



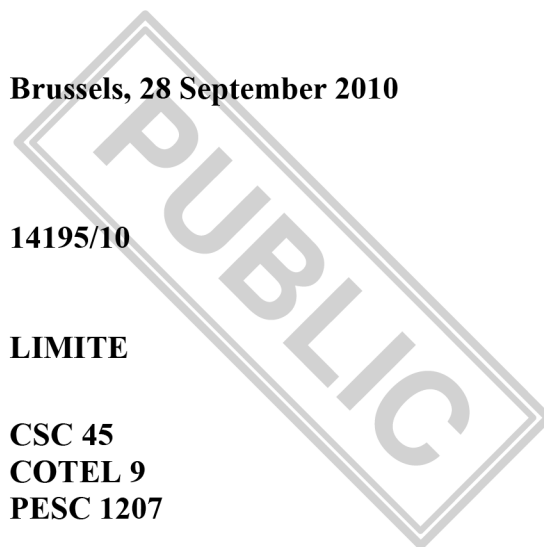
**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 28 September 2010**

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**LIMITE**

**CSC 45  
COTEL 9  
PESC 1207**



**“I” ITEM NOTE**

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From : The Antici Group

To : COREPER

Subject : Terms of reference for a Coordination Committee for Communication and Information Systems (CIS)

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1. On 28 September, the Antici Group finalised draft terms of reference for a Coordination Committee for Communication and Information Systems (CIS) as an operational measure to help improve the resilience of CIS coordination within the Council.
2. This preparatory body is a successor to the Electronic Communications Working Party and the Committee of High Level Coordinators for SESAME (B.11 in the list of Council preparatory bodies).
3. This change is designed to improve planning, coordination, governance and oversight of major IT systems and projects operated by the General Secretariat of the Council which link it to Member States and to other EU institutions, agencies or bodies. The terms of reference attached will enable coordination at suitably senior level on all such CIS, while organising work internally to enable programme and project experts to meet regularly.
4. The Antici Group accordingly recommends that COREPER approve the attached terms of reference.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. A Coordination Committee for Communication and Information Systems (CIS) is hereby established to exercise oversight and coordinate work at senior level on CIS operated by the General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) and which link the GSC to Member States and to other EU institutions, agencies or bodies.
2. The Committee may examine any question relating to such CIS and will in particular:
  - (a) advise on medium-term programming of work on such CIS projects;
  - (b) examine initiatives and high-level user requirements for such CIS proposed by other Council preparatory bodies in all areas of the Council's work, prior to recommending them for validation;
  - (c) ensure consistency of any new requirements with the Council's overall objectives and priorities, taking account of budgetary planning, security rules and policies, interoperability and interconnection considerations, cost-effectiveness and the need to avoid unnecessary duplication;
  - (d) as appropriate, define priorities in relation to CIS projects and advise on significant change requests;
  - (e) exchange information on major developments in policies, programmes and large CIS projects in the GSC, in other EU institutions, agencies or bodies and in EU crisis management missions, as well as programmes and large CIS projects in the Member States of relevance to the EU, insofar as they have an impact on the Council, and make recommendations on best practice as appropriate;
  - (f) exchange information as appropriate on information assurance issues, including network defence matters, without prejudice to the work of the Council Security Committee.
3. The Committee will be regularly informed of relevant CIS work undertaken in other *fora*, including the Information Assurance sub-area of the Council Security Committee and the Security Accreditation Board, and may request input on any project-specific matters as necessary. It shall organise its work in such a way that programme and project experts will meet regularly (see point 6. below).

4. The Committee may make recommendations to COREPER and, where appropriate for CIS relevant in the context of CFSP/CSDP, to the Political and Security Committee.
5. The Committee will be chaired by a representative of the General Secretariat of the Council and attended by a representative of the Commission and of the EEAS.

Representatives of other EU institutions, agencies or bodies may be invited to attend when questions concerning them are discussed.

6. The Committee shall establish expert sub-areas as necessary to examine project-specific operational matters. Such sub-areas will review requirements for classified and unclassified CIS linking the GSC to Member States, EU institutions, agencies or bodies, coordinate work on functional and technical specifications, as well as exchange information on technological developments in relation to CIS.

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