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NOTE

from:	Presidency
to:	Standing Committee on operation cooperation on internal security (COSI)
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Subject:	Draft working method for closer cooperation and coordination in the field of EU security

In January 2011, the Hungarian Presidency launched an initiative to enhance links between the external and internal aspects of EU security.¹ It set out to organise a first joint PSC-COSI meeting in June 2011. In view of the considerable interest that several delegations and the European External Action Service expressed in convening such a meeting, it is now time to set out the contours of a working method for closer cooperation and coordination in the field of EU security.

The Presidency, in cooperation with the European External Action Service, intends to organise the first PSC-COSI meeting on 1 June 2011 and has invited the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to attend the JHA Council on 9 and 10 June to discuss at political level how the next Trio Presidency could take this work forward.

¹ Council doc. 5620/11

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. Convene a monthly inter-institutional **information meeting** to improve planning and information flow in the field of EU security. Participants at this meeting would mutually inform each other on the ordinary planning of Council, EEAS and Commission activities in the field of EU security (rather than crisis situations, which tend to trigger extraordinary COREPER, Council or European Council meetings). It would bring together Brussels-based officials from the Presidency (COSI) and the General Secretariat of the Council (DG H); the EEAS (PSC); and the Commission (DG HOME). Other services could also be invited, depending on the agenda. Meetings would be hosted either by the Presidency (with GSC support) or on a rotating basis by the Presidency, EEAS and Commission. In the beginning, the standing agenda could include the following items:
- Planning of Council preparatory bodies' agenda and exchange of views on implementation of the Commission Legislative Work Programme in internal security;
 - Document management (attaching acronyms to documents of interest to both external and internal security actors in the Council) and information-sharing between Council preparatory bodies;
 - Participation in events of mutual interest (dialogue with third countries, organisation of upcoming events, etc.);
 - Relations with the European Parliament;
 - Organisation of joint meetings between Council preparatory bodies that have a shared interest in particular aspects of EU security (see Annex I/A).
- 1.2. Organise or continue to organise, at least once a year, **joint meetings** between Council preparatory bodies with a shared interest in particular aspects of EU security (see Annex I/A). Other Council preparatory bodies should meet in a joint format when necessary (see Annex I/B). The purpose of such meetings would be to assess a particular policy issue or phenomenon from both the external and internal security perspective. The EEAS and the Commission would be invited to report on their activities in the area under discussion. Potential 'pairs' could include the following:

- PSC with COSI (planned for 1 June 2011);
- CIVCOM with COSI Support Group (planned for 18 May 2011);
- Nicolaidis with COSI Support Group (to prepare horizontal aspects of PSC-COSI);
- COTER with TWG (planned for 28 April 2011), with CTC participation;
- Potentially COCOP with TWG, with CTC participation;
- JAIEX potentially with COMAG/MaMa or COEST or COWEB or COMEM/MOG or COASI or COLAT or COTRA or COAFR, depending on issues of mutual interest.

1.3. Attach “external” and “internal” security **acronyms** to documents of potential interest to Council preparatory bodies active in the external or internal aspects of EU security.

2. Areas of cooperation in the field of EU security

2.1. The European Security Strategy² lists the following global threats to EU security:

- proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
- terrorism;
- organised crime;
- cybersecurity;
- energy security;
- climate change.

2.2. The Internal Security Strategy³ lists the following threats to EU internal security:

- terrorism;
- serious and organised crime;
- cybercrime;
- cross-border crime;

² Report on the Implementation of the European Security Strategy – Providing Security in a Changing World, Brussels, 11 December 2008, S407/08; A Secure Europe in a Better World – European Security Strategy, Brussels, 12 December 2003

³ Draft International Security Strategy for the European Union: “Towards a European Security Model”, 5842/2/10 REV 2, Brussels, 23 February 2010

- violence;
- natural and man-made disasters;
- road traffic accidents.

2.3. The Internal Security Strategy in Action,⁴ presented by the Commission, refines the list of threats to EU security as follows:

- serious and organised crime;
- terrorism;
- cybercrime;
- border security;
- natural and man-made disasters.

2.4. The Counter-Terrorism Strategy⁵ identifies four tracks for counter-terrorist action:

- prevent people from turning to terrorism by tackling the factors that lead to radicalisation and recruitment in Europe and internationally;
- protect citizens and infrastructure and reduce the Union's vulnerability to attack via the improved security of external borders, transport and critical infrastructure;
- pursue and investigate terrorists within the Union and internationally, impede their communication and disrupt their financing and access to materials;
- respond to terrorist attacks in a spirit of solidarity by improving capabilities to address the consequences of an attack, coordination and victims' needs.

⁴ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council – The EU Internal Security Strategy in Action: Five steps towards a more secure Europe, COM(2010)673, 22 November 2010

⁵ The European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy, 30 November 2005, 14469/4/05 REV 4

2.5. The above strategies suggest that **terrorism, serious and organised crime, cybersecurity and cybercrime** and, in view of the solidarity clause, **natural and man-made disasters** pose threats to both the external and internal aspects of EU security. Given the cross-cutting nature of these threats and challenges, it is imperative that the relevant actors prepare the Union's and Member States' response by considering the external and internal implications of their endeavours. The security coordination forum and the joint meetings proposed by the Presidency could contribute to the development of integrated policy solutions to address these threats and challenges.

Annex I/A: Potential joint meetings between Council preparatory bodies

Council preparatory bodies	EXTERNAL SECURITY	Joint meeting	INTERNAL SECURITY	Council preparatory bodies
Treaty-based committee	Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER) Part II			Treaty-based committee
Treaty-based committee	Political and Security Committee (PSC), EEAS chair	↔	Standing Committee on Operational Cooperation on Internal Security (COSI), PRES chair	Treaty-based committee
CSDP Committee	Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM), EEAS chair	↔	COSI Support Group (COSI SG), PRES chair	JHA committee
Horizontal CFSP committee	Nicolaidis Group, EEAS chair			
Horizontal CFSP committee	Working Party on Terrorism (International Aspects) (COTER), to be chaired by EEAS	↔	Working Party on Terrorism (TWG), PRES chair	JHA committee
Horizontal CFSP committee	Working Party on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (COCOP), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Mashreq/Maghreb Working Party (COMAG/MaMa), EEAS chair	↔	JAI-RELEX Working Party (JAIEX), PRES chair	JHA committee
Geographical CFSP committee	Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia (COEST), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Working Party on the Western Balkans Region (COWEB), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Middle East/Gulf Working Party (COMEM/MOG), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Asia-Oceania Working Party (COASI), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Working Party on Latin-America (COLAT), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Working Party on Transatlantic Relations (COTRA), EEAS chair			
Geographical CFSP committee	Africa Working Party (COAFR), EEAS chair			

Annex I/B: Council preparatory bodies in the JHA field

Council preparatory bodies	EXTERNAL SECURITY	Joint meeting	INTERNAL SECURITY	Council preparatory bodies
			CATS , PRES chair	JHA committee
			Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Working Party on General Matters including Evaluation (GENVAL), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HLWG), PRES chair	General affairs committee
			Working Party on Civil Protection (PROCIV), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Working Party on Frontiers (FRONTIERS), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Working Group on Information Exchange and Data Protection (DAPIX), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Customs Cooperation Working Party (CCWP), PRES chair	JHA committee
			Working Party on Cooperation in Criminal Matters (DROIPEN), PRES chair	JHA committee