegal migration, readmission, visa, asylum), border management, fight against organised crime, human trafficking, drugs, money laundering and economic and financial crime police and judicial co-operation.

The original term of the Action Plan with Moldova expires at the end of 2007. If there should be any need for revising the Action Plan, the German Presidency will actively support this work. The JHA-Council in October 2006 decided to ask the Commission to prepare negotiating mandates for the EC-Moldova visa facilitation and readmission agreements which were adopted by the Council in December 2006. The German Presidency will support the Commission in the forthcoming negotiations with Moldova.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- Implementation of the JHA Action Plan
- Supporting the Commission in the negotiations for the visa facilitation and readmission agreements.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- Cooperation Council on 18 June 2007 with substantial JHA agenda

## Belarus

In September 2006 the Presidency, the General Secretariat and the Commission presented a Non-Paper “What the European Union could bring to Belarus” outlining the possibilities for co-operation as soon as the necessary democratic reforms have taken place there. This paper has not been negotiated with the Belarusian authorities but is addressed to the people of Belarus.

The EU side will continue to cooperate with the Belarusian authorities only on working level.

## South Caucasus States

The ENP Action Plans with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia were adopted at the Cooperation Council meetings held on 14 November 2006. The German Presidency will begin implementing the JHA chapter of the Action Plans and will focus, in particular, on fighting corruption and money laundering. In this context, it will be considered to organise expert meetings on an ad-hoc basis.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- JHA subcommittee meeting with Georgia (tbc)

## EuroMed region

The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (Barcelona Process) is the central instrument for partnership and dialogue for the EU and Mediterranean countries. It is a comprehensive initiative that also covers cooperation in the field of justice and home affairs.

Through the European Neighbourhood Policy, enhancing the Barcelona Process, the EU, by negotiating country-specific Action Plans, works with each partner individually to deepen political and economic integration including cooperation regarding migration, social integration, justice and security. At its meeting in October 2006 the GAERC Council reached consensus on the Action Plan with Lebanon; already in 2005 Action Plans with Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian Authority entered into force. Implementation of these Action Plans is a priority which will be actively supported by the German Presidency. If a review of these Action Plans will be undertaken, the German Presidency will support work on these reviews.

The Association Agreements with ten Mediterranean partner states also cover i.a. co-operation in the area of justice and home affairs.

At the summit meeting held in Barcelona in November 2005, a EuroMed Code of Conduct on the Prevention of Terrorism and a Five-Year Work Programme was adopted, which also contains a chapter on migration, social integration, justice and security. It was agreed therein, that – among other concrete measures to deepen cooperation - a conference on migration issues be held. The German Presidency will actively support the work on this Migration Conference on the basis of the Work Plan presented by the Commission in October 2006 also by holding possible preparatory meetings.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- Implementation of Action Plans
- Support the preparation of the Migration Conference

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- Holding necessary preparatory meeting(s) for the migration conference
- EU-Morocco sub-committee, Rabat (tbc)
- EU-Jordan sub-committee, Brussels (tbc)

### **E. Norway, Iceland and Switzerland**

The German Presidency will continue the cooperation with these countries regarding the “Schengen-relevant” issues in the mixed committees.

### **F. Partners of the American continent**

#### USA

The EU and the US share common concerns on global challenges such as terrorism, organised crime, including drug trafficking, corruption and illegal migration, and benefit from working together on combating these common threats by means of law enforcement and judicial co-operation.

Building on the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) adopted at the EU-US Summit in Madrid, in December 1995, EU-US co-operation in the field of justice, freedom and security has broken new ground during the last years due to the shared interest in tackling security challenges.

The JHA ministerial troika under the Finnish Presidency on 6 November 2006 addressed the issues of data protection, terrorism, trafficking in human beings as well as the visa waiver programme and the issue of reciprocity. Concerning the visa waiver programme, the US announced to consider proposing some adjustments to Congress. Between EUROJUST and the US a cooperation agreement was signed and it was agreed to establish a Senior Experts' Contact Group on data protection. The ministerial troika in the German Presidency will be able to build on the work of this group and address issues of mutual concerns.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- To prepare a permanent agreement with the USA on the transmission of passenger name records (PNR), which creates long-term security, guarantees adequate data protection and ensures high security standards
- Continuing the dialogue on reciprocal visa exempt travel for short-term stays with the aim of non-Visa Waiver Programme EU Member States to join the Visa Waiver Programme
- Start the work on the high level Contact Group agreed on 6 November EU-US JHA ministerial to discuss our commonalities as regards data protection system
- Border and document security: continue work related to the introduction of biometric passports
- (poss) Ratification of EU-US Agreements of 25 June 2003 on extradition and of bilateral instruments.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- EU-US JHA Ministerial Troika in Berlin, first week of April 2007 (tbc)
- EU/US Informal JHA High Level meeting (22 January in Berlin, tbc)
- (poss): EU-US-RUS Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Home Affairs in Munich, 23 May 2007(tbc)
- Policy Dialogue on Border and Transport Security ( first half of February, tbc)
- Contact group on data protection and data sharing ( first half of February, tbc)
- EU-US COTER Troika with TWG participation (23 April 2007)
- Joint meeting of CIREFI experts EU-US-CAN: 25 May 2007
- EU-US HDG Troika on 21 June 2007 (tbc)

## Canada

The EU-Canada Partnership Agenda, adopted at the EU-Canada Summit in March 2004, provides a positive framework aimed at strengthening dialogue and enhancing co-operation between the EU and Canada, covering a wide range of issues from migration to police and judicial co-operation. Concerning the issue of reciprocity concerning visa, the German Presidency will build on the important progress achieved.

### The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- Visa Waiver Programme: continue the dialogue leading to visa-exempt travel for nationals of all EU-MS and Canada for short term stays.
- Further implementation of the Europol-Canada agreement
- Border and document security: continue work related to the introduction of biometric passports, use of false documents and development of practical co-operation.

### JHA events or events with a JHA/CFSP dimension under German Presidency:

- EU-Canada COTER/TWG troika with TWG participation (22 February 2007, tbc)
- Joint meeting of CIREFI experts EU-US-CAN (25 May, tbc)

## Latin America and the Caribbean (EU-LAC)

Trafficking in drugs will continue to be an important focus in addition to other matters, as it is a key to the handling of other matters of reciprocal interest such as money laundering, organised crime and corruption. The fourth EU-LAC Summit in May 2006 strengthened the determination to intensify co-operation. At the Summit, the proposal to revise the Panama Action Plan of 1999 by the end of 2006 was adopted. To this end, a meeting was planned to be held in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) in November 2006 but could not take place. The EU-LAC Summit also discussed bi-regional co-operation in the field of migration and agreed to continue the comprehensive bi-regional dialogue on migration.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- EU-LAC HDG Troika, high-level meeting in South America or the Caribbean: 12 January 2007 (tbc)
- EU-LAC High-level meeting in Trinidad & Tobago (tbc)
- Technical Committee of the EU-LAC Mechanism in Cartagena de Indias (Columbia) (tbc)

## **G. Global co-operation**

### Africa

As part of the global approach to migration (European Council of 15/16 December 2005) and on the basis of the European Council Conclusions on the evaluation of the Global approach (14/15 December 2006) and on an EU Strategy for Africa (22 November 2005), the German Presidency will press ahead with the further implementation of the “Priority Measures for Africa and the Mediterranean Region”, at the same time stressing its balanced nature regarding an additional regional focus on eastern and south eastern neighbouring regions.

The German Presidency will have the following priorities:

- Conclusion of readmission agreements with African third countries – in particular the ongoing negotiations with Morocco and the negotiations which will soon start with Algeria
- Promoting the progress of the follow up process of the Rabat Conference held on 10 July 2006 and implementing the outcome of the EU African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, held on 22-23 November 2006 in Tripoli.

### South Africa

In July 2006, the Commission outlined the steps and content of a strategic partnership between the EU and South Africa in a Communication. The GAERC Council welcomed the South Africa strategy and the Action Plan in October. The German Presidency will strive to ensure that the measures in the area of justice and home affairs indicated in the Action Plan are implemented.



## Central Asia

Under the Finnish Presidency, key points were developed for the EU policy guidelines vis-à-vis Central Asia. The German Presidency will finalize an EU strategy on Central Asia, supported by the EU Special Representative for Central Asia and the Commission. JHA cooperation with the region should foster police cooperation initiatives of the EU with the region and inside the region including Afghanistan on drug-trafficking and organized crime. Border-management and -security initiatives should receive special attention. Multilateral cooperation with OSCE and other actors in the region should be encouraged.

### The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- Cooperation Council including JHA matters with Kazakhstan: 13 February 2007 in Brussels
- Cooperation Council including JHA matters with Kyrgyz Republic: 13 February 2007 in Brussels

## Afghanistan

The Afghanistan Compact and the Interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy (iANDS) launched at the London Conference in January/February 2006 provide the framework for EU support for Afghanistan. The EU, together with the international community, will continue to assist Afghanistan in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law, economic and social development and also the drug problem that affects the whole of society, with the aim of strengthening Afghan ownership. The EU-Afghanistan Joint Declaration and the Council Conclusions had already stated this previously.

The implementation of the Action-Oriented Paper (AOP) Afghanistan / Drugs, which began under the Finnish Presidency, covers the fields of action of combating the drugs trade and security sector reform that have been prioritised by the EU. With the launch of a € 22 million EU programme for border management in Afghanistan, which is being supported by the UK, an important milestone of the AOP is already being implemented. The EU is thus translating an announcement made at the DOHA II Conference in February 2006 into action.

The German Presidency will work in the existing bodies (primarily the HDG) to ensure the further implementation of the AOP Afghanistan / Drugs and to encourage the EU and the EU Member States to support the fight against drugs (in Afghanistan and along the drug trafficking routes) and security sector reform.

## Iran

The evolution of the long-term relationship between Iran und Europe will depend on action by Iran to address effectively all the EU's areas of concern. Co-operation between Iran and Europe in the field of counter-narcotics needs to be strengthened.

### The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- EU-Iran HDG Troika (12 February, tbc)

## India

The EU-India Summit held in October 2006 reviewed the Action Plan. In June 2006, the first dialogue meeting on migration issues was held in Brussels, as specified in the Action Plan. The German Presidency will support the other regular meetings of the EU-India joint working group on consular issues, especially the EU-India Counter-Terrorism Troika on expert level.

## China

The EU will continue its dialogue with China on illegal migration, including readmission, and trafficking in human beings and co-operation on combating corruption, organised crime and terrorism. In line with the Joint Declaration and based on the results of the first evaluation report, the monitoring of the implementation of the ADS Agreement should be improved. Activities on facilitating people-to-people exchanges will continue while at the same time efforts shall be enhanced to further the negotiations on the readmission agreement.

The Council issued the Commission with a negotiating mandate in November 2005 to conclude a partnership and co-operation framework agreement comprising provisions relating to JHA co-operation.

## Pakistan

The dialogue on migration with Pakistan should be taken forward also in view of advancing negotiations on a readmission agreement.

## Japan

The EU-Japan Summit 2006 in Tokyo underlined the intention to contribute substantially to the elaboration of the UN counter-terrorism strategy and further enhancing co-operation in the fight against terrorism in South East Asia.

The following events are planned under the German Presidency:

- EU-Japan Informal Meeting (informal consultations for an agreement on extradition and mutual legal assistance) on 27 February 2007 in Brussels

## **H. International Organizations**

### Council of Europe

The German Presidency will hold a CATS troika meeting with the Council of Europe (date to be fixed).

### United Nations

See “High Level Dialogue on Migration”

Commission on Narcotic Drugs on 12 to 16 March 2007 in Vienna

### The Hague Conference on Private International Law

The German Presidency aims at concluding the negotiations on accession of the EU to the Hague Conference on Private International Law and further strengthening cooperation with the organization.

## III. List of External Relations events by date: 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2007:

### **January**

12 HDG Troika Meeting with Afghanistan and LAC in Brussels

22 EU/US Informal JHA High Level meeting (Berlin, tbc)

31 Co-operation Council EU-Ukraine with substantial JHA Matters, Kyiv

## **February**

12 EU-Iran HDG Troika (tbc)

First half of February: Policy Dialogue on Border and Transport Security (tbc)

First half of February: Contact group on data protection and data sharing (tbc)

13 Cooperation Council EU-Kazakhstan with substantial JHA Matters, Brussels

13 Cooperation Council EU-Kyrgyz Republic with substantial JHA Matters, Brussels

22 EU-Canada COTER/TWG Troika (tbc)

27 EU-Japan Informal Meeting (informal consultations for an agreement on extradition and mutual legal assistance), Brussels (tbc)

End of February: EU-Ukraine JHA Sub Committee, Brussels (tbc)

## **March**

13 EU-Russia COTER Troika with TWG participation

15 Liaison Officers' meeting (Moscow, tbc)

## **April**

Beginning of April: EU- US ministerial Troika meeting in Berlin (tbc)

23 EU-US COTER Troika with TWG participation

24-26 workshop with Europol and Eurojust on drug trafficking on the Balkan route

End of April: EU-Russia ministerial Troika meeting (in Russia, tbc)

## **May**

23 (poss.) EU-US-RUS Trilateral Ministerial Meeting of Ministers responsible for internal security in Munich (tbc)

25 Joint meeting of CIREFI experts EU-US-Canada

End of May: EU-LAC High Level Meeting in Trinidad und Tobago (tbc)

## **June**

11 EU-Ukraine JHA Troika Ministerial Meeting, Luxemburg (tbc)

18 EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council with substantial JHA agenda

18 EU-Moldova Cooperation Council with substantial JHA agenda

21 EU-US HDG - Troika