

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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9208/1/08 REV 1

LIMITE

CRIMORG 70 ENFOPOL 88 ENFOCUSTOM 54

NOTE

from: Presidency

To: Coreper

No. prev. doc.: 15448/07 JAI 617 ECOFIN 489 TRANS 382 RELEX 902 ECO 154 PESC 1403

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Subject: Mandate of Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange

- Pursuant to Article 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council¹, Coreper established the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange on 26 April 2006 (see document 6259/5/06 REV 5 CRIMORG 27 ENFOPOL 25 ENFOCUSTOM 20).
- 2. This group had a limited mandate (see point 6 of document 6259/5/06) relating to the exchange of DNA data and was set up for a limited period of time, i.e. until the end of 2006. An extension for another year following a review was envisaged.
- 3. However, because of (preparatory) discussions to integrate part of the Prüm Treaty into the EU legal order, it was found there was no need at that stage to convene the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange beyond its two initial meetings nor was it opportune to deliver the report mentioned in its mandate.

Article 19 allows Coreper to set up working parties with a view to carrying out certain preparatory work or studies defined in advance.

- 4. Recently, the need for a single group on information exchange has re-emerged, most urgently to deal with practical implementation issues of the Council Framework Decision 2006/960/JHA on simplifying the exchange of information and intelligence between law enforcement authorities of the Member States¹ ("Swedish Framework Decision") and the draft Council Decision on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorisms and cross-border crime² (Prüm Decision).
- 5. It is therefore proposed that the Ad Hoc Group on Information Exchange be reconvened as soon as possible and mandated to deal with current information exchange issues relating to the 3rd pillar while taking due account of the protection of personal data and starting in particular with the implementation issues mentioned under point 4.
- This is without prejudice to the general discussion concerning the preparation of the entry into 6. force of the Lisbon Treaty and consequences on the Council working structure.

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¹ OJ L 389 of 29.12.2006, p. 89. ² Document 11896/07 CRIMORG 127 ENFOPOL 137