Brussels, 19 July 2016
(OR. en)

11409/16

LIMITE

CFSP/PESC 644
CSDP/PSDC 465
COPS 247
POLMIL 87
CIVCOM 163
RELEX 665
EUMC 96
DEVGEN 174
COHAF A 56
JAI 689
IPCR 13

COVER NOTE

From: Secretary-General of the European Commission,
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 19 July 2016

To: Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKESEN, Secretary-General of the Council of
the European Union

No. Cion doc.: SWD(2016) 253 final

Subject: JOINT STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT Progress Report on the
implementation of the EU's Comprehensive Approach to external conflicts
and crises Action Plan 2015

Delegations will find attached document SWD(2016) 253 final.

Encl.: SWD(2016) 253 final
JOINT STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

Progress Report on the implementation of the EU’s Comprehensive Approach to external conflicts and crises
Action Plan 2015
1. Introduction

In December 2013, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR) and the European Commission presented a Joint Communication on the EU Comprehensive Approach to external conflicts and crises. The Comprehensive Approach is about working better together, and enhancing the coherence, effectiveness and impact of EU’s policy and action. This will be achieved by setting out EU and Member States objectives and priorities across different policy areas within a given country/region.

Following discussions with EU Member States and consultations with a broad spectrum of stakeholders from the political, military, development and humanitarian domains, the May 2014 Council gave full support to this concept and agreed a set of ambitious conclusions on the EU’s Comprehensive Approach, including on the way forward. Stressing the need for these principles and priorities to be taken from theory to strategic planning and implementation, the Council invited the HR and the Commission to prepare an Action Plan. Building on the principles and proposals set out in the Joint Communication and the Council conclusions, the Action Plan 2015 set out priority actions and specific initiatives under the policy framework of the Comprehensive Approach that the EU institutions and EU Member States together should take forward. This report attempts to give an overview on the progress achieved on priority actions.

Following up on the implementation of the Action Plan 2015, the report is structured as follows: First, a description/analysis of progress achieved with regard to the prioritised actions for 2015 which include (i) Defining a common strategic vision; and (ii) Mobilising the different strengths and capacities of the EU in areas of capacity building in support of security and development; Transition from crisis situations and Rapid deployment of EU expertise in crisis situations and/or conflict prevention. Secondly, it provides a brief update of the status and next steps with regard to specific initiatives identified in the Action Plan 2015 (Annex). Thirdly, it assesses progress in four country/region case studies (Sahel-Regional Action Plan, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Central America-Caribbean Regional Strategy Citizen Security). Finally, this Report indicates main lessons learned and way forward.

This report has been prepared through an inclusive process, involving relevant EEAS and Commission services as well as Member States. Informal expert meetings with Member States were held in December 2015 to reflect their experiences on lessons learned based on the Action Plan 2015.

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Concrete steps were taken towards joined-up deployment of EU instruments and resources, and to strengthen cooperation between EU institutions and Member States. The findings indicate that a number of developments related to the Comprehensive Approach have taken place beyond what was identified in the Action Plan (e.g. Joint Programming, Political Framework for Crises Approach etc.). But they also suggest that while a lot has been achieved, there is still room for a more systematic application of the EU Comprehensive Approach.

2. Actions prioritised for 2015

2.1. Define a common strategic vision

The Action Plan foresaw that the development of a set of Guidelines for Joint Framework Documents (JFDs) would potentially be the centerpiece for an EU Comprehensive Approach. The Guidelines are currently being prepared including through regular dialogue with Member States.

A JFD aims at setting out EU and Member States objectives and priorities across different policy areas within a given country/region. Furthermore, it intends to provide a coherent view on how these priorities and objectives will be promoted and taken forward drawing on the full range of instruments available to the EU and its Member States. It should strike a balance between flexibility and predictability as well as between short, mid- and long-term interests and objectives, and take into consideration the local political economy, EU's interests and capacities and the role of other external actors.

The Guidelines will take into consideration already existing experiences in developing strategic documents applying a broad range of instruments (e.g. EU Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan, A Strategic Framework for the Great Lakes Region etc.) and explain how Joint Programming and the Political Framework for Crisis Approach relate to JFDs.

2.2. Mobilise the different strengths and capacities of the EU

The Action Plan foresaw that the Comprehensive Approach will only develop its full potential when in concrete cases a challenge is tackled with all available and relevant policies and instruments of the EU and its Member States in a combined and/or properly sequenced manner to achieve a commonly identified objective.

2.1.1. Capacity building in support of security and development (CBSD)

On 28 April 2015 the Commission and the HR adopted the Joint Communication "Capacity building in support of security and development – Enabling partners to prevent and manage crises".
crises”. Subsequently, the Council conclusions on CBSD of 18 May 2015 and the European Council conclusions of June 2015 provided directions for taking the work forward.

The Commission Work Programme 2016, adopted on 27 October 2015, included an initiative on capacity building in the security sector, with a package covering a new EU-wide strategic framework for Security Sector Reform” (SSR) and a possible new instrument for capacity building in support of security and development (CBSD) in third countries. A public consultation on the CBSD initiative was held from 1 April to 27 May 2016 with the aim to gather views from stakeholders and the general public. The Impact Assessment Report concluded that the most appropriate and short-term solution to fill the identified gaps in CBSD would be to revise the Regulation establishing an Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability (IcSP). On 5 July 2016, the Commission and the HR put forward a Joint Communication on Elements of a EU-wide strategic framework to support the Security Sector Reform and a legislative proposal to revise the IcSP with a view to extending the Union’s assistance to security actors in partner countries, including to the military under exceptional and clearly delimited circumstances.

2.1.2. Transition from crisis situations

The Action Plan foresaw that there is a need for earlier and more coordinated planning within EU and Member States, and clear guidance on on-going and up-coming transitions to/from CSDP missions. A stock-taking of recent experiences with CSDP missions/operations was conducted and it was proposed to improve current planning methodology, and provide detail for additional options to facilitate transitions. All strategic CSDP planning documents in 2015 (Crisis Management Concepts (CMC)/Strategic Reviews (SR)) outlined transition strategies. This approach has been facilitated by revising the format of both CMC and SR to ensure that transition is always addressed. The conceptual design of transition was articulated in an EEAS document in 2014 (“CSDP Transition Strategies – recent lessons”) and complemented by an academic paper from EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) “Exit strategies: what’s in a name?” Thus the guidance, endorsed by Member States, and the practice of addressing transition, is being implemented.

2.1.3. Rapid Deployment of EU expertise in crisis situations and/or conflict prevention

The Action Plan foresaw more proactive and effective ways to draw on different strengths and capacities of EU and Member States to respond and deliver in crisis situations and/or to prevent
conflicts. The development of new methods was envisaged for rapid deployment of joint (EEAS, Commission services, Member States) field missions and/or staff to reinforce EU Delegations. During 2015, the EEAS posted counter-terrorism/security experts to reinforce EU Delegations in the Middle East and in North and West Africa (Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Turkey) as the 9 February 2015 Council conclusions and the European Agenda on Security\(^{17}\) called for greater counter-terrorism engagement with countries in the region.

The EU Delegation to Somalia reported that it currently hosts security experts on a temporary basis but considers that such experts would be needed on a permanent basis. The experience with security experts in the EU Delegation to Somalia has been positive as they provide the very valuable interface between the EU Delegation and three CSDP missions. Over the past years, security experts have also been posted to a number of other countries including inter alia Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Pakistan, and provided substantial value added to the intervention capacity of EU Delegations and to the overall operationalisation of the security-development nexus on the ground. Given the short time elapsed since the deployment of the new security experts it is still too early to fully assess the effectiveness of this support to EU Delegations.

3. Update of progress on initiatives identified in the Action Plan 2015 (Annex)\(^{18}\)

This section outlines progress on specific initiatives identified in the Annex of the Action Plan 2015\(^{19}\). In addition, the state of play of the Security Sector Reform (SSR) initiative is also indicated.

a. Security Sector Reform (SSR). On 18 May 2015 the Council "invited the High Representative and the Commission to develop, in consultation with the Member States, an EU-wide strategic framework for Security Sector Reforms (SSR) by mid-2016. This policy concept should bring together the CSDP and all other relevant CFSP tools as well as development co-operation instruments and Freedom, Security and Justice actors, while respecting their respective legal bases, primary objectives and decision making procedures".

The idea of a strategic framework on SSR is to provide the EU with a coherent policy that will encompass short-term (mainly CSDP) endeavours, mid-term activities (mainly under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace) and long-term EU engagement in the area of SSR. It will ensure more complementarity and coherence of these actions with on-going and planned programmes in the wider governance spectrum, including the rule of law, justice and public administration reform.

A wide consultation process has taken place, involving Member States and civil society

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\(^{17}\) COM(2015) 185 final, 28.04.2015

\(^{18}\) This section refers to developments within actions identified in the SWD (2015) 85 final, 10.4.2015 (Annex).

\(^{19}\) SWD(2015) 85 final, 10.04.2015
representatives, to make the development of the framework inclusive. It facilitated the publication of a Roadmap (14 December 2015)\textsuperscript{20} and the adoption of the Joint Communication\textsuperscript{21} from the Commission and the HR on 5 July 2016.

\textbf{b. Political Framework for Crisis Approach (PFCA)} was applied systematically. Two PFCAs were produced in April 2015 (Libya and Boko Haram). They represent an important tool to address, in a swift, coordinated, and comprehensive manner, the short-term response to specific crisis situations.

c. \textit{Conduct conflict analysis} for selected countries with Member States and external partners as appropriate. In 2015 the EEAS and the Commission services conducted conflict analysis workshops on 9 countries/regions – some of the workshops were internal and others with Member States, international partners and external experts, including as part of EU Joint Programming processes.

d. \textit{Joint Programming of external assistance} to be taken forward in additional countries. Since 2011 Joint Programming has focused on 55 partner countries with 16 EU Joint Cooperation Strategies\textsuperscript{22} currently in place. Progress is made on several others, with already tangible benefits such as better intra-EU coordination, transparency, division of labour and aid effectiveness. On 12 May 2016, the Council adopted conclusions for Joint Programming, not only as a commitment to aid effectiveness but a step towards building up a stronger Europe.\textsuperscript{23}

e. \textit{Develop mechanisms for linking up situation and emergency management centres} of the EU and Member States. Upon activation of the Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) on information-sharing for the refugee and migration crisis on 30 October 2015, the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) has been; (i) the central IPCR 24/7 contact point at the EU level (actively liaising with EEAS, General Secretariat of the Council (GSC), other Commission services and Member States); (ii) providing support for the timely production of Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis (ISAA) reports by the ISAA lead service and (iii) moderating the IPCR web portal in support of the ISAA, including through the uploading of relevant information/reports.

f. \textit{Facilitate access by EU institutions to information and intelligence} including from Member States. The EEAS is in the process of replacing the various stand-alone classified systems and replace them with one integrated platform, the EEAS Corporate Classified Communication of Information system (EC3IS). This platform will take into account the technical constraints enforced by the Member States about classified information, and make the passing of EUCI between the different systems run more smoothly.

\textsuperscript{21} JOIN(2016) 31 final, 05.07.2016
\textsuperscript{22} The countries include Burma/Myanmar, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Comoros, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, Laos, Mali, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan and Uganda.
\textsuperscript{23} Council conclusions (8831/16), 12 May 2015
g. Global roll out of the Early Warning System (EWS). In March 2015 EWS generated in-country joint risk assessments including a checklist for structural risks of conflict, ahead of declared crises. Conflict Prevention Reports were prepared and discussed in Council Working Groups. Good collaboration with partners e.g. United Nations (Department of Political Affairs, United Nations Secretary-General special adviser on Responsibility to Protect (R2P)), and with the United States in relation to atrocities prevention. There is a substantial exchange of lessons learned between Member States and the EU with the aim of ensuring complementarity and linkages. The Joint HR/Commission Staff Working Document was completed in 2016.

h. Crisis Platforms gathering all services from EEAS and Commission in a systematic way. Work is ongoing on the revision of the entire EEAS Crisis Response Architecture. As the Crisis Platform is a component of such architecture, its aim, functions, composition and activation modalities are being revisited and harmonised within the overall crisis response context. Involvement of Member States is being duly taken into consideration. In 2015, the Standard Operating Procedures for the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) and the Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis (ISAA) were finalised. The IPCR arrangements were activated for the first time on 30 October 2015 (in information sharing mode first before a full activation on 9 November 2015). Commission services, EEAS and relevant Agencies coordinate closely on a daily basis to produce ISAA reports.

i. Coherence of EU energy policy with the EU foreign policy. The European Energy Security Strategy now forms part of the Energy Union Framework Strategy adopted on 25 February 2015 and Council Conclusions on Energy Diplomacy are currently being implemented. These conclusions are focusing on the coherence between energy policy and EU foreign policy.

j. Implementing in a comprehensive manner actions related to migration. The Commission established two EU Trust Funds to better respond to migration crises; the MADAD Trust Fund which was established in December 2014 to address the refugee crisis in Syria and the Emergency Trust Fund for Stability and Addressing Root Causes of Irregular Migration and Displaced Persons in Africa, launched at the Valetta Summit on 11-12 November 2015. The two Trust Funds were established in view of maximizing efficiency, coherence, visibility, flexibility and speed of delivery of EU joined-up support/action and pooling resources from various financial instruments and of EU Member States and other partners. In addition, the Facility for the Refugees in Turkey was created as a coordination mechanism, pooling resources of the EU budget and Member States to assist the Syrian refugees in Turkey. The Trust Funds therefore also constitute a response coordination mechanism between all EU concerned actors.

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25 Council Conclusions 10/995 (20 July 2015)
k. Appropriate expertise in Delegations and Embassies on security issues. Two training sessions organised by the European Security and Defense College (ESDC) were held on Security Sector Reform with participation of EU staff and Member States. Two joint EEAS/Commission trainings were held on conflict analysis, with EU staff and Member States participating. ESDC conducted training on conflict prevention, peacebuilding and mediation, with participation of staff from the EU and Member States. Conflict analysis/conflict sensitivity training was provided in the context of the ESDC senior policy advisers' course and EEAS political reporting training. On-line conflict sensitivity training is under development by Commission services and EEAS. Annual training on fragility, security and development in a changing world jointly organised by the Commission and ESDC was held for the fourth time in a row and attended by staff from EU and Member States institutions. Furthermore, as indicated earlier, during 2015 the EEAS posted security/counter-terrorism experts to reinforce EU Delegations in the Middle East and in North and West Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Turkey).

l. Engage more closely with UN and other international organisations. In general the EU seeks to develop close coordination with relevant UN entities on the ground. This is the case already for peace or state building projects such as support to accountability mechanisms, the criminal justice chain or community policing. Furthermore, the EU has provided input to the report of the Advisory Group of experts on the review of United Nations peacebuilding architecture.

4. Country cases

The country cases were selected in the Action Plan to bring forward different aspects of the Comprehensive Approach and include countries both with and without CSDP presence as well as places where joint efforts like Joint Programming were already taking place. It is important to note that the case-studies do not reflect all concrete actions which are being undertaken in the given country, but mainly report on the concrete actions identified in the Action Plan 2015.

4.1. Sahel – Regional Action Plan. With the Sahel Regional Action Plan (RAP) the EU and its Member States have reinforced their common interest, priorities and approach to address the security and development challenges in the Sahel. The multiplicity of actors and funding instruments makes it very challenging to keep a cohesive strategy, and the EU has set up a frame matching its objectives in a comprehensive manner.

The RAP specifically seeks to mobilise and align all available EU instruments, including actions undertaken by Member States. With its four key priorities: 1) Preventing and countering radicalisation; 2) Creating appropriate conditions for Youth; 3) Migration and Mobility; 4) Border management and fight against illicit trafficking and transnational organised crime, the RAP has been focusing on the following key actions:

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28 Council conclusions 7823/15 (20. April 2015)
- The establishment of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (with contributions from the EU, the Member States and the European Investment Bank) and its window for the Sahel and Lake Chad. There is a strong coherence between the RAP and the Constitutive Agreement for the Trust Fund in general and the Strategic Orientation Document for the Sahel and Lake Chad in particular. It is thus also foreseen that actions under the RAP will be financed by the Trust Fund.

- The enhanced political dialogue with Head of States of Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad and Burkina Faso (the G5 Sahel). On 17 June 2015, the HRVP hosted a Ministerial Meeting with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the five Sahel countries. Subsequently, the HRVP participated in the G5 Sahel Summit (20 November 2015 in Ndjamenà, Chad). The visit served to strengthen the dialogue with G5 Sahel Head of States and for the HRVP to share EU's vision and determination to tackle the security, development and migration challenges in the Sahel region together with the Sahel countries. On 17 June 2016, the HRVP, together with the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, the Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship and the EU Special Representative for the Sahel, met with the Foreign Ministers of the G5 Sahel countries in Brussels. Participants committed to pursue the strategic partnership between the EU and the G5 Sahel.

The Regional Action Plan represents best practice on how to apply the Comprehensive Approach in terms of the process of joint cooperation in preparing a strategy. There has been a very solid involvement of Member States in the preparation of the Regional Action Plan. Member States were involved very early in the process, and a number of expert meetings with participation of Member States' expert at HQ level were held. Including Member States at an early stage of the process, and involving their experts has proved to be a successful practice.

4.2. Afghanistan. The EU and Member States have invested significant political capital in ensuring relevant interactions with all neighbouring countries, both through existing regional forums as well as through bilateral interactions on various issues, including governance, economic cooperation, security and the rule of law. In addition, the EU has worked to increase coordination on the ground in Kabul on various levels to promote the Comprehensive Approach in addressing the fragility of the Afghan State while maximising the synergies between political, security and development efforts in support of the transition process in Afghanistan.

With its four key priorities in the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan 2015: 1) Sufficient progress in the public financial management of Afghan key ministries allowing for more efficient on-budget contributions; 2) A successful transition of EUPOL's activities related to enhancing police-justice linkages; 3) A refreshed framework for mutual accountability, including benchmarks for electoral reforms, reflecting the recommendations of the EU Election Assessment Team; 4) Principled humanitarian assistance continuing to play a key role in case of natural disasters and conflict affected population, the following progress has been achieved:

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A new Public Financial Management roadmap endorsed by the President should reshape the budget process to strengthen top-down strategic priority setting, enforce budget discipline through establishing multi-year expenditure ceilings within which to develop expenditure priorities, and make project planning and approval more rigorous. The President is committed to respect the highest possible standards of good public financial management and budget transparency and oversight in the context of sound macroeconomic policy and on the basis of a solid policy platform. Recently, progress was made by the new Government in reforming the public procurement system.

The regulatory framework was strengthened and government-wide procurement contracts, the equivalent of 18% GDP and over 50% of the budget, are now reviewed by the National Procurement Commission of the Presidency, which has already resulted in considerable savings, especially in the security sector.

From the beginning of 2015, EUPOL (European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan) identified activities of EUPOL's Rule of Law (RoL) component that would require further follow-up beyond the closure by the end of 2016. Towards this end, the European Union Special Representative's (EUSR) office was strengthened with a RoL component consisting of 2 international and 2 local RoL advisors to ensure EUPOLs' transition. The EUSR's office recruited one RoL Advisor in autumn 2015 to facilitate a proper handover of activities and to liaise with EUPOL on a frequent basis. Transition of EUPOL's remaining activities when it comes to Ministry of the Interior (MoI) Reform and police professionalisation, will commence in 2016. The EUSR, the EU Delegation, other donors and implementing partners are engaged in a regular dialogue with EUPOL to facilitate the transition of tasks which require a long term engagement on a strategic and political level, such as police-prosecutor cooperation, justice reform as well as access to justice, including legal awareness and related linkages to police, and gender and human rights and anti-corruption mainstreaming. EUPOL-EUSR coordination and transition preparations also focus on advising counterparts towards Afghan ownership.

The EU and Member States have been actively supporting President Ghani's approach of revising the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework leading to the "Self-Reliance Mutual Accountability Framework" (SMAF) adopted on 5 September 2015 at a Senior Officials Meeting in Kabul. It identifies a joint roadmap for the short and medium term with concrete deliverables in priority areas such as political stability and security; governance; rule of law and human rights and public financial management.

The recent development in Afghanistan has proven the importance of principled humanitarian assistance both in cases of natural disasters and of conflict. The Commission is supporting its partners in accessing parts of Afghanistan challenged by armed opposition groups and where humanitarian needs often remain uncovered due to the prevailing insecurity and subsequent challenging access for humanitarian actors. This approach intends to ensure, to the extent possible, a fair and needs-based access of the population in need of humanitarian assistance. The Commission is an active contributor to humanitarian coordination forums, including to the
Humanitarian Country Team Forum. The Commission and the EU Delegation are cooperating closely in order to ensure that the growing humanitarian needs are factored in development strategies. Close collaboration is particularly noticeable with regard to the assistance to Afghan refugees and returnees. The Commission and the EU Delegation to Afghanistan are collaborating on the development of a joint strategic approach to inform future programming in Afghanistan.

The situation in Afghanistan risks further deterioration and long-term stabilisation will be required to get full benefits of the Comprehensive Approach which remains a guiding principle of the EU Strategy 2014-16. The Comprehensive Approach should help make best use of available resources to keep the window of opportunity open so that the Afghan state-building process can actually move from 'survival mode' to sustainable development.

4.3. Somalia. The EU has long been engaged in supporting Somalia and is committed to a Comprehensive Approach for a sustainable solution of the Somali crisis covering concurrently political, security, development and humanitarian aspects. The EU Delegation was reopened in 2014, and even though it is temporarily located in Nairobi, Kenya, it has revamped the overall relationship with the country as well as a comprehensive deployment of the tools at its disposal.

Within the four key priorities identified in the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan 2015; 1) Develop shared analysis for a common understanding of the situation or the challenges; 2) Defining a common EU strategic vision; 3) Mobilise the different strengths and capacities of the EU; 4) Continued engagement with the African Union, the following progress has been achieved:

- The EEAS and Commission services organised a joint conflict analysis work-shop in Nairobi in May 2015 with participation of various EU actors and external experts – local and international NGOs and think tanks to help generate a shared understanding and analysis of the root causes, actors and current dynamics of conflict, including potential scenarios in the short to medium term. It contributed to identification of recommendations for the overall EU strategy towards Somalia and potentially the wider sub-region as well as to strengthened responses across the EU's scope for action. The results of the workshop fed directly into preparation of the document "Somalia: Assessment of the Strategic Context for the Holistic and Coordinated Strategic Review of CSDP Engagement".

The EU Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan (HoA AP)31, adopted by the Council in October 2015, was elaborated to complement the EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa taking into account new challenges, i.e. the broader geopolitical framework, the flows of mixed migration and violent radicalisation. The HoA AP is aimed at conflict resolution, fostering security, stability, development and good governance based on the democratic principles of inclusion, rule of law and respect for human rights. The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa is a new implementation tool for some of the interventions of the HoA AP addressing stability and migration. As such it also contributes to the overall implementation of EU policy towards

30 https://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/EU/XXV/EU/07/30/EU_73044/index.shtml
Somalia.

Work is progressing to establish the future EU compound in Mogadishu that when finished will co-locate all EU actors (including some Member States). When finished by the end of 2016 it will be a physical manifestation of the Comprehensive Approach. The work on Capacity Building in support of Security and Development has assisted in identifying concrete urgent needs for the Somali security sector some of which could be addressed by geographic or thematic instruments. Coordination with the Member States' efforts in this area can still be improved to ensure that all assistance provided to Somali authorities is harmonised and the identified gaps are filled by most appropriate tools including bilateral cooperation.

In June 2015 the EU participated in the joint AU-UN benchmarking mission for AMISOM to elaborate recommendations on the next steps in the military campaign. It thus took part in shaping the overall future development of AMISOM as well as coordination with other international actors most notably the EU Training Mission in Somalia. On the ground the EU is now part of regular meetings with United Nations, African Union, African Union Mission in Somalia, the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), United Kingdom and United States with the aim to coordinate engagement with and messaging towards Somali authorities. Through the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace the EU supports strengthening the role and political clout of IGAD in Somalia.

In Somalia, many challenges remain in preserving the delivery of principled humanitarian assistance and in safeguarding the humanitarian space. In 2015, attacks and threats against aid workers have increased significantly. Illegal and arbitrary taxation, administrative and bureaucratic impediments, as well as interference in aid operations are also on the rise. Strong commitment is needed to maintain access and independence vis-à-vis political and military agendas. Non-humanitarian operators are increasing their engagement in aid delivery, in some cases with high visibility, putting at risk the perception of humanitarian aid as neutral. The full implementation of the Somalia country-specific Humanitarian Civil-Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination Guidelines (already endorsed by the United Nations office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the African Union) remains a key priority for the Commission and its partners on the ground. Use of military assets for humanitarian purposes should remain strictly a last resort. In addition, because of the presence of the EU military mission, EUTM Somalia, carrying the EU flag (albeit only in the capital Mogadishu), the Commission’s humanitarian partners in the South-Central regions are operating with low visibility.

The case of Somalia illustrates the importance of a joint/shared situation analysis among partners, as a basis for developing a shared understanding followed by appropriate action.

4.4. Central America – Caribbean Regional Strategy on Citizen Security. The EU has a long term commitment with Central America and the Caribbean. The EU support to citizen security issues through the regional cooperation programmes 2014-2020 for Latin America and the Caribbean is substantial. In addition, the EU has bilateral programmes with the three countries of the Central American Northern Triangle (Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras) and two
countries in the Caribbean (Jamaica and Haiti) with a focus on citizens' security.

On 30 July 2014, Council conclusions on the EU Strategy on Citizen Security in Central America and Caribbean were adopted\textsuperscript{32}. For political purposes and overall coordination, this strategy supports the regional security plans of Central America and the Caribbean (the Central American Security Strategy and the CARICOM Crime & Security Strategy), and includes three main essential objectives: 1) Further develop a shared citizen security agenda, 2) Strengthen the ability of governments to deliver quality public services and 3) Foster regional and international cooperation on operational activities in order to fight insecurity. In June 2015, the Council adopted the Lines of Action of the Strategy\textsuperscript{33}. The document provides a detailed and comprehensive plan of actions, including political dialogue with national, regional and international organisations involved in the domain and development cooperation activities.

The Regional Strategy on Citizen Security has been subject to an active agenda of engagement and coordination with the key partners, inter alia the Organisation of American States (OAS) (Guatemala-Belize territorial dispute, Mission Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras), COMJIB\textsuperscript{34} (efforts towards the adoption of the Common Arrest Warrant), UN (participation to the UN Ministerial week in New York on security in Central America, regional seminar in Colombia on security policies), International Organisation for Migration (IOM) (migration issues between Haiti and Dominican Republic, Cuban migrants in Central America), UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes), Caribbean Security Donor's Meetings as well as with the civil society (roundtable on citizen security). These actions complement the political dialogue held at region-to-region level (EU-CELAC Summit in June 2015 that included two High-Level Meetings with Central American Integration System (SICA) and The Forum of Caribbean Group of Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States (CARIFORUM) or at national level through the EU Delegations (e.g. Political Dialogues within the context of Article 8 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement ). In 2016, the holding of the second meeting of the Joint Committee under the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Central America will provide the opportunity to review the efforts made in tackling insecurity and coordinate further for the advancement of a regional security agenda.

With regard to development cooperation, a significant Cooperation Programme on Anti-Drugs Policies has been adopted (COPOLAD II), ensuring for the first time the full involvement of Caribbean countries. The identification of a security programme for Central America is at an advanced stage of preparation with partners. In the Caribbean, joint EU-CARIFORUM task forces were established to discuss the implementation of the focal area "crime and security" of the regional programme. Furthermore, the Cocaine Route Programme, financed under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, as well as actions under the European Development Fund

\textsuperscript{32} Council conclusions on the EU strategy on Citizens Security in Central America and the Caribbean of 30 July 2014.

\textsuperscript{33} Council conclusions 9353 (2013) 1 June 2015

\textsuperscript{34} Council conclusions on the EU Strategy on Citizen Security in Central America and Caribbean
EDF), should contribute to strengthening the ability of Caribbean governments to deliver quality public services. These initiatives will build on the already existing security programmes currently being implemented in the region, such as the CARIFORUM Crime and Security Cooperation Programme and the Border Security Programme (SEFRO) or Fight against Small Arms and Light Weapons trafficking (CASAC) in Central America. These will also complement the citizen security programmes implemented at national level.

5. Main Lessons Learnt and Way Forward

Significant progress has been achieved implementing the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan 2015. Joint Programming has been an additional development going beyond what was identified in the Action Plan 2015. The Joint Programming is an entry-point to the broader Comprehensive Approach of EU action and an important component of a comprehensive scaled-up partnership between the EU and the concerned country/region. Furthermore, the evolving international context has expanded the need for applying the Comprehensive Approach to face new challenges such as the migration crisis, or to support the scaling up of the level of partnerships at the global level with a view to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 16 in particular35).

There is still room for more consistent application across the board. The principles of the Comprehensive Approach are slowly gaining momentum but still there is much to do in terms of changing our way of working. Efforts are still needed to systematically embed the principles in EU actions, so that they become the guiding principles for all EU external action and policy, across all relevant areas.

A shared/joint analysis of the country situation provides a solid point of departure for applying a Comprehensive Approach defining a common vision for the EU engagement. However, there is scope for moving further towards concerted action, notably by addressing some basic but fundamental issues such as information sharing and Member States' interventions mapping.

Based on experiences from the country cases, it is paramount that the Comprehensive Approach remains a country-based process. The role of EU Delegations and of Heads of Mission in their respective fields of responsibility for steering and coordinating at operational level is key to ensure ownership and responsiveness of the Comprehensive Approach to local needs.

It is important to ensure flexibility in terms of how the Comprehensive Approach is being applied. The Comprehensive Approach is not a goal in itself, but a process whose depth and coverage vary depending on the country situation. It is based on a shared vision for the country concerned and on progressively expanding coordination and cooperation among EU actors and with other partners.

The Comprehensive Approach is being applied within and beyond fragility situations. The recent

35 SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions underlines the importance of promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels
emphasis on migration flows, on Security Sector Reform and the crises' downstream challenges (trafficking, smuggling etc.) are concrete examples of this.

There should be a strong and continued engagement from Member States. The implementation of the Action Plan is a joint responsibility between Member States and EU institutions.

Preparing an Action Plan for 2015 has helped creating space for horizontal discussions and exchange of experiences within EEAS across thematic, geo divisions and the crisis management structures, but - equally importantly - across EU institutions and with partners. The implementation of the Action Plan has involved, through technical discussions, Member States experts. The Action Plan has also created an opportunity for discussions in the Council on the principles of the Comprehensive Approach and the challenges of implementation.

EU actors recommended to prepare an action plan covering 2016-17 period. This would provide an opportunity to assess, on a regular basis, lessons learnt which can be valuable to all relevant country processes. A two-year action plan, with expanded thematic and geographical coverage, will make it possible to reflect on its longer-term impact, compared to a one-year action plan. It will provide flexibility and enable EU and Member States to focus on issues which have political traction. Taking forward an action plan which focuses on a number of key issues will be instrumental to progressively generalise, through concrete examples, the Comprehensive Approach.
Annex

Status and next steps under the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State of play</th>
<th>Action 2015</th>
<th>Status 31.12.2015 and Next Steps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Joint Analysis, Options and Strategic Vision</td>
<td>1.1. The Political Framework for Crisis Approach (PFCA) of the Crisis Management Procedures is applied systematically and draws together subject matter experts from across the EEAS and Commission services.</td>
<td>1.1. Two PFCAs were produced in April 2015 (Libya and Boko Haram)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Next steps (2016-17): 1.1. Additional PFCA is prepared and draws together subject matter experts from across the EEAS and Commission services.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2. Joint EEAS-Commission services Guidance on the use of conflict analysis</td>
<td>1.2. Conduct conflict analyses for selected countries, with Member States and external partners where appropriate.</td>
<td>1.2. Eight conflict analyses were conducted by November 2015. In all cases Member States either participated or findings were shared. Due to the sensitive nature of the conflict analysis, it is not possible to indicate the specific countries concerned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in support of EU external action, delivered 10/2013.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Next steps (2016-17): 1.2. Undertake additional conflict analyses for selected countries, with Member States and external partners where appropriate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint EEAS-Commission services Guidance on addressing conflict prevention,</td>
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<td>peace/building and security issues under EU cooperation instruments Guidelines</td>
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<td>delivered 10/2013.</td>
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36 SWD (2015) 85 final (10.4.2015) – Annex

37 Due to the sensitive nature of the conflict analysis, it is not possible to indicate the specific countries concerned.
<table>
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<th>State of play</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.3. Joint Programming by EU and Member States for development cooperation</td>
<td>1.3. Joint programming including development cooperation and other activities</td>
<td>1.3. Since the Council conclusions in 2011 (Busan), Joint Programming (JP) has developed dynamically. Joint Programming strategies exist or are being finalised in 16\textsuperscript{38} countries and progress is made in several others, with already tangible benefits. <strong>Next steps (2016/17):</strong> 1.3. Joint programming expanded and strengthened. Expansion of countries for joint programming, increased number of bilateral programming replaced by joint programming. Joint programming includes strategic issues such as migration, fragility, security and democracy.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

2. Sharing information

2.1. EU situation room is constantly sharing its monitoring products and alerts with Member States crisis centres and permanent representations as well as EU institutions, agencies and Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)/Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). In 2014 the EU Situation Room has posted more than 650 of its monitoring

2.1. Enhancing the cooperation via existing mechanism such as the Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR web platform) which is linking up the various situation and emergency management centres of the Union (e.g. Emergency Response Coordination Centre, EU Situation Room, Strategic Analysis and Response centre) and Member States, as well as EU agencies; further developing practices of exchanging situational reports between above mentioned interlocutors and of connecting via regular telephone or videoconferences in crisis situations; to that end, organising common events and joint trainings.

2.1. Upon activation of the Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) in information-sharing mode for the refugee and migration crisis on 30 October 2015, the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) has been (1) the central IPCR 24/7 contact point at EU level (actively liaising with EEAS, General Secretariat of the Council (GSC), other Commission services, and Member States), (2) providing support for the timely production of the Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis (ISAA) reports have been issued\textsuperscript{39}, and (3) moderating the IPCR web portal in support of the ISAA lead service, including through the uploading of relevant information/reports

**Next steps (2016/17)**

2.1. The Emergency Response Coordination Center and the EU

\textsuperscript{38} The countries include Burma/Myanmar, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Comoros, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Kenya, Laos, Mali, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, Uganda.

\textsuperscript{39} A total of 33 ISAA reports, have been prepared as of July 2016. The reports cover all countries affected/involved in migration crisis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State of play</th>
<th>Action 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>products in IPCR (Integrated Political Crisis Response) web platform which is</td>
<td>Situation Room continue to sharing its monitoring products and alerts with Member States and other services at EU level (Commission and Agencies).</td>
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<td>accessible to Member States crisis rooms and structures.</td>
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<td>2.2. The exchange of security and military intelligence between Member States</td>
<td>2.2. Facilitate access by EU institutions to information and intelligence including from Member States.</td>
<td>2.2 The EEAS is in the process of replacing the various stand-alone classified systems it inherited from the EU Council and EU Commission, and replace them with one integrated platform, the EEAS Corporate Classified Communication and Information system (EC3IS). This platform will take into account the technical constraints enforced by the Member States about classified information, and make the process of passing of EUCI between the different systems run more smoothly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and EU institutions has improved considerably in recent years. New and</td>
<td></td>
<td>Next steps (2016/17) [2.2. Improved access by EU institutions to information and intelligence including from Member States]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>effective ways to exchange intelligence, information and experience have</td>
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<td>been developed including joint seminars, workshops and monthly briefs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Conflict prevention</td>
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<td>2014 and with six-monthly updates foreseen.</td>
<td>working paper setting out roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the EWS.</td>
<td>Next steps (2016/17) [3.1. Implement early actions based on the EWS follow-up actions.]</td>
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<tr>
<td>State of play</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Mobilise EU – proactive EU policy response</td>
<td>4.1. Crisis Platforms chaired by HR (or ESG) organised as needed.</td>
<td>4.1. Work has started and is ongoing on the revision of the entire EEAS Crisis Response Architecture. The Crisis Platform being a component of such architecture, its aim, functions, composition and activation modalities are being revisited and harmonized within the overall crisis response context. Involvement of Member States is duly being taken into consideration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Linking policies and internal and external action</td>
<td>5.1 Develop a Comprehensive Approach, including priorities, measures and initiatives, to support the implementation of the European Energy Security Strategy of May 2014 and the Energy Union Strategy of 25 February 2015 which include both internal and external measures.</td>
<td>5.1. The European Energy Security Strategy now forms part of the Energy Union Framework Strategy, adopted on 25 February 2015 and Council Conclusions on Energy Diplomacy are currently under implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Strengthen the linkages between the internal and the external dimension of migration policy</td>
<td>5.2 Identify actions and priorities to implement in a comprehensive manner the actions requested by the EU Council in its June 2014 Strategic Guidelines; also taking into account the October 2014 Council conclusions on &quot;Taking action to</td>
<td>5.2. The European Commission has established two Trust Funds to respond better to the migration and refugee crises. The Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian Crisis - MADAD Trust Fund which was established in December 2014 to address the refugee crisis in Syria and the Emergency Trust Fund for Stability and</td>
</tr>
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40 COM/2014/0330 final (May 2014)
41 COM/2015/080 final (February 2015)
42 COM/2015/080 final (February 2015)
43 Council Conclusions 10995 (20 July 2015)
### State of play

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<tr>
<th>Action 2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>better manage migratory flows&quot;.</td>
<td>Addressing Root Causes of Irregular Migration and Displaced Persons in Africa(^{45}), launched at the Valetta Summit on 11-12 November 2015. The two Trust Funds were notably established with a view of maximising the efficiency, coherence, visibility, flexibility and speed of the delivery of EU support/action across various financial instruments and countries. They reflect the policy and response coordinating mechanisms between all EU concerned actors.</td>
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**Next steps (2016/17)**

5.2. Included as a prioritised action in the Action Plan 2016/17.

### 6. Make better use of EU Delegations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>6.1. Existing offer of training on e.g. conflict analysis, mediation and dialogue. In selected cases, targeted training, coaching or workshops have been offered in country/region (e.g. countering violent extremism). Where needed short term external expertise can be mobilised by EEAS and Commission services. On case by case basis, Member States have provided Delegations with Seconded National Experts to address specific thematic issues.</th>
<th>6.1 Ensure an appropriate breadth of expertise in Delegations and Embassies on security issues (including Security Sector Reform), conflict prevention, conflict analysis and conflict sensitivity, dialogue and mediation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1. Training session organised on Security Sector Reform (SSR) and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR). Two joint EEAS/Commission services trainings organised on conflict analysis. Several Member States participated. European Security and Defense College (ESDC) held a training on conflict prevention, peacebuilding and mediation. EU and Member States participated. EEAS conducted a three day Mediation Training including EU delegation staff, HQ staff and Member States. Conflict analysis/conflict sensitive training provided to ESDC senior policy advisers course and EEAS political reporting training. On-line conflict sensitivity training under development by Commission services with input from EEAS, ESDC, European Investment Bank (EIB) and other.</td>
<td>6.1. Ensure an appropriate level of expertise in Delegations and Embassies on security issues (including Security Sector Reform), conflict prevention, conflict analysis and conflict sensitivity, dialogue and mediation.</td>
</tr>
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**Next steps (2016/17)**

6.1. Ensure an appropriate breadth of expertise in Delegations and Embassies on security issues (including Security Sector Reform), conflict prevention, conflict analysis and conflict sensitivity, dialogue and mediation.

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<td>expertise needed (e.g. security/SSR or conflict adviser).</td>
<td>6.2 If appropriate, enable the co-location of EU actors in EU Delegations to build operational synergies.</td>
<td>6.2. The Libya Delegation has been co-located with EUBAM Libya since August 2015, which helped create positive synergies. To build operational synergies the EEAS identified concrete ways to improve coordination and cooperation among all EU actors in the field including enhanced training, collection and dissemination of best practice and formal instructions. In September 2015, the EEAS asked EU Delegations in countries where CSDP missions are located to report jointly with CSDP missions about such coordination and cooperation. Five joint reports have been submitted so far. <strong>Next step (2016/17)</strong> 6.2 If appropriate, enable the co-location of EU actors in EU Delegations to build operational synergies.</td>
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7. Work in partnerships
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| EU has an extended collaboration with the UN as well as with a large number of international NGOs, think-tanks etc. A case in point in the on-going work with the UN on Preventing Conflict – From Analysis to Action. | 7.1 Engage more closely with the UN and other international organisations, major international NGOs, civil society, think-tanks, academia and public and private actors. 7.2. The EU will engage in the 2015 Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, encouraging broader assessment of the Peacebuilding Architecture (PBA) within the UN system and beyond in order to strengthen the performance and impact of the PBA. The EU will seek synergies of this review with the UN Secretary General's review of peace operations, the review of Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and subsequent resolutions; and the Post 2015 development agenda (2030 Agenda) in order to ensure coherence in the UN's actions, as well as with global peacebuilding development such as the G7+ New Deal for Engagements in Fragile States. | 7.1. The EU provided input to the report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture: Challenge of Sustaining Peace EU's contribution resulted in identical resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council on the review of the UN peacebuilding architecture. The EU underscored the importance of linking the peacebuilding review to UNSG's review of peace operations, the UNSCR 1325 review and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to ensure coherence of UN actions. The EU underlined that peacebuilding should (i) focus on the specific country context; (ii) the UN should work in a more integrated and flexible manner; (iii) more emphasis should be given to prevention and early warning tools; (iv) human rights dimension should be included; and (v) the analytical capacity of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) should be strengthened. Furthermore EU emphasized that PBC should work with the host state, and based on country experiences currently undergoing in regard to PBC having a more flexible and political approach, The peacebuilding Fund (PBF) has achieved significant results but needs to be followed and complemented by longer-term commitments from other financing sources. The EU seeks to develop close coordination with the relevant UN entities on the ground. This is in particular the case for peace or state building projects.  
Next step (2016/17) 7.1. EU engages in implementation of the resolutions of UN General Assembly and UN Security Council on the review of the UN peacebuilding architecture of 2016. |

### State of play

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to seek synergies of this review with the UN Secretary General's review of peace operations, the review of Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and subsequent resolutions in other to ensure coherence in the UN's actions, as well as with global peacebuilding development such as the G7+ New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States. Support the cooperation of ECOSOC with the Peacebuilding Commission.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 8. Prioritised Actions identified in the Action Plan 2015

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Guidelines for Joint Framework Documents (JFD)</th>
<th>Guidelines in the process of being prepared</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Next step 2016/17: Preparation of Guidelines for Joint Framework Documents</td>
<td></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transition from crisis situations</th>
<th>Revised format of both Crisis Management Concepts (CMC) and Strategic Reviews to ensure that transition is always addressed.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Next step 2016/17: Outline transition strategies for relevant countries</td>
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<tr>
<th>Rapid deployment of EU</th>
<th>6 Security/counter terrorism experts deployed in EU Delegations</th>
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⁴⁷ COM(2016) 447 final, 05.07.2016
<table>
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<tr>
<td>expertise in crisis situations and/or conflict prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey). EMLOs (European Migration Liaison Officers) will be employed at relevant delegations. A total of 14 positions. Next step 2016/17: Expansion of the CT/Security expert network to Lebanon, Sahel, Western Balkans. If appropriate, enable the co-location of EU actors in EU Delegations to build operational synergies. EMLOs deployed at EU Delegations.</td>
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