



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

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of:	Joint meeting of the Law Enforcement Working Party and the Customs Cooperation Working Party
on:	17 February 2011
Subject:	Summary of discussions

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**1. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted as set out in doc. CM 1554/11 with the addition of an information point by the Commission under AOB.

**2. Information from the Presidency**

The Presidency of the LEWP presented the results of the informal meeting of the JHA ministers held on 19-21 January 2011, which focused on the fight against organised crime and on the integrated border administration, and the outcome of the COSI meeting held on 9 February 2011.

Certain upcoming events were also announced, such as the Infopolex conference to be held on 28 February - 1 March 2011, the seminar on counterfeit medicines on 3-4 March 2011, and the seminar on radio communications on 26-27 May 2011, all of them taking place in Budapest.

The Presidency invited the delegations to register for participating in these events.

The Presidency of the CCWP presented the relevant recent events, such as the meeting of the UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) Working Group on Border Management hosted by the WCO on 11-12 January 2011, the meeting organised by the Commission on customs technologies on 25-26 January 2011, the WCO Global Seminar on dog and handler teams on 25-27 January 2011, and the Sixth Global Congress on Combating Counterfeiting and Piracy on 2-3 February 2011.

Furthermore, upcoming events were presented, such as the seminar on the fight against smuggling to be held on the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the WCO Regional Training Centre in Budapest on 21-22 February 2011 and the Scan Mobile Conference in Vienna on 18-20 April 2011.

### **3. Presentation of the priorities of the Hungarian Presidency for the CCWP and the LEWP**

The Presidency of the LEWP briefed the meeting about its priorities in the following fields: counterfeit medicines, illegal waste shipment, use of police dogs, detection of fugitives/ENFAST, vehicle crime, personal protection/ENPPF, cooperation in sports events, activities of law enforcement networks, crime prevention, cybercrime, cooperation of police doctors, and the 5-year evaluation of CEPOL.

The Chairman of the CCWP pointed out the following general priorities of its Presidency: the development of the international law enforcement cooperation, coordination of activities with other Council bodies, enhancing cooperation with the neighbouring countries, supporting enlargement and fighting against counterfeit goods. Several specific objectives were also mentioned, such as the work related to the JCOs and the threat assessments.

#### **4. Action Plan on the implementation of the Strategy for Customs Co-operation (January 2010 - June 2011)**

The Presidency of the CCWP gave an overview of the implementation of the Customs Cooperation Action Plan for the period from January 2010 to June 2011 by reporting on the progress on each action as set out in doc. DS 1018/1/11 REV 1.

#### **5. Information on the new National Tax and Customs Administration of Hungary**

The HU delegation of the CCWP gave a presentation about the new National Tax and Customs Administration of Hungary which was established by merging the National Tax Authority and the Hungarian Customs and Finance Guard in order to enhance the efforts in combating financial crime.

#### **6. Financing opportunities for EU internal security activities and joint operations**

A representative of the Commission gave a presentation about the financing opportunities under the Prevention of and Fight against Crime (ISEC) Programme. It was underlined that 109 million euro were available for 2011 and that the rate of co-financing increased to 90 % (compared to 80 % in 2010). 8 targeted calls to be published in spring 2011 were presented, and the differences between the Action Grants (AG) and the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) were explained. Delegations were also informed that further details were available on the following website of the Commission: [http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/funding/isec/funding\\_isec\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/funding/isec/funding_isec_en.htm).

Some delegations commented on the length of procedures under the ISEC programme, and voiced the need for the Internal Security Fund to be established under the new Financial Framework in order to finance joint operations in a prompt and flexible manner. It was also pointed out that under the Swedish Presidency a multidisciplinary Friends of the Presidency group on ISEC identified areas of administration that could be further improved and submitted 17 suggestions to the Commission in this respect. Other recommendations were also provided in the framework of the mid-term review of the ISEC programme.

A representative of the Commission explained that only some of these recommendations could be taken into account in the current legal framework, and that such efforts were already made in particular as regards the reduction of time for processing the applications.

## **7. Counterfeit medicines**

The Presidency of the LEWP gave an overview of the replies to the questionnaire on counterfeit medicines (doc. CM 5146/10), in particular as regards the legal and procedural background for fighting such products and the difficulties of dealing with them, for example due to the fact that they were mostly distributed via Internet and that an integrated approach was lacking. The Presidency explained that on the basis of these replies draft Council Conclusions on combating counterfeit medicines would be presented and discussed at the LEWP.

A representative of Europol outlined the agency's view on the threat of counterfeit medicines, stating that it was likely to grow in the future. It was also pointed out that AWF COPY was available for collecting and analysing data on counterfeit products.

## **8. Cybercrime**

The Presidency of the LEWP presented its intention to propose concrete measures towards creating a single secure European cyberspace with a certain "virtual Schengen border" and "virtual access points" whereby the Internet Service Providers (ISP) would block illicit contents on the basis of the EU "black-list". Delegations were also informed that a conference on cyber-crime would be held in Budapest on 12-13 April 2011.

## **9. EU Strategy for the Danube Region**

The Presidency of the LEWP informed the meeting about the EU Strategy for the Danube Region which covers 8 Member States and 6 other European countries. It was underlined that one of the pillars of this Strategy was stepping up institutional capacity and improving cooperation to tackle organised crime on the waterways of the region. In this framework the organisation of JPO DANUBIUS was envisaged and the Hungarian-Croatian cross-border cooperation programme was being implemented.

The BE delegation of the CCWP presented the outcome of the awareness seminar on the vulnerability of international container traffic on the EU inland waterways held on 2-3 December 2010 (doc. 5557/11 ENFOCUSTOM 4).

## **10. Joint Operations**

The Presidency of the LEWP informed the delegations about the meeting of the Coordination Mechanism for joint operations held on 16 February 2011 where 6 possible overlaps were identified, which would be further clarified by the operational contact points. In view of the next Coordination Mechanism meeting to be held under the incoming PL Presidency, delegations were encouraged to provide the relevant updated information about the planned joint operations for 2011 and 2012 to the PL delegation.

### **10.1. Presentation on Joint Customs Operations (JCOs) and Joint Police Operations (JPOs)**

The Presidency of the CCWP provided information about JCOs BARREL and FIREBLADE and explained that JCPO RADAR had been postponed for financial reasons. The IT delegation informed the meeting that the Commission had just approved the funding for JCO COLOSSEUM which could therefore also be organised.

The Presidency of the LEWP presented the upcoming JPOs RAILS, DANUBIUS and AUTOMOTOR by explaining the aim and the scope of each operation.

### **10.2. Presentation on the Guide for JPOs and the Guide for JCOs**

The Presidency of the LEWP gave an overview of the Guide for JPOs elaborated on the basis of the mandate given by COSI and agreed by the LEWP on 17 November 2010 (doc. 16825/10 ENFOPOL 343 JAI 995 COSI 76).

The Presidency of the CCWP informed the meeting that on the basis of Action 4.7 of the Fourth Action Plan to Implement the Strategy for Customs Cooperation the Guide for JCOs had been updated and was adopted by the CCWP on 13 January 2011 (doc. 17379/10 ENFOCUSTOM 115 + ADD 1 REV 1).

### **10.3. State of play of the Project AUGIAS**

The Presidency of the LEWP reported on the state of play of the Project AUGIAS dealing with the illegal waste trafficking and reminded the delegations about the experts' seminar to be held in Budapest on 24-25 March 2011. The Member States were invited to confirm their participation in this seminar by 25 February 2011.

## **11. Way forward of the European Network of Law Enforcement Technology Services (ENLETS)**

The Presidency of the LEWP stated that it aimed to provide new dynamics to the informal ENLETS network established under the FR Presidency and therefore asked the Member States to notify their current law enforcement technological needs and to provide updated information on their National Contact Points by 25 March 2011.

## 12. Any other business

A representative of the Commission informed the delegations about a workshop on security research to be held in the Hague on 17-18 March 2011 in cooperation with Europol. The Member States were invited to send their experts which could provide input to the next Framework Programme (FP8) as regards information management.

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The following working documents were made available in the meeting room:

- presentation on the priorities of the Presidency for the CCWP;
- presentation on the National Tax and Customs Administration of Hungary;
- presentation on the results of the questionnaire on counterfeit medicines;
- presentation on the Hinterland awareness seminar;
- presentation on the planned JCOs;
- presentation on the updated Guide for JCOs;
- presentation on the Project Augias.