



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 16 November 2009

16070/09

**POLGEN 187
CATS 123**

"I" ITEM NOTE

from:	The Presidency
to :	Permanent Representatives Committee
Subject :	Coordinating Committee in the area of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (ex-"Article 36 Committee" or "CATS") - Continuation until 1 January 2012 and re-evaluation by Coreper

1. Coreper decided on the working structures for establishing an area of Freedom, Security and Justice following the entry into force of the Amsterdam Treaty at its meeting on 17 March 1999 (doc. 6166/2/99, see point 3). The ex-"Article 36 Committee" (or "CATS"), provided for by the Treaty at the time, was part of a new working structure to prepare the Council's discussions in the area of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

2. In the course of the preparation work in view of the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, Coreper reviewed the working structures in the JHA area and concluded as follows with regards to the CATS:
 - (a) CATS shall continue to meet until 1 January 2012. Before that time, the necessity of having CATS shall be re-evaluated by Coreper, taking into account the efficiency and coherence of Council working structures.
 - (b) CATS shall focus its discussions on strategic issues where COSI would not be able to contribute and meet as necessary, as convened by the Presidency.
 - (c) CATS could be involved, when deemed appropriate, in legislative work. Coreper shall remain solely responsible for preparing legislative acts.
3. Coreper is invited to confirm this arrangement, in accordance with Article 19(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure.
