Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 12 January 2016
(OR. en)

14451/1/15
REV 1

LIMITE

PV/CONS 65
JAI 910

PUBLIC

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject:	**3432nd** meeting of the Council of the European Union (**JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS**), held in Brussels on 20 November 2015

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JOINT SESSION HOME AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE

1. Adoption of the agenda
14312/15 OJ/CONS 67 JAI 890

The Council adopted the above agenda.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

2. Approval of the list of 'A' items
14320/15 PTS A 90

The Council adopted the "A" item as listed in doc. 14320/15.

3. Paris terrorist attacks: exchange of information[1]

The Council expressed its deepest condolences to the victims of the Paris attacks, their families and friends. These attacks were considered as an assault on the European values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

The French Minister of Justice, Ms Taubira, and the Belgian Minister of Justice, Mr. Geens, informed the Council about the actions that were taken immediately after the attacks on 13 November 2015. Both Ministers welcomed the operational cooperation between both countries and underlined the importance of further strengthening this cooperation at European level.

The First Vice President of the Commission, Mr Timmermans, stated that the Commission was at the full disposal of Member States and had already taken some immediate actions, notably with regard to issuing a proposal relating to the trafficking of firearms. Strengthening border controls was considered as one of the priority measures where further action should be taken.

The Council was also informed about the results of the extraordinary meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Group which was held on 18 November 2015 following the Paris attacks.

[1] Exceptionally, in the presence of Associated States

4. Union actions[2]

= Adoption of Council conclusions
14375/15 JAI 896 COSI 152 COTER 150 COPS 358 ENFOPOL 361 ENFOCUSTOM 119 ASIM 151 CATS 118

The French Minister of Interior, Mr Cazeneuve, welcomed the holding of the extraordinary Council and emphasised the need for immediate action. France insisted on three topics on which immediate progress should be made; PNR, strengthening the controls at the external borders and firearms.

All Ministers together with the Commission underlined the importance of accelerating the implementation of all areas covered by the statement on counter-terrorism issued by the Members of the European Council of 12 February 2015 and in particular of the following measures: finalising the EU Passenger Name Record (PNR) directive, combating firearms trafficking, strengthening controls of external borders, stepping up information sharing, combating terrorist financing as well as strengthening the criminal justice response to terrorism and violent extremism.

The Council approved the conclusions on Counter-Terrorism set out in 14406/15 + COR 1 + COR 2 (fr) and emphasised the need for a rapid implementation of the agreed measures. The fight against terrorism would again be discussed at the next JHA Council on the basis of a report by the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, which would also cover the prevention of radicalisation as well as other areas set out in the statement on counter-terrorism issued by the Members of the European Council of 12 February 2015.

5. Any other business

No issues were raised under this item.

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[2] Exceptionally, in the presence of Associated States